

FACULTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Date: May 2, 2024, 12:00 - 2:00pm

Location: POD-250

Members present:

<p>Ex-officio:</p> <p>D. Cramb D. Mason M. Kolios R. Viirre</p>	<p>Faculty:</p> <p>A. Abhari A. Brown A. Douplik A. Ferworn A. Miri C. Antonescu C. Rebello D. Delic D. Mason D. Rackus E. DeGiuli E. Harley F. Duah G. Gupta I. Coe J. Matejovic J. Tavakkoli K. Gilbride K. Rohlf M. Adler M. Mattiazzi Usaj M. Olson N. George P. Pralat P. Raman R. Botelho R. Valenzano S. Impellizzeri S. Melles</p>	<p>S. Quigley S. Sabatinos S. Wylie T. Antimirova V. Bostan</p> <p>Contract lecturers:</p> <p>I. Shelton</p> <p>Staff:</p> <p>S. Saeed</p>	<p>Guests:</p> <p>L. Paulseth</p> <p>Students:</p> <p>A. Pileggi C. Boateng Ameyaw</p> <p>Secretary of Faculty Council:</p> <p>D. Niculescu <i>filling in for L. Bogdanovic</i></p> <p>Regrets:</p>
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1) Call to Order/Establishment of Quorum (12:00pm)

D. Mason calls the meeting to order. He states that quorum is established. He invites the Dean to offer the land acknowledgements.

2) Land Acknowledgement

D. Cramb says that he likes that we are being intentional and delivering the land acknowledgement with intention. He notes that this includes looking for and acknowledging Indigenous scholars.

He says that Toronto is in the unceded One Dish territory. This is a treaty with a great sentiment of caring for and sharing the land. He notes that we need to continue to decolonize this university and how we think about science.

3) Approval of Agenda

**Motion:** *That Faculty Council approve the Agenda for the May 2, 2024 meeting.*

D. Mason calls for a motion. S. Quigley moves; N. George seconds. D. Mason invites discussion.

**Motion approved.**

4) Announcements

The meeting of *May 2, 2024* will be recorded for the purpose of complete and accurate minutes.

5) Approval of Minutes from the previous meeting

**Motion:** *That Faculty Council approve the minutes from the meeting on March 14, 2024.*

D. Mason calls for a motion. A. Ferworn moves; L. Campbell seconds. D. Mason invites discussion.

**Motion approved.**

6) Matters arising from the minutes

No business arising.

## 7) Reports

### 7.1 Dean's Report

D. Cramb notes that Chair searches in three Departments are going well. He adds that faculty searches are in progress as well.

He invites questions.

D. Cramb notes that there was an activity in the last Faculty Council meeting. He delivers the results:

- Emerging universal metrics, in order of priority:
  - 1) Part of FOS plan
  - 2) Number of students / programs affected
  - 3) Sustainability
  - 4) Fairness
  - 5) Space / infrastructure
  - 6) Historical data on outcomes
  - 7) Was there a needs assessment done?
  - 8) Real deliverables
  - 9) Leveraging possible
  - 10) Novelty
  - 11) Urgency

D. Cramb notes that this list is probably too granular.

A. Ferworn suggests a category "hills to die on" be added. D. Cramb says that items with philosophical urgency need to be incorporated.

R. Valenzano suggests that this should be a weighted set, and not a prioritized list.

D. Cramb notes that we can create our own strategic plan that will inform the University strat plan.

D. Cramb invites feedback submissions at a later time.

### 7.2 Associate Dean Reports

#### 7.2.1 Report of the Associate Dean Research, Innovation and External Partnerships

M. Kolios notes that the research symposium is on May 28 and invites students and faculty to participate. He notes that this symposium arose in response to an identified need. He notes that various research will be featured, including pedagogy research and research on Indigenous education.

M. Kolios notes that there will be sessions on NSERC Discovery Grants. He asks all to look for FOS and FEAS mentoring program announcement. He hopes that this will help foster competitive applications.

M. Kolios says that CFI applications will happen at the same time. He reminds all that Dean's Research Booster and Connector funds application deadline is May 13.

He notes that the last round of the Travel Fund applications are being adjudicated.

M. Kolios notes that changes related to research security are now in full force. He warns that it is a very complex set of policies and he encourages all to contact his office for guidance.

M. Kolios welcomes Stephen Courteau, the new Manager in SRIO. He encourages all to reach out to S. Courteau.

M. Kolios invites questions.

A. Ferworn thanks the SRIO office for managing the complexity of grants. He encourages the expansions of parts of it and de-emphasis of other parts. He asks that industrial and other kinds of funding over NSERC can be emphasized. M. Kolios agrees and says that Adnan Sayeed's team is tasked with this. He notes that we are competing with institutions with much better supported research environment. He notes that he is now concerned about the impacts of the research security policies on this segment

A. Ferworn notes that there is bureaucracy in research security and notes that there are US companies which should be on the list because of their behaviour, but are not. He asks if FOS will push back on this.

M. Kolios says that this is a federal and provincial initiative. He notes that the U15 have put out statements about their concerns with the initiative. M. Kolios says that this can be resisted at different levels and in various ways.

A. Ferworn asks if certain labs will move to DAL. M. Kolios notes that research space is not part of his portfolio, and says that he is not able to respond. D. Cramb notes that we are struggling with the cumulative cost of growth and the estimate for the renovation came in significantly higher than budgeted for. He notes that there is a request before the Provost, but there are no specifics yet.

#### 7.2.2 Report of the Associate Dean, Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies

R. Viirre says that there is a possibility of sending a student to a PhD writing retreat at Queens, July 7 to 12. D. Mason asks how the selection process will go. R. Viirre says that interest is low, but if there are multiple candidates, he will ensure that the applications are adjudicated fairly. S. Quigley asks what the benefit of going to this retreat and why there is a one-student restriction. R. Viirre says that there are limited spots and one was awarded to FOS. Discussion.

He says that the Three-Minute Thesis competition took place and FOS won a number of awards.

R. Viirre says that the PPR for MolSci and CS were approved by YSGPS council. He thanks S. Sabatinos and A. Ferworn for their efforts.

A. Ferworn asks when the budget document will be issued. R. Viirre says that the funding per student will be the same as last year. A. Ferworn asks for a budget document.

#### 7.2.3 Report of the Associate Dean, Undergraduate

D. Cramb delivers the report in place of A. McWilliams.

D. Cramb says that there are various PPRs in progress. The PPRs are making their way through the approval process.

D. Cramb notes that discussions about space needs to keep going. He notes that Cyber Science is going to Senate and this could be the wedge to help the University understand the need. Discussion.

### 8) Terms of Reference

Motion: That Faculty Council approve the [Revised Bylaw](#)

Note: substantive revisions are:

- deletion of a placeholder for a Graduate Curriculum Committee;
- clarification of one item under Mandate;
- provision for ExeC to take place 3 weeks before each FC meeting;
- election of student representatives in May rather than in June.

D. Mason notes that the Executive Committee has reviewed the Bylaws and suggested the above changes.

D. Mason invites a motion. R. Viirre moves; A. Ferworn seconds. D. Mason invites discussion. He notes that  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority is required.

**Motion approved.**

9) Discussion items:

- 9.1 FOS Strategic Planning discussion
  - Vision and mission statement

[Input generated by attendees in the groups at the beginning of this meeting.](#)

9.2 Standing item - EDI

- Guest speaker: Dr. Hyacinth M. Simpson, Dimensions Director  
D. Mason welcomes the guest speaker, H. Simpson.

H. Simpson shares this presentation:

[Dimensions at TMU: From Pilot to Permanence \(2020–2023 & 2023–2028\)](#)

Following the presentation, H. Simpson invites questions:

A. Ferworn asks if there will be measures of success to assess the efficacy of the program. H. Simpson says that metrics of success have been defined and built into the proposed plan.  
Discussion.

- Notice: Guidelines for best practices in EDI to be brought to Council for support
- C. Antonescu notes that this is a point of information. He notes that this item will be discussed and brought before the Council for support in the future.

9) Member Issues

None.

10) Adjournment

D. Mason thanks everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting.