

**University of Toronto – Faculty of Kinesiology and Physical Education**  
**Faculty Council Minutes**  
**March 4, 2022 12-2 p.m.**  
**Virtual Meeting, Zoom**

**Present:** Jack Goodman (Chair), Adam Ali, Beth Ali, Caitlin Alvares, Catherine Amara, Kelly Arbour-Nicitopoulos, Chris Arnold, Michael Atkinson, Tom Babits, Robert Bentley, Barb Brophrey, Timothy Burkhart, Joyce Chen, Tracia Finlay-Watson, David Frost, Caroline Fusco, Jenna Gillen, Paul Handley, Michael Hutchison, Ira Jacobs, Janelle Joseph, Gretchen Kerr, Amy Kirkham, Jen Krol, Marius Locke, Jill Mallon, Sabrina Malouka, Daniel Moore, Wendy Pais, Doug Richards, Catherine Sabiston, Stephanie Sarker, Daniel Sibley, Luc Simard, Ashley Stirling, Katherine Tamminen, Linda Trinh, Tim Welsh

**Guests:** Natalie Agro, Joshua Allen, Dorian D'Angelo, Maryanne McCormick

**Regrets:** Rebekah Choi, Veronika Katsiuk, Margaret MacNeill, Hassaan Mahmood, Merrily Stratten, Tim Taha

**Secretariat:** Carolyn Laidlaw

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 12:03 p.m. by the Chair.
2. **Approval of Agenda:** The agenda was accepted as presented. (**Motion:** Atkinson/Stirling, Carried)
3. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of January 21, 2022 were accepted as presented. (**Motion:** B. Ali/Richards, Carried)

#### 4. **Committee Reports**

a. **Executive Committee:** No report

##### b. **Undergraduate Examinations Committee**

Professor Amara reported that the committee last met on February 28, and discussed and ruled on 35 petitions submitted to the subcommittee since the previous meeting, in addition to 10 new petitions under consideration. After reviewing petitions, the committee also discussed the idea of informing students that petition decisions may be reversed if new information is presented to the committee. This does not happen often, but in the interest of transparency it would be useful for students to know prior to submitting petitions. Finally, the committee discussed strategies to help instructors communicate information about exam expectations to students. This discussion will continue and will also be brought to the professoriate.

##### c. **Undergraduate Curriculum Committee**

Professor Amara reported that the committee last met on February 14, and the main items of discussion were the new second year course proposal, degree requirements related to CPR/First aid certification, and the ongoing review of the Outdoor projects.

In addition, Professor Amara reported that the proposed title for the new second year course was 'Indigenous and Black Histories, Health, Healing and Physical Activity', selected based on input from the Professoriate, as well as from a professor from the Centre for Indigenous Studies.

The committee also discussed the current requirement for students to complete CPR and Standard First Aid training as part of their BKin degree. Although these certifications are an added burden to students' time, and finances, the value of these certifications, both academically and professionally, is also recognized. The discussion will be continued in future meetings.

Finally, the committee met with Professor Goodman to learn about the history of the Outdoor Projects, as well as to discuss ideas for upper year elective courses that capture the experiences of the ODP300 level projects. The first and second year ODP experiences were also discussed, including various methods that would help align them with the upcoming academic plan. The discussions on this topic are ongoing. Caitlin

Alvares asked if there was any information yet regarding an in-person option for ODP300H this spring, and Professor Amara replied that an update on this would be available early next week.

**d. Undergraduate Admissions Committee:** No report

**e. Graduate Committee**

Professor Atkinson reported that the committee has met twice since the last Faculty Council to review the applications for MSc and PhD programs. He then put forward a motion to approve the new Master of Arts degree in Kinesiology, which was approved by Council. Professors Welsh and Amara expressed their thanks for all of the hard work that has gone into the creation of this new degree.

*Motion:* To approve new Master of Arts degree in Kinesiology. (**Motion:** Atkinson/Amara, Carried)

**f. Research Committee**

Professor Welsh reported that the process for accessing the grant repository as a resource for the professoriate has been developed, and Nina Hamou, Research Services Officer, can be contacted to request access. Professor Welsh thanked all faculty who took the time to respond to the Research Services survey over the Winter break, which provided excellent feedback that will help with future services. Finally, the process for evaluating the undergraduate summer research opportunity applications has been recently reviewed and revised, and he thanked everyone who contributed to the feedback and those who will take part in the process. There has been a good response to the call for applications thus far.

**g. Council of Athletics and Recreation**

Joshua Allen (CAR Co-chair) reported that the 2022-23 KPE Sport and Recreation budget was unanimously passed at the University Affairs Board meeting last night and will now be sent to Governing Council for information. The budget has now been approved at all levels of governance.

At the last CAR meeting, three Equity, Diversity and Inclusion presentations were made.

- Sabrina Razack – presented the findings and recommendations of the OUA Anti-racism report developed by the IDEAS lab, under the direction of Dr. Janelle Joseph.
- Professor Adam Ali – presented update from the Equity Committee on work being done in both the curricular and co-curricular programs at KPE
- Debra Kriger – presented an update on the programs and services that are part of the EDI Sport and Recreation portfolio

The final CAR meeting of the year will be held in March.

**h. Equity Committee:** No report

**i. Awards Committee**

Natalie Agro presented the Sylvia Parker Scholarship for review and approval, which was passed. (**Motion:** Agro/Kerr, Carried). The award will be available beginning in Fall 2022. Professor Stirling thanked Natalie and the Awards Committee for all the work Advancement has done this year in bringing forward and securing approval for a large number of new academic awards.

**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 provided an update on the speaker series; the February 11 talk by Dr. Matthew Heath of the University of Western Ontario was very well attended.

The next event in the series is on March 25, Dr. Pam Bryden from Wilfrid Laurier University, on the topic 'Does handedness matter? Factors that influence hand choice and performance across the lifespan'.

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

Professor Sabiston reported that they are in the process of getting the lab up and running again, checking supplies and equipment. MPK students have also been using the space for labs.

An introductory meeting was held with a youth bipolar clinic run by Dr. Ben Goldstein at CAMH with the aim of establishing community programming; There were more than 30 people at the meeting to begin planning exercise and sport programming and joint research opportunities that will leverage expertise from all of those involved.

Finally, the Centre has also been involved in a number of campus-wide events focused on student mental health, highlighting exercise and sport as practical solutions for students on all three campuses. Broad consultations have involved experts in health and wellness, student groups, and local industry partners to help expand mental health resources for youth and adults.

## **d. Centre for Sport-Related Concussion Research, Innovation and Knowledge**

Professor Hutchison reported that the physical space for the Centre is under construction, and should be ready by the spring. In the meantime, they have been working on establishing an executive committee, which includes community members such as Stephanie Powell (Parachute), George Curtis (Toronto District School Board, Head of PHE), and Shannon Slack (Holland Bloorview).

## **6. Deans' Reports**

### **a. Dean's Report**

Dean Kerr spoke about the war in Ukraine, and its impact on members of the University community who have roots and family in both Ukraine and Russia. Canada has the third highest population of Ukrainians in the world, after Ukraine and Russia, and many members of the University of Toronto community have personal connections to the human suffering that is occurring. Dean Kerr emphasized how our field of kinesiology, sport and physical activity continues to play an important role in international, political economic circumstances, such as in the banning of Russian athletes from the Paralympic Games, World Cup Soccer, and Figure Skating World Championships, among others. Dean Kerr repeated a quote from President Gertler: "At a time when world events are darkened by violence and division, let us remind ourselves of the unique responsibility of universities: to foster deeper understanding of complex issues, to bring people together to learn from each other through dialogue, and to advance the human condition globally through education, discovery and outreach." Universities and their members have a very important role in understanding and advancing knowledge about such global issues.

Dean Kerr reported that with the lifting and relaxing of many COVID related restrictions as part of the province's re-opening plan, the University still will require individuals to wear masks in indoor spaces, and to exercise discretion and sensitivities regarding distancing in the workplace. Consistent with the Council of Ontario Universities, the University of Toronto will continue to require proof of vaccination for anyone attending campus until at least the end of the academic term, and the daily UCheck screening process. As

we are now able to hold more events in person, plans are being made to determine how to host in-person or hybrid events between April and June.

Finally, Dean Kerr reported on the University's central budget priorities for the upcoming year, which include building inclusive cities and societies, hiring of more Black and Indigenous faculty members and embedding EDI into curriculum and program design. Another priority, driving scientific discovery, includes embedding EDI into research and multi-disciplinary projects, and a focus on large scale projects that promote collaboration across divisions. One priority is reimagining undergraduate education, including the enhancement of resources and efforts to address mental health and work integrated learning opportunities. These priorities, along with the 'Defy Gravity' fundraising campaign will inform the strategic planning process and will set the general tone and approach of the University for the foreseeable future.

Caitlin Alvares asked if there were any updates regarding a date for the KPE convocation ceremony. Dean Kerr replied that there was not yet an answer for this, but an update would be provided to students as soon as possible.

#### **b. Vice Dean, Academic Report**

Professor Stirling expressed her thanks to everyone who is contributing to the return to campus, and how great it is to see everyone again. Our faculty members have been tremendously adaptive over the course of the term, as well as the staff from Facilities, IT, Communications and the Registrar's Office. In addition to in-class experiences, we are seeing a return of learning beyond the classroom taking place, including in-field learning placement matching for undergraduate and MPK students. We have well over 100 community partnerships, and list continues to grow. Placements for MPK students will be starting in April.

With inbound and outbound international travel now permitted again for University-sanctioned activities, students are encouraged to reach out to the Registrar's Office and the Safety Abroad Office prior to travel to ensure that the appropriate supports are in place.

Two upcoming events of note:

- Inaugural 'Reach Ahead for March Break', a hybrid program for Black youth that is running March 14-18, with an in-person event scheduled for Friday March 18. Many of our faculty will be delivering interactive lab sessions throughout the week.
- The Bertha Rosenstadt National Undergraduate Research Conference will be held on April 1 as an in-person event, with an online option for those who are unable to attend in person.

#### **c. Associate Dean, Research**

Professor Welsh reported that research activities have almost completely returned to pre-pandemic levels, with all in-person research now permitted (with permission granted from the Research Re-start committee). Masking is still required, depending on the type of research.

The VP Research & Innovation Office has requested that each division provide a quantitative strategic research plan to help units develop goals, tools and markers that encourage and further support research impacts, and to coordinate research efforts across divisions. This plan is independent from but will help to inform the KPE Academic Plan. A draft version of this is due by April 15, and despite the limited time available, consultations will occur when possible.

The deadline for undergraduate students to apply for Summer Research Opportunities is Monday March 7.

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

Beth Ali reported that activities have now resumed without capacity limits and increasing numbers of spectators have been attending events. Varsity games resumed last week, as well as intramural programs, which are full. There have been some issues with spectators not wearing masks while attending games, and security personnel have been added to support and enhance compliance with this requirement.

The 2022-23 Sport and Recreation operational planning process is underway for programs and services. In person events will be starting soon, with the intramural awards and recognition event taking place at the end of March, the Intercollegiate annual awards event in April, and the U of T Sports Hall of Fame event in May.

Finally, former Varsity hockey coach Tom Watt is being inducted into the Ontario Sports Hall of Fame, and in support of this the Faculty has purchased a table to celebrate and congratulate him.

**e. Chief Administrative Officer**

Paul Handley provided an update regarding ongoing capital projects.

- Benson Air Conditioning project is largely completed, while slightly impacting the Sports Gym & Student lounge spaces still.
- Benson Pool Gallery conversion project is now open, although still finishing up final details. There is a smart glass feature for the pool, allowing for privacy or openness to pool from the gallery.
- Academic Wood Tower – no update
- Goldring lab redesign project – 4<sup>th</sup> floor renovations underway, no updates at this time

**7. Student Governments' Reports**

**a. KPEUA**

Stephanie Sarker reported that the PHE-4-All event is taking place today. Executive elections for the upcoming academic year are currently underway, and results should be confirmed by April 6. Applications for orientation week coordinators are now open as well.

Coming up on Saturday March 26 is the KPE Cup, where a student vs faculty dodgeball game will be held. This event is being hosted by KPEUA and KPEGS in collaboration with Relay for Life, at the Goldring Centre from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. If faculty are interested in participating, please reach out to KPEUA.

**b. KPEGS**

Daniel Sibley reported that planning for the Bodies of Knowledge conference is going well, and the event will take place virtually on Tuesday May 17. The theme is equity, diversity and inclusion reflexive considerations for research practice and design, and abstract submission is open until March 26.

**8. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m. (**Motion:** Amara/Arnold, Carried)