University of Alberta

Education Faculty Council

The Education Faculty Council met on Tuesday, September 12, 2017 at 3:30 p.m. in Council Chambers, University Hall.

Present:

Sign in sheet is attached to original minutes.

1. Approval of Agenda

MOVED TO APPROVE the agenda as presented.
M Doherty / D Larsen / CARRIED

2. Minutes of the Education Faculty Council

MOVED TO APPROVE the February 7, 2017 minutes of the Education Faculty Council as presented.
L Daniels / D Larsen / CARRIED

3. Minutes of the Graduate Academic Affairs Council

MOVED TO RECEIVE the March 6, 2017 and April 3, 2017 minutes of the Graduate Academic Affairs Council.
E Simmt / B Stelmach / CARRIED

4. Minutes of the Undergraduate Academic Affairs Council

MOVED TO RECEIVE the January 26, 2017 and March 9, 2017 minutes of the Undergraduate Academic Affairs Council.
L Daniels / C Peck / CARRIED

5. Tribute to Dr Heidi Kass

Heidi Kass
Department of Secondary Education

Heidi Kass was born in 1939 in Estonia. In 1944 the family fled to Germany, where Heidi spent her early childhood in various displaced persons camps until the family immigrated to Alberta in 1954.
Heidi completed her Bachelor of Education and Bachelor of Science degrees from the University of Alberta in 1964, obtained a Masters in Education from Harvard University as one of the first class of women graduate students, and went on to receive a PhD from the University of Alberta in 1969.

Heidi joined the Department of Secondary Education in 1969. In the 1990's, Heidi was instrumental in the establishment of the Faculty’s Centre for Mathematics Science and Technology Education and was its first Director. She set an example for teachers and university instructors by her significant involvement with ATA’s Science Council as its President and Conference Director. She received the Distinguished Service award from teachers for her contribution to science education in Alberta and had a significant impact in developing and implementing a contemporary science education curriculum used across Canada, and elsewhere in the world including Australia, South Africa, Pakistan, and the United States. Heidi left the University of Alberta in 1997, and retired from the University of British Columbia in 2004.

Heidi Kass passed away on May 9, 2017 at the age of 78.

6. **Tribute to Dr Verna Lefebvre**

Dr Verna Mary Lefebvre  
Department of Secondary Education

Verna’s post-secondary educational pursuits included Bachelor of Arts and Science degrees from the University of Saskatchewan (1959), a Bachelor of Education from the University of Alberta (1963), a Master of Science from Montana State University (1964) and a Doctor of Philosophy in Home Economics Education from Iowa State University (1973).

Verna worked with the University of Saskatchewan Youth and Adult Education program, taught at junior and senior high schools in Westlock, Pincher Creek and Lethbridge, as well as Montana State University and University of Guelph.

Verna joined the staff at the University of Alberta in 1966 in the Clothing and Textiles Division of the School of Household Economics, serving as head of the Division before transferring to the Department of Secondary Education in 1977. Verna retired from the University in 1995 after 29 years of service.

Verna was born January 22, 1936 in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan and passed away February 15, 2017 at the age of 81.

7. **Introduction of New Faculty**

The following new faculty members were introduced:

**Elementary Education**
- Steven Khan
- Sharla Peltier

**Secondary Education**
- Marc Higgins
- Darren Hoeg
Educational Policy Studies
- Brooke Madden
- Patricia Steinhauer

School of Library and Information Studies
- Danielle Allard

Educational Psychology
- Rebecca Hudson-Breen
- Yuanyuan Jiang
- Philip Sevigny

8. Information for Council Members

The Faculty Council membership, meeting schedule and terms of reference were provided for information.

9. Faculty Council Summary 2016-17

For information.

10. Faculty Annual Report (FAR) update

Vice Dean McGarvey reported that since the February 7 Faculty Council meeting the following activities have taken place:
- Faculty Relations and IST established a Customization Policy working group of vice deans and assistant deans to critique FAR elements and revise wording to better reflect the work of academics, and to establish policies around hiding non-required elements and renaming required elements as needed within faculties;
- a small working group within the faculty has been established to review the FAR system and examine faculty concerns of its use.

Dr McGarvey will continue to work on this initiative and report to Council as appropriate.

11. Report from the Associate Dean, Research

Dr Larsen reported as follows:

Roger S Smith Undergraduate Research Awards Celebration, Thursday, September 14
- Interim Vice President Research, Dr Dixon, Associate Vice President, Dr Hamilton, and Dean Tupper will be in attendance.
- These awards are an opportunity to mentor undergraduate students in the research life of the Faculty.
- The students attending this event often bring their parents, siblings, and friends to celebrate with them.
- Keep the Roger S Smith Awards in mind for your own research project. The next call for applications from faculty members will be in December or January.
New Faculty Research Orientation, September 13
- Presenters will be the Director of the SSHRC Grant Assist Program, Research Facilitator, Lan Chan-Marples and myself.

Alberta Research Network
- The Government of Alberta is looking for faculties of education to make strong research ties with Alberta Schools and School Boards. They have launched a new committee called the Alberta Research Network, comprised of Associate Deans Research in Alberta’s large research intensive universities and some additional key researchers. The first meeting of the Alberta Research Network takes place October 1.
- It will be important for our faculty to continue to grow a strong collaborative research presence with Alberta schools. In order to help foster these research connections, the Faculty of Education will be holding a meet and greet with Edmonton Public School Board researchers, teachers, and administrators. Details about the meeting will be forth coming. Both faculty members and graduate students will be encouraged to attend. Faculty members are encouraged to send information concerning research currently taking place in schools to Dr Larsen

12. Faculty of Education Strategic Plan

All faculties have been asked to align their strategic plans with the institutional plan For the Public Good and its five goals: Build, Experience, Excel, Engage, Sustain.

Dean Tupper reported this was an agenda item at the Dean’s Advisory Committee earlier today. Discussion centred on the process, facilitation team membership, and a communication plan for reporting to the faculty.

The membership of the Strategic Plan Facilitation Team will be as follows:

- Chair (Dean)
- one academic from each department
- one APO
- one support staff
- two undergraduate students (one Elementary route / one Secondary route)
- one graduate student
- one Indigenous Education Council academic rep
- one Diversity, Equity and Respect Committee rep (this person will be asked to pursue training from Central on equity)

The role of the academic representatives will not be to speak on behalf of the department, but to be knowledgeable about the work and programs of the department to inform the committee; to carry messages from the committee to the department council; to encourage colleagues to participate in forums, surveys, etc.

To allow multiple opportunities for input from all members of the faculty, stakeholders, regional colleges, the established timeline is for a document to Faculty Council late fall of 2018. Further hard work will come with the implementation of the approved plan.

A website will be created to allow access to material related to the process.
All members of the faculty are asked to make it a priority to participate.

13. **Undergraduate Program Review and Renewal**

Dr Hickson, Associate Dean, Associate Dean, Programs and Services reported to Council.

In alignment with the strategic plan but perhaps more immediate, is the need for a review of our BEd program. Dr Tupper indicated that this was said to her numerous times during the dean search, and she continues to hear it.

- The undergraduate program has taken a hit over the years with budget decisions, but time has not always allowed decisions to be made in a thoughtful manner, without an overall look at the full program.
- The Undergraduate Academic Affairs Council has asked to have a purposeful review done of the program.
- It has been at least five years since the full program was reviewed.
- Department Councils are already having discussions at their level.
- The details of what this process will look like are being worked out at Dean’s Advisory Committee with announcements to be made soon to the Faculty.
- The Strategic Plan and the undergraduate program review will inform each other.
- Documents that will help guide and shape this work are:
  - Accord on Initial Teacher Education
  - Teaching Quality Standards (draft)
  - The Faculty’s Teacher Education Program Statement of Principles

14. **Budget and Finance**

Early this summer, all deans received a letter from the Provost alerting to a .5 cut to the university’s budget. Added to the faculty’s requirement to now cover Across the Board and merit increments, this is more than 4% of our budget, or $457,000. The majority of our budget is spent on salary and benefits which are fixed expenses.

The reality is we cannot rely on tuition increases to offset our rising costs, and provincial grants are decreasing. We must always remember that we are funded on the backs of our students and through deployment of public funds. We need to be mindful of our spending as budgets will continue to be challenged. We need to get in front of our challenges.

In the spirit of openness and transparency, regular communication will be sent about budgetary matters. We will have many conversations about budget as it is our collective responsibility to thoughtfully steward our resources.

There was much discussion at the President’s retreat about the draft new budget model which has an implementation date of 2018-19. The President is committed to transparency on budget matters which will help the faculty better plan for the future.

15. **Dean’s Report**

I’d like to acknowledge and express gratitude for the warm welcome and support since my arrival in July. Thank you to all our staff members for their hard work, and to the faculty’s leadership team.
Thanks to the Departments of Elementary and Secondary who have hosted me in the last few weeks. I’m looking forward to meeting with members of the Educational Psychology and Policy Studies at your Department Council meetings.

Congratulations to Dr. André Grace, for receiving the Alberta Community Justice Award for the Comprehensive Health Education Workers Project. This award is testament to the critical importance of this program for vulnerable populations in our province.

The Canadian Indigenous Languages and Literacy Development Institute (CILLDI) received over $600,000 from the government to support student bursaries for their Indigenous Language Education program. This aligns with TRC Call to Action 10 (iv). CILLDI hosted another successful Young Indigenous Women’s Circle of Leadership program this summer with approximately 30 participants over 10 days. Many graduate and undergraduate classes, institutes and symposia ran over the summer – thanks to all who made these such a success!

A framed copy of the Residential School Apology will be visible in all of our main Faculty offices. Thanks to Nike Gardener in the Dean’s Office for making this happen.

I also had a chance to welcome students to EDU 211, hand out treats to students during welcome week, and meet with five of our new students who are major scholarship winners. These opportunities remind me how wonderful our students are and how important it is to keep students front of mind in all that we do.

I will be attending the Association of Canadian Deans of Education meetings in Montreal in October. It is important that the U of A has a strong voice at the national level and I will work hard to represent the Faculty during these two days of meetings. I will also be back in Montreal in November to attend the national summit on teacher and school staff wellness. In a recent CEA survey, educators across the country identified mental health and wellness (their own and their students) as the most significant issue they are facing. Faculties of Education have a role to play in supporting pre and in-service teachers to respond to these challenges. I will have more to say to all of you about this after I return from the summit.

We are undertaking a Policies and Procedures project to articulate and communicate important University and Faculty policies and procedures, to identify gaps, and respond to these through the creation of good process and policy.

A Review of our Centres and Institutes is underway. This includes determining sustainability in terms of financial and human resources, developing position descriptions for Centre & Institute Directors, and an open and transparent process for selection of directors into limited terms and a process for review and renewal of terms.

The process to select a new Chair for Elementary Education will be underway shortly. A special thank you to Dr. Maryanne Doherty for stepping in as interim chair, and providing such important leadership and stability. Dr. Doherty is one of the most positive, hardworking people I know and I’m grateful to be able to work with her for the remainder of her time as chair.

A reminder to mark your calendars for the 75th Anniversary event next week, September 21st, 3:30-6:00 in the 4th floor lounge of Education North. Alumni weekend follows with events and family activities scheduled on campus on Saturday, September 23.
Also a reminder that the deadline to submit proposals for CSSE is October 1st. Congress 2018 is being held at the University of Regina and I would like to encourage people to attend.

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A question was taken from the floor:

Dr Sockbeson, Educational Policy Studies, asked a question concerning the draft Teaching Quality Standards included in the agenda package for item 13. The Indigenous Education Council, with the endorsement of Interim Dean Wimmer and the Alberta Deans of Education, submitted recommendations that are not showing in the draft document. There has been no response from the Ministry as to why these are not included. Paul MacLeod, our Alberta Education representative on Faculty Council reported that the draft has been sealed until it passed Cabinet. He indicated he would be willing to speak with Dr Sockbeson following the meeting, and would provide a written response to Council.

16. Annual Reports of Committee and Centres

MOVED TO RECEIVE the following committee and centre reports for information:

- Academic Appeals Committee
- Election Committee
- Diversity, Equity and Respect Committee
- Faculty Teaching Awards Committee
- Field Experience Policy Advisory Committee
- Graduate Academic Affairs Council
- HT Coutts Library Advisory Committee
- Master of Education in Educational Studies Advisory Board Committee
- Scholarship and Research Awards Committee
- Technology Advisory Board
- Undergraduate Academic Affairs Council
- Centre for Mathematics, Science and Technology Education
- Centre for Research in Applied Measurement and Evaluation
- Centre for Research for Teacher Education and Development
- Western Canadian Centre for Deaf Studies

L McGarvey / C Peck / CARRIED

MOVED TO ADJOURN / K den Heyer