

**Faculty of Arts Council Minutes**  
**Wednesday, March 24, 2021**  
**12:30-1:30 PM via Zoom**

**Present:** Adina Balint, Jackie Benson, Rachel Berg, Derrick Bourassa, Brandon Christopher, Rory Dickson, Jonathon Franklin, Joan Grace, Kelly Gorkoff, Peter Ives, Paul Lawrie, Shauna Therese MacKinnon, Lisa McLean, Peter Miller, Jaqueline McLeod Rogers, Mark Meuwese, Glenn Moulaison, Shailesh Shukla, Heather Snell, Ben Nobbs-Thiessen, Jonathan Sears.

**Regrets:** Christopher Brauer.

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**Motion** to approve the agenda (B. Nobbs-Thiessen/P. Miller). **Approved.**

**Remarks from the Chair**

There is optimism about a return to campus in September, but all depends on the vaccine roll-out. Preliminary enrolment numbers are promising: both domestic and international applications are up compared to March 2020.

**Motion** to adopt the minutes of 10 March 2021 (B. Christopher/A. Balint). **Approved.**

**Business Arising from the Minutes**

At a meeting with Department Assistants, TSC clarified the computer renewal program and process.

It was confirmed that Spring exams would be scheduled for all courses. Exams would be scheduled on one day and would receive a designated slot.

**Social Sciences and Humanities Designation**

Glenn gave some background on the approval of requests for designating courses not originating from traditional Humanities or Social Sciences Departments as meeting the Humanities or Social Sciences requirements: Senate Curriculum consulted Arts Council and took its advice for approval. This was the practice up until a few years ago, at which point Arts Council decided to declare a moratorium on considering such requests: some Chairs thought that students should be taking Humanities and Social Sciences courses from traditionally designated Humanities and Social Sciences Departments in Arts; others were concerned at the *ad hoc* nature of the process. Consequently, Glenn did put this on the agenda of a meeting of Academic Planning, and there was a discussion about the possibility of striking a sub-committee to consider developing criteria and procedure, but there was no follow-up.

Recently, Senate Curriculum queried the moratorium, and this was brought back to Arts Council. Glenn provided some draft criteria for consideration.

There was discussion specifically on the criteria, but there was a general feeling that this should be referred once again to Academic Planning given that we're dealing with general degree

requirements and there should be an official process. The ICR approval process and committee was mentioned as a possible model.

Glenn agreed to request being placed on the agenda of the next Academic Planning meeting, scheduled for April 13.

### **Other**

It was brought to the attention of Arts Council that some students do have final exam conflicts (exams scheduled at the same time). If this happens, the student and relevant instructors are encouraged to find an informal accommodation; if this is not possible, the student must pay a fee for an alternate exam—a practice that seems rather unreasonable. Glenn said he'd look into this.

### **Next Meeting**

April 7, 2021.

**Motion** to adjourn (K. Gorkoff/P. Miller). **Approved.**

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Glenn Moulaison

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Date