

**FACULTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Date: March 14, 2024, 12:00 - 2:00pm

Location: POD-250

Members present:

<p>Ex-officio:</p> <p>A. McWilliams D. Cramb D. Mason M. Kolios R. Viirre</p>	<p>Faculty:</p> <p>A. Abhari A. Brown A. Douplik A. Ferworn A. Johnson C. Gravel C. Kumaradas C. Rebello D. Delic D. Little E. Harley F. Duah F. Wong J. Tavakkoli K. Georgiou K. Gilbride K. Rohlf K. Wilkie L. Campbell M. Hausner M. Kirby M. Mattiazzi Usaj M. Olson M. Santos</p>	<p>N. George R. Botelho S. Impellizzeri S. Mustafiz S. Wylie T. Antimirova V. Bostan</p> <p>Contract lecturers:</p> <p>M. Sauer</p> <p>Staff:</p> <p>S. Saeed</p>	<p>Guests:</p> <p>G. Kochhar S. Tajali P. Wettlaufer J. Matejovic M. Stewart</p> <p>Students:</p> <p>A. Pileggi C. Boateng Ameyaw</p> <p>Secretary of Faculty Council:</p> <p>Luna Bogdanovic</p> <p>Regrets:</p> <p>M. Mahoney P. Goldman</p>
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1) Call to Order/Establishment of Quorum (12:00pm)

2) Land Acknowledgement

D. Cramb notes that the FOS land acknowledgement is not traditional and tells the story of a naming ceremony that he attended. He notes that he felt great gratitude for being invited as this ceremony marks an important moment in the life of a person as they get their name and the story of their life. He notes that the room was filled with people from different areas outside the Dish with One Spoon and says that the ceremony was exactly in the spirit of the land acknowledgement practice.

3) Approval of Agenda

Motion: That Faculty Council approve the Agenda for the March 14, 2024 meeting.

D. Mason calls the motion to approve the agenda. A. Ferworn moves; A. McWilliams seconds.

D. Mason invites discussion. No discussion.

***Agenda approved.***

4) Announcements

The meeting of March 14, 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 December 14, 2023.

D. Mason calls the motion to approve the meeting minutes from the previous meeting. C. Kumaradas moves; A. Ferworn seconds.

***Minutes approved.***

6) Matters arising from the minutes

No business arising.

7) Reports

7.1 Dean's Report

D. Cramb notes that it is Pi Day and comments on the Department of Mathematics Pie a Prof tradition.

D. Cramb thanks A. McWilliams for stepping into as Interim Dean while he was on an administrative leave. He notes that he has had a chance to reflect on the value of time as it relates to the value of coming together. D. Cramb notes that it is his hope that Faculty Council will be a place to come together in person and perceive that as valuable.

D. Cramb notes that the Faculty of Science will be working on a plan for the next 5 years and considering how to implement it.

He says that the collective exercise which will be done today is meant to illuminate the process of decisions with respect to resources and prioritization, and defining the Metrics for these parameters as part of collective governance and collective wisdom. He emphasizes that the scenarios provided are hypothetical.

D. Cramb comments that there is an underlying sense of urgency at universities and notes that this is another area where specific metrics are needed to evaluate.

D. Cramb notes that he has been visiting staff across the Faculty, as part of his “Educate the Dean” series. He notes that it is his observation as well as the input from DSAC, that people are this Faculty’s greatest asset.

D. Cramb notes that the provincial government seems to be suggesting that there will be additional resources available for universities. He notes that no particulars are available yet, and asks for patience.

## 7.2 Associate Dean Reports

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

M. Kolios reminds the attendees that March 15 is the deadline for the undergraduate awards, the URO, UIRO, and the USRA. He notes that this year the USRAs are adjudicated at the Faculty level and that there will not be as many USRA in the past because of the way they are allocated based on tri-council funding to each faculty.

M. Kolios reminds all that every term hosts an event called the brown bag series, and that the upcoming April 17th session will be dedicated to Zone Learning.

M. Kolios notes that the research symposium is scheduled to take place on May 28th.

M. Kolio notes that the Manager position with the Science and research and innovation office has been filled and the new person will be starting in the near future.

K. Wilkie asks M. Kolios to expand on the reason there are fewer USRAs available to the Faculty. M. Kolios clarifies that the number will be lower than the 25-30 that FOS would get historically because NSERC now disperses these not to the University, but to individual faculties. He notes that there will be 10-12. K. Wilkie notes that this is inequitable as Math grants are smaller than other NSERC areas, and awarding these based on dollar values is inequitable. M. Kolios notes that this is one of the concerns that was brought up, but the decision was made regardless. Discussion.

R. Botelho asks for clarification on whether there is an unlimited number of USRAs for individuals who self-identify as black and Indigenous. M. Kolios notes that the number of available USRAs does not factor into this number.

F. Duah inquires about the adjudication process for URO applications in the education stream. M. Kolios states that, as in past years, there will be an education session for the reviewers to take appropriate parameters into account when adjudicating.

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

R. Viirre shares [this presentation](#).

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

A. McWilliams notes that the UCC has passed the program proposal for the Cyber Science program, as well as the program reviews for Computer Science and Medical Physics.

A. McWilliams thanks students, staff, and faculty that made the student awards night on February 15th such a success.

A. McWilliams notes that application numbers are positive. He comments that the University is encouraging more participation in bringing the students finally in to change from applicants into TMU students. He reminds all that the Open House is on February 17.

8) Discussion items:

8.1 Standing item - EDI

On behalf of C. Antonescu, R. Viirre shares [this presentation](#).

8.2 FOS Strategic Planning discussion  
- [resource allocation decision making exercise](#)

Data collected in the meeting is available [here](#). Analysis of data is available [here](#).

9) Member Issues

A. Pileggi raises the following issues:

1. "Booking group study rooms at TMU is challenging at the best of times. But for Biology/Chemistry/Biomedical students, who do not have reserved rooms, it's particularly difficult. Could some study rooms be reserved for these students? I appreciate that the solution to this problem must be multi-faceted. To this end, I respectfully suggest the following:  
-With virtual work, is it possible that additional study rooms could be located in the TMU Workspace Booking System used by TMU staff?"

-Could the Library room booking policy be changed to require at least 2 students in a room?

-Could reserved rooms (for example, those at the Ted Rogers School of Management, Faculty of Community Services, School of Urban and Regional Planning etc...) be opened up to all students on certain days?"

2. "We are in the process now of choosing our course intensions for September, 2024. Many of my constituents have told me that the Upper Liberal, Lower Liberal and Core Electives lists they must choose from are small. Moreover, within these small lists, many of the courses are not actually running. This limited selection negatively impacts our university experience."

10) Adjournment