

**Faculty Council Meeting
March 6, 2020 12pm – 2pm
Margaret Eaton Boardroom, BN 302**

MINUTES

Present: Natalie Agro, Kelly Arbour-Nicitopoulos, Michael Atkinson, Barb Brophy, Joyce Chen, Simon Darnell, Tracia Finlay-Watson, David Frost, Jenna Gillen, Jack Goodman, Paul Handley, Ira Jacobs, Janelle Joseph, Marius Locke, Margaret MacNeill (Chair), Lynda Mainwaring, Braeden McKenzie, Daniel Moore, Catherine Sabiston, Ashley Stirling, Merrily Stratten, Tim Taha, Luc Tremblay, Linda Trinh, Jim Webster, Timothy Welsh

Secretariat: Wendy Pais

Regrets: Beth Ali, Peter Donnelly, Emily Hickey, Tiffany Tiu, Cheryl Yip

1. **Call to Order and Introductions:** The meeting was officially called to order at 12:06 p.m.

2. **Approval of Agenda:** The circulated agenda was approved.

(**Motion:** Stratten/Locke; Carried)

3. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of January 17th, 2020 were approved.

(**Motion:** Jacobs/Goodman; Carried)

4. **Committee Reports**

a. **Executive Committee**

Dean Jacobs informed Council that the Executive Committee of Faculty Council met to recommend and approve the agenda for this meeting.

b. **Undergraduate Examinations**

Professor Lynda Mainwaring informed Council that the Examinations Committee met on March 2nd 2020 and is reviewing grading policies and practices, including the timing of the release of grades and student concerns (raised via the student representative on the Committee). The Committee is following up on the tasked item on grading guidelines from the Dean and Vice-Dean, Academic which arose from the review of Fall 2019 term marks.

c. **Undergraduate Curriculum**

Vice-Dean Ashley Stirling reminded Council about the upcoming undergraduate research conference on March 27th and the associated keynote talk on research with indigenous communities, entitled “*To do no harm: working with indigenous communities and helpers and allies toward a new healthy and helpful relationship*”.

d. **Undergraduate Admissions**

Professor Tim Taha informed Council that undergraduate admissions this year are down by approximately 2% compared to this time last year. To date, we have admitted 288 students from Ontario high schools plus 175 non-Ontario high school students. Within both those groups there are 82 international students. Out of that total of approximately

University of Toronto - Faculty of Kinesiology & Physical Education
500 students, the University has awarded 68 scholarships (including 9 Presidential scholarships and 59 University of Toronto scholarships). This scholarship number is higher than in the past, as there have been more non-Ontario high school students admitted earlier this year.

e. Graduate Committee

Professor Michael Atkinson provided Council with an update on offers and admissions at the graduate level. There have been 16 PhD offers made, 13 have been accepted and zero have declined. Three students have asked for an extension to accept the offer. Offers for the MSc program are going out this week, and a total of nineteen offers will be made. MPK admissions closes on March 16th. Of note, an item to be discussed at graduate committee and as part of a larger discussion in the Faculty, is that we are considerably down with respect to our application numbers. We are engaging in high level conversations about revisions to the graduate program at the masters and eventually the doctoral level. A more concrete, detailed plan will be brought forward to the next Faculty Council meeting. Professor Daniel Moore suggested developing a method of tracking prospective students to collect their information and track communication. Professor Stirling commented recruitment is very multifaceted and is a combination between recruitment, marketing and sales strategies; recruitment also comes down to the product you are selling. The ideas that the graduate committee are discussing for changes to the graduate program, are to intentionally try to attract a larger more diverse student body that might be interested in applying at the master's level.

f. Research Committee

Professor Luc Tremblay informed Council that the Research Committee met on February 24th and has received three research applications for new EDUs. Leaders will be asked to present their proposals to the Research Committee at the end of March. There is another cycle of the Provost's Postdoctoral Fellowship Program targeting Indigenous and Black researchers. The announcement was included in the February 24th KPE Research Alert and will also be in the March 9th Research Alert. Please circulate the opportunity through your networks. We will consider applications coming through KPE until April 3rd.

g. Council of Athletics & Recreation – no report.

h. Equity Committee – S. Grandison/S. Darnell

Professor Simon Darnell provided a report on the committee's activities. The committee met on January 24th and February 28th. There have been a number of events that have taken place over the past 2 months, including 'Move with Pride', 'Mind, Body, Positive Yoga and Meditation', indigenous swim training, and a night of ideas which was an open house in partnership with Hart House to promote the KPE Black Excellence Ball. Upcoming events include She Moves 2020, Soar indigenous youth gathering over March break, annual Pow Wow event on March 21st which will be held from 11am – 7pm at Goldring Centre, and the Queers on Ice event at Varsity Arena on March 26th. New at the equity committee this year are a number of working groups that have been established to work on various projects. The first is reviewing the terms of reference for the actual committee itself, with the intention to update the terms of reference for the committee by the end of the year. The second is the working group 'If These Walls Could Talk' which is inspiration and educational signage that might be included in KPE spaces in the near future. The third working group is focused on the 'Equity Framework Toolkit

University of Toronto - Faculty of Kinesiology & Physical Education Development Project'. All of these projects are well on their way with a representation of faculty and students from within and outside of KPE on these working groups. The committee is currently working with the KPE communications team to draft the first *KPE Equity Report* which will be finished and published by May 2020.

i. Awards Committee

On behalf of Robin Campbell, Natalie Agro brought forward two awards from the Awards Committee for approval. The Awards Committee recommends that Faculty Council approve the *Dr. Malle Jurima-Romet Memorial Volleyball Scholarship*.

With the endorsement of the Committee, the following motion was brought forward:

Motion: Approval of the *Dr. Malle Jurima-Romet Memorial Volleyball Scholarship*
(**Motion:** Jacobs/Tremblay; Carried)

The Awards Committee recommends that Faculty Council approve the *Romet Family Scholarship*. This award is for a graduate student, to be adjudicated by the Department of Exercise Science with approval from the Graduate Committee.

With the endorsement of the Committee, the following motion was brought forward:

Motion: Approval of the *Romet Family Scholarship*
(**Motion:** Jacobs/Stratten; Carried)

j. Restricted Funds Committee – no report.

k. Sponsorship Committee – no report.

5. EDU Reports

a. Centre for Sport Policy Studies

On behalf of Professor Peter Donnelly, Professor Simon Darnell informed Council that the Centre for Sport Policy Studies (especially Professors Gretchen Kerr, Bruce Kidd and Peter Donnelly) has been active in advocacy work for the past several months including writing op-eds, letters to MPs, Minister Steven Guilbeault and the Prime Minister, having a question asked in the Senate and meeting with MP Adam van Koeverden, and publishing a position paper. All this activity has been aimed to encourage Sport Canada and the federal government to establish an independent agency which will receive complaints, investigate and adjudicate cases of harassment and abuse in sport. This call is in response to research carried out by the Centre for Sport Policy Studies, including the prevalence study carried out with Athletes Canada which indicated national sport organizations have far too many conflicts of interest and far too little capacity to investigate and adjudicate cases of maltreatment in sports.

b. Centre for Motor Control

Professor Tim Welsh informed Council that a survey will be circulated shortly to get a sense of how the members are feeling about current trajectories and the future of the Centre. He also announced that two more speakers have been booked; Avril Mansfield will be speaking on March 20th and Paul Cisek from the University of Montreal will be

University of Toronto - Faculty of Kinesiology & Physical Education speaking on April 14th. Details will be circulated once the titles of the talks are confirmed.

c. Mental Health and Physical Activity Research Centre

Professor Catherine Sabiston reported to Council that the Centre's flagship program, Move U/Happy U has been very popular with 120 students registering in the program this term alone. She extended a thank you to Sports and Recreation for helping in terms of communication of the program and also outreach from referrals. The referral process was open from health and wellness, embedded counsellors and a number of referring practitioners and clinicians. This resulted in an increase in enrollment in the program. Due to the increased demand, new hires have had to be on boarded very quickly and to address lack of capacity, info sessions were held for students on campus who had interest in the program but could not get in. Professor Sabiston will be speaking on mental health on campus and the work that the Centre does on physical activity and mental health and will report more on that at next month's meeting.

6. Deans' Reports

a. Dean

Dean Jacobs informed Council that there is a University of Toronto executive steering group focused on planning communications with regards to COVID-19, consulting regularly with federal and domestic and regional health authorities and international health authorities. This executive steering group has moved into what is referred to as a crisis framework in terms of their considerations. The work they are doing is preparedness in the event there is a transition to a declaration of a crisis associated with this particular disease. Our own KPE executive group is meeting regularly and corresponding almost daily, and coordinating planning in consultation with communications that we are receiving centrally in thinking about the consequences and implications for our Faculty.

There was a recent tri-council agency announcement with regards to travel for scientific purposes and the recognition by tri-council agencies of reimbursement for cancelled travel costs because of the current situation. Please refer to that message for more information on this topic.

It is employee appreciation day. It is the talent, skills and passion that we have here at the University generally and in this Faculty in particular, which supports so effectively the mission of the University. Professor Jacobs extended his gratitude in being one of those employees and being able to work with all of the KPE staff and faculty.

Sunday is International Women's Day and is an opportunity to join women around the world in celebrating the economic, the political, and the social achievements of women from the past, present and future and to recognize how much more remains to be accomplished.

Two new colleagues will be joining the Faculty in July. Dr. Robert Bentley and Dr. Amy Kirkham have accepted appointments to tenure stream positions at the rank of Assistant Professor. They were chosen as a result of the tenure stream position search in the area of "Cardiovascular/Cardiorespiratory Exercise Physiology."

University of Toronto - Faculty of Kinesiology & Physical Education
Today is PHE4All, a day of fun competition that the students have organized and in which they will be participating.

There is also an air travel mitigation initiative framework being discussed at this University and the deans have expressed their endorsement of this initiative. It is a travel reduction incentive which will work by charging a tax that will go onto any travel undertaken as a way of enabling the University to buy carbon offsets. If you are traveling for work, for research or for conferences you can anticipate in the future that there will be a travel reduction incentive associated with all travel.

The University budget is being presented to different levels of governance and we are awaiting our formal budget letter. The University of Toronto has a balanced budget at 2.99 billion dollars. The funding received from the province of Ontario for student enrollment purposes amounts to 22% of all the revenues that are required to operate the University. Tuition and fees make up the rest, and about 65% and 13% come from revenues like philanthropy and other revenue activities. The 10% tuition cut by the province that occurred a couple of years ago and then was frozen at that level has impacted different divisions at the University quite differentially. That, coupled with declining acceptance rates in the last year by international students, has also had an impact, especially in large divisions who are increasingly dependant on international students to make up their budget shortfall. Currently the undergraduate enrollment this current year is just over 63,000 full time student equivalents (FTEs) which includes both international and domestic students. Of those 63,000 FTEs about 26.8% are international and the objective is by the year 2024-25 to be just over 28%.

Every year the Provost identifies strategic priorities for the funds at her discretion to direct to university priorities. This year, those priorities are student experience and success (and activities and programs related to that, in particular mental health redesign activity and experiential learning) as well as faculty diversity. There are structural deficits that divisions encounter and the Provost through discretionary funds addresses some of these deficits. Some of the supports will go to divisional budget and research support and divisional infrastructure. Every division will be getting a base increase of about 3% to be able to compensate both for the freeze and the anticipated projection we had originally of being able to increase our tuition. There will be six million dollars for base funding for increased costs of research. Another priority is shared services, upgrades to classrooms and deferred infrastructure. The dependency on international students from certain areas is something that the University is trying to address and is looking to diversify that pool.

It's an interesting time just to watch and think of how all of the COVID-19 situation will unfold. I seriously recommend that travel plans are carefully considered and recommendations that will be coming forward will be to avoid unnecessary travel in the short term.

b. Vice-Dean, Academic

Vice-Dean Ashley Stirling reiterated that the messages that we are continually receiving about COVID-19 is that the risk remains very low. There is a working group at the University that is focused on this topic, and we are paying very close attention to the directions and the messages we are receiving from that group. All students are receiving regular communications and they have been told and are encouraged to stay at home

when sick, and to look for ways to make up the material should they decide to do so. At the same time, all faculty and course instructors have also received messaging recommending them to encourage their students to stay at home if they are sick and to be accommodating to help students find ways to make up their material should they choose to do so. As a reminder, that as a precautionary measure and a regular best practice, it is important that we pay attention to academic continuity and think about how we can maintain our courses. Tips for supporting course resiliency and best practices for teaching staff have been communicated, and those messages will continue to be sent with more information. It is a very high stress time in the year for students, faculty and for everyone and we send out regular messages on mental health services to students as well as in newsletters to the professoriate as a reminder of supports available.

c. Associate Dean, Research

Associate Dean Luc Tremblay informed Council that the bulk of the winter grant application season just ended with the CIHR Project applications. Next week is Entrepreneurship week and in particular, the True Blue Expo will take place from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on March 12th in the MaRS Atrium on College Street. This is a great opportunity for KPE members who have an interest to start and/or build their business. University of Toronto start-ups as well as incubator and & accelerator programs will be showcased. There will also be networking opportunities with non-profit, government, and funding groups.

d. Executive Director, Co-Curricular Athletics & Physical Activity Programs – no report.

e. Chief Administrative Officer

Paul Handley provided Council with updates on the status of current KPE projects. The Varsity scoreboard project is progressing as expected. Work is continuing on the Roberts street field, and although this is not a project we are closely involved in, we will be beneficiaries once finished. Thermal wells will be drilled into the field which will result in a new playing surface. The Benson building electrical and Athletic Centre upgrade projects have run into difficulty as a result of equipment required. The Benson pool gallery is being contemplated to be turned into a student space. The cost is higher what we originally anticipated, and we are looking for additional funding at this point. Goldring Centre lab renovations are progressing and we received positive response to the financial considerations for this project. The Faculty will have a stake in the new academic tower in the north end of the Goldring Centre and planning in underway for those occupying that space.

7. Student Governments' Reports

a. KPEUA – no report

b. KPEGS

Braeden McKenzie informed Council that the *Bodies of Knowledge Conference* will take place on May 22nd 2020. This year's theme is "Unleashing Human Potential". The conference sessions will include visiting keynote speakers as well as a three minute thesis competition, a poster competition and an MPK workshop. The call for abstracts will go

University of Toronto - Faculty of Kinesiology & Physical Education
out next week. The KPE cup will be held on March 30th in the sports gym from 5-7 p.m.
KPEUA is leading the planning of this event.

8. Other Business/Announcements

Professor Janelle Joseph announced that on March 11th there is a presentation on women, sport and activism at Hart House entitled *Activism and Digital Media: Women & Sport Re-defined*. The discussion will focus on how to be activists, with a panel of athletes, featuring Pan Am Deaf Athlete Courage Bacchus and Para Pan Athlete Sarai Demers.

9. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 1:02 p.m. (**Motion:** Stratten/Mainwaring; Carried).