Faculty of Arts Council  
April 6, 2010  
306 Tier Building  
2:30 pm

M I N U T E S


Dean Sigurdson advised Faculty Council that he had another meeting to chair at 4:00 p.m.

1. Meeting Agenda

The committee felt further discussion regarding the future of University College should take place; however with Dean Sigurdson having to leave the meeting at 4:00 p.m. today’s meeting would not afford them the time. Some discussion took place on perhaps calling another meeting of Faculty Council to discuss this item. Dean Sigurdson indicated that he did not feel it would be in the Council’s best interest to push this meeting off until fall, even though there were some concerns that certain members of Faculty Council may be away doing research during the spring. He indicated that the VP Academic may begin making changes prior to that and he feels that a discussion to talk about the benefits and changes that may be taking place should take place prior to that time.

It was also noted that the Vice President Academic would move to dissolve the governance of the college at Senate and that it is not the role of the Faculty of Arts or Faculty Council to take this forward to Senate. However, Dean Sigurdson indicated he would take Faculty Council’s concerns and suggestions to the Vice President Academic for consideration.

**MOTION:** That the agenda be adopted with item 6.3 (Future of University College) being tabled for another meeting of Faculty Council, which will be called prior to the first week of May.  
(J. Ferguson/J. Owens)  

**CARIED**

A few committee members also requested adding an agenda item to today’s agenda to discuss the future of the Institute of the Humanities. It was agreed that this discussion would take place at the end of the meeting.

**MOTION:** That a new item be added to the agenda to discuss the future of the Institute of the Humanities to today’s agenda.  
(A. Muller/T. Ivanco)  

**CARIED**
2. Minutes from the Previous Meeting

*MOTION*: That the minutes of February 11, 2011 be approved as circulated.
(S. Jaeger/R. Perry)  
*CARRIED*

3. Business arising from the minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

4. Updates

4.1 Associate Deans

*M. Lawall*

UMGF current status – offers have gone out to 14 applicants in Arts departments other than Psychology. The grad chairs met in March to review the current process for managing these awards and there was general agreement that the system worked fairly well and that it is faster than in the past. It was also noted that although the U of M lags behind Ontario schools who can offer more money more quickly. There are, however, significant differences in funding structures there between the Universities and the Province and significant strings attached to that funding structure, such as minimum numbers of required students admitted.

*Duff Roblin Status* – Psychology and Anthropology will be moving back into the Duff Roblin Building this spring, with the move complete by July.

*Curriculum* - All of Arts’ course and program changes for the winter have gone through Senate committee. The allowing of program modifications to be included in the January meeting worked fine; we will continue this next year as well. CPAC meets again in late July.

*R. Hoppa*

*SSHRC and NSERC* competition results have been announced, though we don’t yet have information on national averages, etc. Arts had four NSERC applications go forward, one of which was successful. Arts also had thirty four SSHRC applications go forward, eight of which were successful and nine which ended up on the 4A list. This rate is about the same as last year (8 of 33) though the number of 4A applicants has dropped from 12 out of 33 in 2009 to 9 out of 34 this year. This is not simply attrition as only about half of the successful awards (this year and last) were rated 4A in the prior competition. A drop in the percentage of funds relative to total requested has occurred. This year the average funded amount was 59% of the total requested, as compared to about 75% in the previous two years.

*L. Wilson*

*BA Integrated Studies* has been approved by Senate and the Board of Governors. COPSE will review the program at its May meeting. Shawn Jordan is preparing the advertising campaign and we are planning for Fall 2010 admissions.

*Faculty of Arts Teaching Awards* - nominations are due by April 15.

*Professor of the Year Award and the Internationalization Award* – nominations are due April 30.
The Teaching Excellence Committee—has chosen Evan Bowness from Sociology as the Faculty of Arts recipient for the University of Manitoba’s Students’ Teacher Recognition award. The Committee had an excellent set of outstanding nominated students. The Director of University Teaching Services has been contacted again this year with a strong request that the Faculty of Arts be permitted to designate two student recipients in subsequent years in recognition of not only the size of our undergraduate student body, but also their excellence. The UTS Director will discuss increasing the number of designates for the two major undergraduate teaching Faculties (Arts and Science) to two for the 2011-2012 academic session and thereafter at a meeting with the Vice-Provost (Academic Affairs) in May.

Academic Regulations Policy Committee passed an international designation for student transcripts and a language designation for student transcripts at its March, 2010 meeting. These recommendations will be forthcoming to Executive Committee at its next meeting for presentation to Arts Faculty Council at its first meeting in the 2010-2011 academic session.

The Student Discipline Working Group of the Vice-President (Academic) will have a “toolbox” available on the web for all faculty and administrators who handle allegations of academic dishonesty. This toolbox will contain information on university-wide requirements for information to be provided in letters of notification and of decision on these matters, as well as sample template letters, range of standard penalties, aggravating and mitigating variables in penalty decisions, and other matters pertaining to the application of the Student Discipline By-Law. The Working Group is scheduled to make its final report to the Vice-President (Academic) and the Associate Deans (Undergraduate)/Undergraduate Liaison Officers Network in May, 2010.

Faculty of Arts Travel Study Program – to date 14 students in Arts have half or full study abroad plans for next year. Students are going all over the world; however, no students are going to Africa for the 2010-2011 academic session.

4.2 Dean’s Update

Budget & Staffing - The Dean’s office is processing several appointments. Psychology and Political Studies have made successful offers. An offer for the position in Women and Gender Studies is being negotiated. We have had no failed searches to date.

Budget situation continues to be troublesome for all. The provincial budget was not as generous as initially thought. The professional faculties may have more leeway and are rolling out plans to increase tuitions over the next three years. The idea is to bring the tuition fees for U of M to the national average over the next 3 years. Faculties will get 85% of the tuition increase and 15% will be used for bursaries and endowments. We are still expecting a cut to the budget, however the faculty has not yet been advised.

D. Churchill wanted a commitment from Dean Sigurdson to ensure that Faculty of Arts views are taken forward to the president and vice presidents as well as the Board of Governors.

J. Owens asked whether the president was aware of the fact that cutting sessionals would decrease enrollment and therefore income in the faculty. Dean Sigurdson noted that he did make that case during the presentation of the budget.

5. Reports of the Standing Committees

5.1 Report of the Faculty Executive Committee meeting of March 23 was provided to Faculty Council.
5.2 **Report of the Endowment Fund Committee** was provided to Faculty Council.

G. Smith noted that the Dean and he met with the ASBC to encourage a student referendum to initiate funding of the endowment fund. He also noted that applications were down and that a 2nd intake of applications was being taken to with an April 30th deadline.

R. O’Kell noted that the faculty applications for travel were not funded and he asked whether that was a policy. G. Smith explained that the faculty applications in question did not make a good case for the additional money. He also explained that other applicants were not funded due to various reasons.

5.3 **Report of the Nominating Committee** was provided to Faculty Council

A. Muller, Chair of the Nominating Committee explained that all committee vacancies had been filled and that the committee had done an excellent job of finding nominations for all the vacancies.

6. **New Business**

6.1 **Nominations and Elections for Arts Standing Committees**

Dean Sigurdson called for any additional nominations to any of the committees. There were no further nominations. The slate of nominees submitted by the Nominating Committee was elected.

6.2 **Revision to Nominating Committee’s Terms of Reference**

A. Muller, Chair of the Nominating Committee outlined the changes to the terms of reference. He explained that the “purpose” of the committee had been updated and clarified. He also noted that the composition of the committee was being reduced by one student member, as well as the manner in which that student member was appointed. The student member will now be appointed by the Senior Stick, which is the practice with almost all other Faculty committees. Finally, a change to the wording of eligible nominees for committees was broadened to include those on reduced appointments or in full time term positions.

Some discussion ensued regarding the definition of a “term” position. There was a motion to return the terms of reference to the committee for clarification, however that motion was defeated.

*MOTION:* That the terms of reference for the Nominating Committee be approved with the change in number one under Terms of Reference from “term positions” to “full time term positions” (R. O’Kell)

*Carried*

Dean Sigurdson left the meeting and placed Rob Hoppa as chair.

6.3 **Future of Institute for the Humanities**

D. Churchill, current Director of the Institute for the Humanities read aloud his prepared comments. These comments are attached to the minutes as Attachment A.
These comments and the discussion that followed were based on a suggestion that had been made by R. Sigurdson and M. Lawall at a previous meeting with the Director of the Institute, that the Institute may be a relocated to University College at some point in the future.

Several members of Faculty Council spoke on this matter, however the issues discussed became much broader than the original issue of moving the Institute. The discussion revolved around changing the mandate of the Institute from a research unit to an academic unit, funding issues and control of the boardroom.

M. Lawall reiterated that a change to a teaching unit was not even on the table and had not been discussed. The move to clustering is to improve the process for funding, not to make it more rigid. He also remarked that the Dean had opened these discussions up to encourage open communication between the University College members and the Dean’s office in order to prepare him for discussions with the Vice President’s Office.

M. Lawall also noted that he would be chairing a new advisory committee that would help build and guide the activities of the upcoming changes to University College.

6.4 Changes to Faculty Members Annual Report Form and Process

*MOTION:* to table this item until the first Faculty Council in the fall.  
*(J. Guard/A. Muller)*  
*Carried*

7. Question Period

There were no questions submitted.

8. Adjournment

*MOTION:* That the meeting be adjourned at 4:30 *(T. Chen/A. Muller)*