

University of Toronto - Faculty of Kinesiology & Physical Education
Faculty Council Meeting Minutes
January 20, 2023 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.
Virtual Meeting, Zoom

Present: Beth Ali, Catherine Amara, Kelly Arbour-Nicitopoulos, Chris Arnold, Michael Atkinson, Tom Babits, Robert Bentley, Timothy Burkhart, Joyce Chen, Tracia Finlay-Watson, David Frost, Caroline Fusco, Jenna Gillen, Paul Handley, Janelle Joseph, Gretchen Kerr, Amy Kirkham, Jen Krol, Marius Locke, Lynda Mainwaring (Chair), Daniel Moore, Francesca Principe, Sarah Ryan, Catherine Sabiston, Boba Samuels, Malieka Shahid, Ashley Stirling, Katherine Tamminen, Linda Trinh, Mandy Wang, Tim Welsh.

Guests: Doriano D'Angelo, Maryanne McCormick, Tania Donald.

Regrets: Ennis Blentic, Ira Jacobs, Michael Hutchinson, Sabrina Malouka, Simon Darnell.

Secretariat: Wendy Pais

1. **Call to Order and Introductions:** Professor Mainwaring called the meeting to order at 12:07pm. The Chair welcomed all to the first Faculty Council meeting of 2023, wished everyone a Happy New Year and introduced new staff members and guests.
2. **Approval of Agenda:** The agenda was accepted as presented. (**Motion:** Amara/Ali, Carried).
3. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes from December 2, 2022 meeting were accepted as presented. (**Motion:** Fusco/Joseph, Carried)
4. **Committee Reports**
 - a. **Executive Committee** – No report
 - b. **Undergraduate Examinations**

Professor Amara reported that the Examinations Committee met on January 16. Twenty petitions were reviewed between December 19 to January 16 by the petitions subcommittee. This number of petitions is normal given that the University was closed for the winter holidays. The nature of the petitions included late withdrawal requests, term work accommodations, prerequisite waivers, extra course enrolment and automatic petitions with medical documentation. The majority of these petitions were granted and two to three petitions were denied when there was not sufficient evidence to support the petition. The majority of the Committee meeting was spent reviewing Fall term grades and all of the grades submitted by the instructors were approved. The approval of these grades is done on a rolling basis, and approved by the Vice-Dean. An analysis of the grades showed that the average of the first-year courses were two to three percent lower than previous year, but these percentages still fell within the expected range. Some courses had similar or even higher averages than previous years. The grades for elective courses similarly were within the expected ranges, with some courses being slightly higher and slightly lower than last year. There were no other note worthy patterns to report. Compulsory courses, despite having a lower grade percentage, still had A+ averages and top grades across all the first- and second-year courses. There was a good spread of grades and good use of the grading scale. Professor Amara thanked the Committee members for their thoughtful discussion in reviewing these grade patterns, and thanked all the instructors and teaching assistants who conducted careful marking and submitted grades in a timely manner. At the December Faculty Council meeting Professor Amara had requested that students in the KPEUA and instructors share information about in-person examination procedures and examination conduct rules with students. Professor Amara was happy to report that not many issues were reported and students followed proper exam conduct. Professor Amara ended the

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report by thanking everyone for their extra effort in explaining the rules and making sure all the information was distributed to the student body.

c. **Undergraduate Curriculum**

Professor Amara reported that the Committee met on January 9. As mentioned in the last Faculty Council meeting, a number of certifications are linked to several of the United Nations' *Sustainable Development Goals*. The committee will be highlighting these goals when a written proposal is presented in subsequent Faculty Council meetings. A portion of the recent Professoriate Committee was devoted to discussing a number of certifications to be offered in conjunction with the Bachelor of Kinesiology. Professor Amara expressed thanks for the feedback the Committee received and for continued ideas from the Curriculum Committee members. The Committee continues to refine the name of the certificates and the courses contained within these certificate pathways, and has also added to the number of certificates. The draft and the specifics of the discussion will be shared with the Faculty Council at a later time. The information will be first shared with students, as the Committee would like their feedback and then a refined proposal will be presented to the Faculty Council. In the Fall term, the Committee also spent some time discussing ways to integrate outdoor education, land-based education and Indigenous content and practices across our curriculum. Professor Amara also mentioned in the month of January, the Committee had the pleasure of participating in a guided history walk led by Charlotte Big Canoe. It was an eye-opening experience to walk through the campus and to learn about the Indigenous history of these spaces. Some of the things revealed during the walk were very hard to hear but there were also many triumphs and lessons to be learned from reading, hearing and seeing things from Indigenous perspective which left the group feeling inspired to continue their learning and work toward bringing more of this perspective and learning into our curriculum.

d. **Undergraduate Admissions**

Professor Locke reported the deadline for processing first round undergraduate admissions application is January 25, and after the deadline the applications will be reviewed and offers will be made. There have been more applications submitted this year than previous years.

e. **Graduate Committee** –No report

f. **Research Committee**

Professor Welsh reported that the Research Committee has adjudicated and recommended wording changes for the Internal Faculty Research Grant. Two grants have been awarded, one to Professor K. Arbour-Nicitopoulos - Title: Moving toward International Physical Activity Surveillance and Reporting, Exploring the Perspective of Families of Children and Adolescence with Disabilities and another grant has been awarded to Professor Luc Tremblay - Title: Leveraging Mixed Robot Guided Practice of Auditory Cues Sequential Rhythmic Tasks to Improve Upper Limb Control in Persons with Chronic Strokes. Professor Welsh thanked the members of the Research Committee for their work in assessing and recommending these awards. Professor Welsh also reported that the Research Committee had discussions about delegated ethics and course-based ethics approval processes. Any research conducted in the Faculty needs to undergo an ethics review to ensure that it is compliant with current standards. This process needs to happen for all course-based research activity, including any independent research project completed by undergraduate students, as well as studies in which data are collected in courses for assignments. The committee is looking to streamline the Delegated Ethics Review process and strengthen compliance with some of the ethical standards and

processes. Professor Welsh also wanted to send a reminder to all the instructors who are supervising undergraduate students to ensure that they all go through this process and the Ethics Committee can be contacted if anyone has any further questions. Lastly, the Committee is also assessing undergraduate research opportunities for the summer. Every year there are five to nine financial research awards given to undergraduate students, providing them with the opportunity to gain research experiences in the labs within the Faculty. Professor Welsh requested that instructors inform students about these opportunities, so that everyone has the equal opportunity to participate. The KPEUA members are also asked to reach out to the Committee to ensure that these opportunities are properly advertised and that the Committee can support students who are interested in competing for these research awards.

g. **Council of Athletics & Recreation**

Beth Ali reported that the Council of Athletics & Recreation, and the Athletics & Recreation Budget Committee have been meeting regularly over the past 4 months, working on the 2023-2024 co-curricular budget. The 2023-2024 co-curricular budget passed unanimously at the Athletics & Recreation Budget Committee and then again at the Council of Athletics & Recreation meeting in early January. The next step in the process was to present the budget to the Council on Student Services which took place two weeks ago, and the voting meeting with all the student governments regarding the budget will occur in early February. The next steps are to go to the University Affairs Board for a final vote and then a report goes to Governing Council. Overall, there will be 5.6% increase in the student ancillary fees for the 2023-2024. Council of Athletics & Recreation will continue meeting over the next few weeks in the Winter term with topics including the new Academic Plan and the subsequent Sports & Recreation Strategic Planning process for 2023-2024 Academic year, which will be informed significantly by the new Academic Plan. Beth Ali thanked the members of Council of Athletics & Recreation and the Athletics & Recreation Budget Committee for their work, and in particular thanked the Student Co-Chairs Jessica Muha and Jamie Le. Both have done an outstanding job in leading the Council of Athletics & Recreation Committee as well as helping present the budget both at the Council of Athletics & Recreation and Athletics & Recreation Budget Committee meetings.

h. **Equity Committee**

Professor Arbour-Nicitopoulos reported changes in the terms of reference of the Equity Committee, and documentation listing the proposed changes will be circulated to the Faculty Council member prior to the next meeting. The current bylaws of the Equity Committee propose that the Committee would review issues, provide recommendations and consultation. As discussed previously, the Committee would like to operate as a Committee that supports and provides education around resources and work with other standing committees on educational opportunities, such as learning and unlearning different areas around equity. Faculty Council will be provided with the documentation that has the proposed new terms of changes and voting will be conducted regarding these changes at a subsequent Faculty Council meeting. Professor Lynda Mainwaring also mentioned that the major changes in the new terms of reference were around language, specifically corrections were suggested for the terms 'Equity' and 'Indigenous'. Professor Arbour-Nicitopoulos will be presenting more information regarding these changes in term of reference in depth at a subsequent Faculty Council meeting. Dean Kerr mentioned that these changes are very welcomed. The Equity Committee has a long history, and its mandate and the broader context have changed significantly over time. The landscape around Equity, Diversity, Inclusion has also changed over time; as such, updating these terms of references are very important for language and also for clarity around where the

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Equity Committee fits within the Faculty as a whole.

- i. **Awards Committee** – No Report
- j. **Restricted Funds Committee** – No Report
- k. **Sponsorship Committee** – No Report

5. **EDU Reports**

- a. **Centre for Sport Policy Studies** – No Report

- b. **Centre for Motor Control**

Professor Chen reported that the seminar series for the Center of Motor Control will have two new speakers for the Winter term. On February 3, Dr. Mike Cinelli from the Department of Kinesiology and Physical Education at Laurier University will present a seminar, titled: ‘Get out of the way factors affecting people’s collision, avoidance behaviour with other people and objects within different environment.’ This talk will take place from 12 to 1pm, and is held jointly with the graduate seminar series (Room GR 221 with a virtual option). The second speaker is Dr. Ewa Niechwiej-Szwedo from the Department of Kinesiology at University of Waterloo. Her research focuses on vision and motor control. This seminar will be held at the end of March and more information will be available later. Lastly, the faculty of the Centre for Motor Control will be hosting this year’s Southern Ontario Motor Behaviour Symposium (SOMBS) which usually rotates around different Universities’ Kinesiology departments in Southern Ontario. This will likely be held between late April to early May and is an opportunity for graduate and undergraduate students to showcase their research work.

- c. **Mental Health and Physical Activity Research Centre**

Professor Sabiston reported MPARC is collaborating with the Faculty of Social Work to deliver community-based programs for equity owed older adults at the Jane and Finch Community Centre. MPARC is looking forward to integrating various initiatives the Centre has been working on over the years with this new group to build this community based program. The ‘Move you Happy you’ program is currently open. The number of student participants did drop last year with the in-person delivery, and the Centre is currently looking for ways to integrate in-person delivery while continuing to also provide the program virtually. This program provides behavioural coaching and exercise for help seeking students on campus. The program has received interest from students from all three campuses to provide it virtually, and the Centre is looking for ways to increase its accessibility. The program is open for self and other referral for students until February 4. Lastly, MPARC and number of constituents within the Faculty are working towards many initiatives and outreach programming to highlight the importance of mental health and physical activity across the campus which aligns with the Bell Let’s Talk Day, which is on January 25.

- d. **Centre for Sport-Related Concussion Research, Innovation and Knowledge** – No report

6. **Deans’ Reports**

- a. **Dean**

Dean Kerr began by wishing everyone a Happy New Year. Dean Kerr then presented the final version of the Academic Plan titled ‘Transformation in Motion’ to receive approval on this plan from Faculty

Council. In the December Faculty Council meeting the Academic Plan presentation provided details on the purpose of the plan, the foundations, the consultative process used to develop this plan, and a very detailed outline of the priorities and objectives. As such, Dean Kerr presented a succinct version of key points of the new Academic Plan to the Council to serve as a refresher and bring it forward for approval. The entire process has been guided by KPE's mission statement. Dean Kerr mentioned that there had been extensive discussions regarding the mission statement and the general consensus was that the existing mission statement still serves the Faculty well. Therefore, the current mission statement informed the KPE Academic Plan "*Transformation in Motion*".

The starting point of this plan was the recognition that physical activity in all its forms - sports, exercise, recreation, dance and play is central to the health, development and well-being of individuals, community and society at large. The recognition of these benefits of physical activity in the United Nation's *Sustainable Development Goals*, also informed the thinking around KPE's Academic Plan. Some of the key values of the plans were based on equity, diversity, inclusivity, and belonging; reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples; integrity, leadership and excellence.

The plan was created through an extensive consultation process which included many members of the Faculty Council, undergraduate students, graduate students, staff, faculty members, partners in the community and alumni. After receiving input and feedback from various stakeholder in our community, a shared purpose was reached which is '*Excellence in Advancing Health Living Through Inclusive Movement*.'

This shared purpose captured the notion that regardless of which part of the Faculty we are affiliated with, whether it's intramural, recreation, research, academic teaching or service, this is something we all share in common. The KPE Faculty is unique from other divisions across the University because we focus on active healthy living. The strategic priority and thematic areas all interact with each other, and are not intended to be mutually exclusive.

Dean Kerr provided a brief overview of each thematic area.

Elevate health and well-being: Recognizes that physical activity in various forms is essential to health. Based on the discussion at the last Faculty Council meeting, this approach to health aligns with World Health Organization's *One Health* approach, which views the health of individuals, climate, animals, plants and environment as inseparable and that we must look at health in this integrated way. The goal is to have local and global impact both on the understanding of the intersection between health and movement and the delivery or practice of these intersections. KPE's mission statement is incorporated throughout each of these priority areas' objectives. Each priority area touches on the development and generation of knowledge, dissemination of knowledge both through the delivery and design of program and services, but also through scholarly and public avenues of dissemination. An internal lens is also used to study how to model a healthy place to work, study, move and play. Lastly, we must continually assess, monitor and evaluate and celebrate the successes achieved in all of these areas.

Ignite transformative inclusivity: The starting point of this thematic area is that health and movement are human rights. The objective of this area is again to generate knowledge about inclusivity and informing program and service delivery with this knowledge. Another objective is investing in our people and collective capacity, dissemination of this knowledge in an inclusive and accessible manner, and amplifying our efforts as advocates for physical activity, sports and play as universal human rights. Lastly, to continue to monitor, evaluate and celebrate our initiatives in this space.

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Foster innovation, discovery and achievement: This area highlights the Faculty as a place for discovery, critical thought, creativity, innovation and growth. In other words, how to promote the Faculty as a place people can thrive. Some of the key objectives of this area are looking at ways to enhance our research infrastructure, recognizing that the Faculty's research ranges from fundamental to applied research. Another objective is investing in creative innovations and advancements in teaching, learning and curriculum renewal to promote discovery-based learning in academic, sports and recreation programming and to build capacity in order for our community to talk about these achievements in accessible ways. Data usage will underpin all our program and service development and deliveries. Lastly, similar to other thematic areas, it will be important to assess, disseminate our achievements and celebrate them.

Activate Partnership & Collaboration: This area focuses on activating partnership and collaborations, and viewing them as the means toward achieving the previous thematic priorities as well as end points in themselves. Also, to ensure our commitment to reciprocity in these collaborations and partnerships. Some of the objectives of this thematic area are internally focused within the Faculty, including strengthening the integration between research, curriculum design, delivery and practice; further growing our partnerships across the University, locally as well as globally, and; preparing our community to be the change leaders to engage with the community with a full understanding of how to collaborate with others to create sustainable changes. Lastly, as mentioned in the last three thematic areas, we will continue to monitor and evaluate this particular priority area.

As a closing statement, Dean Kerr stated that the shared vision and different priority areas were presented separately but in practice they will be very much interrelated and each will inform the others.

Dean Kerr concluded the presentation by putting forward a motion to accept the new KPE Academic Plan "*Transformation in Motion*". (**Motion:** Kerr/ Stirling, Carried).

Dean Kerr added that a glossary of terms will be provided as an addendum. Dean Kerr thanked the Faculty Council members and our community for their extensive engagement with this entire process. The discussions were very fruitful and this process was a team effort. A sincere thank you was extended to all for their contributions to this new Academic Plan.

To acknowledge the work, success and approval of the academic plan and consistent with the Elevate Health and Well-Being theme, the Chair invited members to stand for a 30 second movement break with a round of applause for Dean Kerr and the working group.

b. **Vice-Dean, Academic**

Before the report was presented, Professor Mainwaring thanked Professor Amara for taking on the role of the Vice-Dean Academic for the last semester, for all her hard work, efforts and providing us with leadership in the absence of Vice-Dean Stirling. Vice-Dean Stirling also thanked Professor Amara for stepping into the role in her absence and for helping her during the transition period.

Vice-Dean Stirling reported that in December our Faculty celebrated a double cohort convocation ceremony; this included students who graduated in 2020-2021 and did not have an in-person convocation. These students had their in-person convocation and reception in December 2022 and both of these events were well attended. Vice-Dean Stirling thanked everyone who was involved in the planning of these events, and a special thanks to Professor Sabiston who was the keynote at the Convocation ceremony. There was a Reception for Scholars event hosted last week, and Vice-Dean Stirling thanked everyone who helped organize

this event. At this event more than 200 awards were given out. This is a great testament to advancement, donors and the funds that are coming into the Faculty as well as the great work that our students are doing with scholarships and awards they received. Lastly, a recruitment event for MPK program was hosted on January 19 and the event was very well attended.

c. **Associate Dean, Research**

Professor Welsh reported that a recent update was announced and released for the tri-campus policy statement about Ethical Conduct of Research involving Humans. This update will also be circulated among the professoriate and graduate students of KPE. Professor Welsh reminded everyone who is involved with research to ensure that they read these updates, familiarize themselves with these updates and apply them in the ethical conduct of the research.

Secondly, it was reported that the Research Oversight and Compliance Office is starting a monthly series involving and engaging EDI principles in ethical conduct of research. The first series will be on February 24 from 10 to 11:30am.

The Research Services Office is working on an initiative to develop a program and process for researchers to engage in knowledge translation activities and outreach program for community and high school groups. The Office is at the early formation stages of this program. The Research Services Office is working on developing a working group to help develop the parameters and processes and to understand the needs of alumni, current students and future students. Anyone interested in being part of the working group can reach out to Professor Welsh or Jason Small who is leading this new initiative.

d. **Executive Director, Athletics & Physical Activity**

Beth Ali informed Council that Sports and Recreation programming has re-started after the December break. All programming continues to see an increase number of attendance as seen in the Fall term. New staff members have been welcomed at the co-curricular program, some for positions that were vacant post-pandemic. However, there are still some shortages when it comes to part-time staffing for the Sports and Recreation Office, as the part-time student staffing has not come back to pre-pandemic capacity.

There will be some special programming in place on January 25 recognizing the importance of physical activity and sports and the positive impact they have on mental health and academic success. Various promotions about fitness and drop-in sessions will be advertised on social media, website and on digital screens. Lastly, it is encouraged that everyone look for a fitness class they can drop-by and help recognize the positive impact physical activity has on mental health.

e. **Chief Administrative Officer** – No report

7. Student Governments' Reports

a. **KPEUA**

Malieka Shahid reported that the KPEUA is starting their Executive Council recruitment in mid-February. The Council has decided to start their recruitment earlier to allow for a longer onboarding period. This will allow the new members to shadow the existing and former Council members, to allow a smoother transition period for the newly hired members. KPEUA is hosting their annual KPE cup in collaboration with Relay for Life on January 20 and all the proceeds will be going to the Canadian Cancer society.

b. **KPEGS**

Francesca Principe reported that KPEGS continues to plan the Bodies of Knowledge conference. KPEGS will be having their next meeting next week Monday.

8. Other Business/Announcements: None

9. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 1:13p.m. (**Motion:** Amara/Finlay-Watson, Carried)