

University of Toronto – Faculty of Kinesiology and Physical Education
Faculty Council Minutes
May 19, 2021 10am-12pm
Virtual Meeting, Blackboard Collaborate
Link: <https://ca.bbcollab.com/guest/df0bd7084b83473bb8c03b5b35c0f1be>

Present: Margaret MacNeill (Chair), Adam Ali, Beth Ali, Caitlin Alvares, Natalie Alvares, Catherine Amara, Michael Atkinson, April Bayona, Robert Bentley, Barb Brophy, Timothy Burkhard, Joyce Chen, Simon Darnell, Kristine Drakich, Tracia Finlay-Watson, Caroline Fusco, Carl Georgevski, Jenna Gillen, Jack Goodman, Michael Hutchison, Ira Jacobs, Janelle Joseph, Amy Kirkham, Adrian Lightowler, Marius Locke, Hassaan Mahmood, Lynda Mainwaring, Jill Mallon, Julia Martyniuk, Daniel Moore, Roxy O'Rourke, Wendy Pais, Shalyn Pilgrim, Catherine Sabiston, Boba Samuels, Daniel Santa Mina, Stephanie Sarker, Jessica Selvaratnam, Grant Shantz, Luc Simard, Ashley Stirling, Tim Taha, Katherine Tamminen, Scott Thomas, Tiffany Tiu, Luc Tremblay, Linda Trinh, Madison Vani, Tim Welsh

Guests: Natalie Agro, Tim Linden, Robin Waley, Jim Webster, Sabrina Malouka, Malieka Shahid, Rebekah Choi, Zeana Hamdonah, Asma Khalil, Gaby Estrada, Garcia Ashdown-Franks

Regrets: Merrily Stratten, Cassidy Davies, Veronika Katsuk

Secretariat: Carolyn Laidlaw

1. **Call to Order and Introductions:** The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. by the Chair, who made a land acknowledgement, and welcomed incoming KPEUA executive members, and graduate student guests.
2. **Approval of Agenda:** The agenda was accepted as presented. (**Motion:** Thomas/Mainwaring, Carried)
3. **Approval of Minutes:** The secretary pointed out a minor date error that had been corrected in the Dean's Report of the April 9 minutes. The minutes of the April 9, 2021 meeting were accepted and approved. (**Motion:** Ali, B/Amara, Carried)

4. **Committee Reports**

a. **Executive Committee**

The Executive Committee last met on May 7, and recommended to proceed with the approved agenda. A motion to approve the standing committee members for 2021-22 was withdrawn, as the memberships are not yet finalized. A review of the Faculty Council bylaws and constitution is recommended to take place in the coming year, as this was last done in 2014-15.

***Motion:** The Executive Committee recommends that a review of the KPE Faculty Council bylaws and constitution be launched in the new academic year. (**Motion:** Jacobs/Thomas, Carried)*

b. **Undergraduate Examinations**

Professor Thomas acknowledged and thanked the committee members for their work this year, especially in adapting to virtual teaching and evaluation methods. This is the third year using the current undergraduate grade review process, which has the faculty submit their grades via e-Marks, which are then reviewed by the Committee, Registrar's Office and the Vice Dean before being released on a rolling basis. The Committee last met on May 17 to go through the marks, grade audit and awards, which is being reported to Council today. Comparing course averages between the previous and the current year, there is a slight increase this year (less than 2%). On average, the standard deviation of marks decreased this year, which means there is less dispersion around the average mark. We may need to re-evaluate how we best identify students who have strongly achieved the learning objectives and students who have not does as well with the learning objectives, as there is less differentiation between these groups with the smaller standard deviation. The

general pattern of grade averages increasing over each year in the program has continued, with a slightly higher increase than usual in Year 2 students this year.

Professor Thomas then provided a summary of the mark audit, which was prepared by Tim Linden in the Registrar's Office. This showed the distribution of marks by year for the BKin program, as well as the two remaining BPHE students. The numbers reflect that student marks improve from Year 1 to 2, and again between Years 3 and 4. The audit also showed the students who maintained a GPA of at least 1.7, as well as those that fell below this GPA and were placed on probation. A historical overview of probation and suspensions was provided, which showed that the number of first year students placed on probation was lower in both 2021 and 2020 than in previous years, as well as a reduced rate of suspensions over the past few years.

Professor Locke commented on the current grade point average system, which does not match up with application standards for some post-graduate programs, and asked if in the future the Committee could look at revising the current 4.0 scale to a 100-point scale. Professor Thomas replied that he could take this suggestion back to the Committee for consideration.

Motion: *To approve the 2020-21 academic audit results as reported.* (**Motion:** Thomas/Mainwaring, Carried).

Professor Thomas reported that the Committee reviews awards that have an academic average component, before forwarding the nominees to the Awards Committee for approval and announcement.

c. Undergraduate Curriculum

Professor Amara thanked all members of the Committee for their engagement throughout the year. The Executive of the Curriculum Committee has been meeting to review new courses, as well as to review eligibility of KPE390/490 research projects for certificate completion for upcoming graduates.

d. Undergraduate Admissions

Professor Taha reported that the Committee held five rounds of admissions this year (in January, February, March, April and May), which is one more than usual. He thanked Margaret Ajax for all her work in supporting the Committee, and the tight turnaround times from Enrollment Services. We received 2,070 applications this year, slightly up from last year's total of 2,044. The increase was primarily due to a higher number of international applications received, while the number of applicants from Ontario high schools was slightly decreased. To date, 1,103 offers have been sent out, which is significantly more than this time last year, and 174 acceptances have been submitted (compared to 130 at this time last year). Students have until May 30, 2021, to submit their acceptances.

Professor Thomas asked about the likelihood of the increased number of international applicants being able to attend in person come September. Professor Taha agreed that there was some concern, and also clarified that 34 of these 'international' applicants are currently attending Canadian high schools, in both Ontario and British Columbia.

e. Graduate Committee

Professor Atkinson reported that the MA program proposal is continuing to move through the governance process, and is currently under external review.

f. Research Committee

Professor Tremblay reported that the Committee met on May 17 to discuss the impact of the pandemic on many internal research grants. The Committee leveraged their collective experiences over the last 14

months, and discussed various recommendations for the next round of internal research grants, which will be finalized at the June meeting. Finally, additional allocations for undergraduate summer research opportunities were received, which brings the total of students supported this year to eleven – a new record.

g. Council of Athletics and Recreation

Co-chair Tiffany Tiu reported that the Council met on May 12 and passed two motions to support the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion statement and the land acknowledgement statement, which are also being presented to Faculty Council today by the Equity Committee.

h. Equity Committee

Professor Ali listed the items that the Committee would be reporting on, the two motions for approval and the presentation of the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) reporting recommendations for consideration. He then provided the timeline of the consultation process for the EDI statement, from January 2021 to the present. Students were a central part of this process, and he thanked the student groups of KPEGS, KPEUA and the BIPOC Varsity Association who played a role. The final version of the statement was brought forward to the May 3rd Professoriate meeting, and was then approved by CAR at their May 12th meeting.

Motion: *That Faculty Council, on recommendation from the Equity Committee, approve the “KPE Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Statement”.* (**Motion:** Ali, A./Jacobs, Carried)

KPE Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Statement

The Faculty of Kinesiology and Physical Education (KPE) is committed to providing an inclusive and welcoming environment that nurtures a culture of belonging. We strive to address and remove structural barriers in education, sport, and recreation through the co-creation of diverse and meaningful opportunities for equity-deserving communities within the Faculty’s teaching, research, programs, and services.

These barriers are rooted in historical and ongoing inequities including but not limited to colonialism, racism, sexism, heterosexism, ageism, classism, ableism, religious-based and gender-based discrimination.

As part of an institution complicit in contributing to colonial processes, we are also committed to reconciliation by building relationships with Indigenous communities in order to learn about the diversity of Indigenous Nations, create Indigenous spaces, and enact anti-colonial practices.

Grounded in an inclusive framework, we will work to co-create purposeful change with our diverse KPE communities.

Co-chair Robin Waley then reported process and timeline of developing the Land Acknowledgment and Commitment statement, which has been ongoing since October 2020. It was approved by the Professoriate and CAR in May, and is now brought to Faculty Council for approval.

Motion: *That Faculty Council, on recommendation from the Equity Committee, approve the “KPE Land Acknowledgement and Commitment Statement”.* (**Motion:** Waley/Tremblay, Carried)

KPE Land Acknowledgement and Commitment

We wish to acknowledge this land on which the University of Toronto operates. For thousands of years, it has been the traditional land of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca, and the Mississaugas of the Credit. Today, this meeting place is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work on this land.

As part of an institution complicit in contributing to colonial processes, we are committed to reconciliation by building relationships with Indigenous communities in order to learn about the diversity of Indigenous Nations, create Indigenous spaces, and enact anti-colonial practices.

Professor Ali brought forward the ‘*EDI Reporting Principles and Recommendations*’ report, to provide a model from which an annual reporting framework can be built. This report was guided by the recommendations of the *U of T Anti-Black Racism Task Force* and the *KPE Task Force on Race and Indigeneity* reports. The overarching principles of reporting are as follows: reporting is ongoing and consistent, reporting is transparent and accessible, reporting is possible through multiple avenues and opportunities, and reporting is a form of accountability. Professor Ali made a motion for Faculty Council to receive this report (**Motion:** Ali, A./Tremblay, Carried).

i. Awards Committee

Natalie Agro brought forward a new award for approval, the *Ira Jacobs Graduate Fellowship in Sport and Exercise Science*. This is an endowed award, for one award of \$8,000 annually on the basis of academic merit and evidence of emerging leadership. A call for contributions to this award will be sent out soon. There were some questions regarding the wording of the award, and the eligibility requirements. Professor Stirling clarified that while the award is intended to be used to attract incoming students, the wording of the award is intentionally flexible so that it can be awarded yearly to either new or current students. Professor Mainwaring had questions regarding the ‘leadership’ statement, if it was appropriate to be part of an admissions award. In light of this, a friendly amendment was accepted to revise the award to read ‘With consideration to be given to those students who exemplify emerging leadership within the academy or academic’. With this friendly amendment, the award was approved. (**Motion:** Agro/Thomas, Carried)

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 Welsh reported that on May 6 the annual research symposium was co-hosted with the Southern Ontario Motor Behavior Group, through Blackboard Collaborate. There were as many as 70 people in attendance at one point in the conference, and attendees from across Canada as well as the United Kingdom were present. Next year’s symposium will be held at McMaster University, and hopefully in person. The Centre is also hosting a statistics workshop from June 21-25, 2021.

c. Mental Health and Physical Activity Research Centre

Professor Sabiston reported that 31 students completed the MoveU.HappyU program in the Winter term, of which 20% were international students. The Centre is working with Sport and Recreation to continue to focus on international student involvement, with 78% of the current interest for the Spring term being from help-seeking international students so far. A follow up program has also been developed to offer graduates of the MoveU.HappyU program an opportunity to work with a Fitness and Performance coach, 4 students have completed this follow up program this term.

Professor Sabiston highlighted that MPARC was part of a submission to a Connaught Global Challenge grant entitled " Building a Global Research Network to Advance Student & Youth Mental Health" with a focus on student training and mentoring.

Finally, MPARC was invited to deliver a partnership symposium at the International Society for Sport Psychology where they will be able to showcase the interdisciplinary research emanating from the centre recently.

6. Deans' Reports

a. Dean

Dean Jacobs recognized the end of the academic year, as well as the disruptive effects of the pandemic on all aspects of our lives. While many in the faculty are experiencing trials, we are continuing to identify areas that we can invest in and improve. He also recognized and addressed best wishes to Robin Waley, who has had significant and constructive effects on our Faculty, but is now moving to a prominent role at YMCA Toronto. Other upcoming faculty departures and updates are:

- Retirement of Professors Peter Donnelly and Bruce Kidd as of June 30, 2021, with Bruce Kidd also having been appointed to the role of University Ombudsperson in his retirement
- Professor Scott Thomas will be beginning a research leave in July, and retiring in December 2021
- Professor Jack Goodman continues in a part-time appointment for the next year, and will retire in June 2022
- Patricia Patchet-Golubev, writing instructor, is moving to 50% appointment, and retiring next year
- Professor Luc Tremblay is completing his term as Associate Dean Research, and beginning an administrative leave in July
- Professor Tim Welsh is moving into the role of Interim Associate Dean, Research
- Research leaves beginning on July 1, 2021: Professors Simon Darnell, Michael Hutchison and Daniel Santa Mina. Tenure and rank of Associate Professor have been granted to both Michael Hutchison and Daniel Santa Mina.

All faculty members who have announced their retirements have been granted the status of Professor Emeritus upon their retirement dates.

Professor Jacobs provided an update on the status of the two EDU's that were endorsed at the last Faculty Council meeting. The proposals and notification of the endorsement by the KPE Faculty Council of these was sent to decanal colleagues throughout the University for feedback, with a response deadline of May 30. Once all have responded, a formal notification of establishment of the EDUs will be announced.

The Dean's Student Leadership Awards were recently held, with congratulations to all awardees for the impact on, and engagement with the Faculty and the University over the past year.

Dean Jacobs also recognized and thanked the new members of the KPEUA for joining today's Faculty Council meeting.

Dean Jacobs informed Faculty Council that the Bodies of Knowledge conference will not be taking place this year, on the decision of the organizing committee. A statement was sent to all registrants by KPEGS to inform them about this decision and the rationale.

The summer term has begun, and fall term planning is underway. At the University level, an infographic outlining the plans for a safe return to campus has been created, and can be found here: <https://www.utoronto.ca/news/12-ways-u-t-preparing-safe-return-person-instruction>. Further details can also be found at: <https://www.utoronto.ca/utogether/safe-return>. The Dean reviewed some of the preparations that are underway.

Professor Jacobs discussed the pattern of direct entry admission confirmations compared to the November 1 actual numbers (across the university) over the past two years, and showed that the pattern for us was similar

between Fall 2020 and Fall 2019, with a low attrition rate for our Faculty from the time of acceptance of the offer of admission by new students. It is believed that this pattern will continue in the coming year. The first-year residence guarantee remains for all University of Toronto students.

Dean Jacobs put forward a motion for the Executive Committee to be granted summer authority to act for Faculty Council over the summer, including proposing interim memberships for Faculty Council Standing Committees, which was carried.

***Motion:** That Faculty Council grant the Executive Committee summer authority to propose interim memberships for the Standing Committees, and to act for Faculty Council if needed until the next Faculty Council meeting so that work can be continued over the summer as needed. (Motion: Jacobs/Ali, B., Carried)*

Finally, Dean Jacobs thanked all of the current and past members of Faculty Council for the ‘3 C’s: Creativity, Constructive and Collegial contributions to Faculty governance’. The Council has done important and high impact work together in difficult times, and he expressed appreciation for the support of Faculty Council, and for the time and energy devoted to participating in the meetings. Thank you for the excellent work.

b. Vice Dean, Academic

Professor Stirling thanked all faculty, staff and students for their resilience over the past year, and wished all a healthy and restful summer break.

c. Associate Dean Research

Professor Tremblay reported that the Research Ethics Board as well as the Face-to-Face and Off-Campus groups have resumed their review of ethics protocol applications since March 22, 2021. Please note that all ethics protocols involving face-to-face and/or off-campus research, including those who had resumed between July and November 2020, must go through this renewed review process. Information on this is available at research.utoronto.ca.

Professor Tremblay thanked Professor Welsh for his acceptance of the role of Interim Associate Dean Research, and mentioned that the transition process has begun. Finally, he thanked everyone in KPE for the amazing experiences and learning opportunities that were provided through the privilege of serving as Associate Dean Research since January 2015, as he was always impressed and thrilled when learning details of the amazing research led by KPE researchers.

d. Executive Director, Athletics & Physical Activity

Beth Ali reported that a large number of full-time staff are still on temporary layoffs, and we are looking forward to welcoming them back. All in person activities are still suspended, with the exception of the Sport Medicine Clinic. Online programs are still running for fee paying students, with access available to others for a fee. After the stay at home order is lifted and our updated status is confirmed, the program staff are ready to re-start programs. OUA schedules are being announced, with a goal to prioritize student health and safety.

Several human resources updates:

- Kay Dawkins, Manager of Recreation, retired on April 30
- Melissa Krist is leaving to join Brock University as Director of Sport as of June 1
- Robin Waley is leaving to become EDI Director for YMCA Toronto, his last day is May 26
- Professor Doug Richards has stepped down as medical director of the Sport Medicine Clinic, and is now a full-time professor. Dr. Dave Marks is currently the Interim Director.

We congratulate all colleagues on these new opportunities, and wish them the best of luck.

e. Chief Administrative Officer

Paul Handley provided an update on the progress of the ongoing capital projects:

- Phase 3 of the Benson air conditioning project has been tendered, and first construction meeting held
- Robert Street Field – sod expected to be laid before the end of May
- Goldring 4th Floor Lab redesign project is expected to go to tender in June, and have construction begin in September
- Academic wood tower planning is progressing
- Second round of space planning consultation is complete
- Benson Pool Gallery project is progressing, on time and on budget
- New project: painting around the roof canopy of the Athletic Centre field house

7. Student Governments' Reports

a. KPEUA

Outgoing KPEUA president Natalie Alvares thanked everyone on behalf of the students, and welcomed the incoming Executive to their new roles.

b. KPEGS

Madison Vani reported that the KPEGS Constitution recently underwent a formal review process, which was voted on and passed on April 19. The updated document added in additional roles such as intramural rep and Equity, Diversity and Inclusivity rep; recognized the MPK program and student representatives, and updated the name of the group to 'KPEGS' formally.

Next, Gaby Estrada presented on behalf of Roxy O'Rourke to provide an update regarding the Bodies of Knowledge Conference. The following statement was released to registrants regarding the postponement of the conference on May 17:

“Concerns surrounding the Canadian Association of University Teachers’ (CAUT) censure of the University of Toronto were brought forward to us by invited speakers, presenters, and other students. As an organization, KPEGS (including the Bodies of Knowledge organizing committee) took time to educate ourselves on the circumstances surrounding the censure, including the University of Toronto’s response. We also sought out the perspectives of all speakers. Following a majority vote in support of the censure at a meeting held on Tuesday May 11th, 2021, KPEGS postponed the Bodies of Knowledge Conference to a time when all individuals are comfortable proceeding. We remain steadfast in our support of anti-racism work, and we will continue to commit ourselves to support the vitally important work that these scholars are leading. Ultimately, KPEGS did not want to put our guest speakers, student presenters, or organizing committee members in a position where they would be responsible for choosing between the importance of the work they would be presenting or their views on the censure. We wish to thank our speakers, presenters, and fellow students for their support of the Bodies of Knowledge Conference.”

KPEGS also expressed disappointment in the email that was sent to graduate students by the Dean with regards to this issue, as they did not feel supported in the response regarding their decision on the censure. There is a perceived divide between students and faculty members on this issue. Professor Fusco thanked KPEGS for their clear statements and agreed it was a difficult decision to make, and affirmed their right to feel concerned, while wishing them the best. Dean Jacobs expressed concern that the message that he sent was perceived to be unsupportive, and informed Council that the conference organizers did not consult with the Office of the Dean, the Vice-Dean Academic Affairs, or with the Graduate Program Director prior to announcing the postponement of the conference. Dean Jacobs stated that such consultation may have

resulted in program changes and the ability to meet the objectives of the conference in a manner that would not conflict with those who supported the censure. Professor Mainwaring echoed Professor Fusco's sentiments and also expressed disappointment at the cancellation, as the students do a great job of organizing this annual conference. She recognized the clear statement of professionalism and the decision that the students made, as the issue of censure is confusing, with conflicting opinions on both sides.

Professor Darnell spoke up as a faculty representative for the U of T Faculty Association to mention that the CAUT censure issue can be contentious and confusing issue that is frequently discussed, and invited faculty to pass concerns or questions to him so that he can provide information from the Faculty Association or gain more information if needed.

8. Announcements

Virtual Convocation ceremony for all of the University of Toronto is taking place on Wednesday June 23 at 12:00 p.m. EST. A virtual KPE Convocation reception will follow at 3:00 p.m.

The Chair thanked members who are leaving Faculty Council in their current roles this year, as this is the final meeting of the 2020-21 academic year: Dean Ira Jacobs, Robin Waley, Professor Scott Thomas, Professor Jack Goodman, Professor Luc Tremblay, outgoing KPEUA President Natalie Alvares, and retiring Professors Peter Donnelly and Bruce Kidd.

- 9. Adjournment:** The motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 12:10 p.m., and was carried.
(**Motion:** Tremblay/Tiu, Carried)