Faculty of Arts Council  
February 3, 2011  
100 Fletcher Argue Building

MINUTES


1. Adoption of the Agenda

MOTION: That the agenda be adopted as submitted (T. Chen/R. O’Kell)  
CARRIED

2. Minutes from the Previous Meeting

MOTION: That the minutes of November 25, 2010 be approved as circulated. (R. Hagiwara/G. MacLean)  
CARRIED

3. Business arising from the minutes

3.1 Annual Activity Reporting for full time Academic Staff

Dean Sigurdson told Faculty Council that according to University Policy and the UMFA Collective Agreement there is only one personal file and that is the file housed in the Dean’s office. Therefore effective immediately all annual Academic performance evaluations will be forwarded to the Dean’s office upon completion. He also advised that Department Heads Council has struck a working group to develop best practices on the evaluating and mentoring of faculty members to ensure equity and consistency is maintained throughout the faculty.

3.2 Report of the Rules & Procedures Committee

Prof. Ferguson reported that the Rules & Procedures Committee took a hard look at alternatives for voting procedures, but felt that the current process, which is used by most governing bodies is sufficient. Therefore the committee is not recommending any changes to current faculty council rules on the voting process.

B. O’Kell noted that under his deanship and under Dr. Currie’s deanship the practice was different and that previous Faculty Councils had accepted that at the time.

J. Owens noted that there are 2 senators on leave who have not been replaced. Dean Sigurdson explained that it is not a requirement to replace Senators and that Senators are free to attend Senate even while on leave.

A. Young suggested that ballot elections could possibly be used in these circumstances when a replacement senator is required on short notice and a Faculty Council meeting is not scheduled.
4. Updates

4.1 Associate Deans

M. Lawall -

**Xerox** will be presenting their strategic mission in an Arts Town Hall on February 10th at 2:30 in 100 Fletcher Argue. He noted that 3 faculties are being targeted as the test areas, with Arts being one of the three. Within Arts, the departments of Anthropology, German & Slavic, Religion and History as well as the Dean’s Office will be initial target areas to be reviewed.

**UMGFs** are currently being offered. 27 were allocated to Arts as a whole: Psychology will get 5 and the others will be allocated throughout the other departments. Each larger program will get two, smaller programs will receive one each and the remainder will be awarded on the basis of a blended ranking list for the whole Faculty. This list is currently being worked on.

Sub committee to review **faculty members annual activity reporting** will be meeting this Friday. He will be chairing the committee which consists of M. Gabbert (History), T. Mondor (Psychology), C. Dueck (German & Slavic) and G. MacLean (Political Studies) and P. Bose (Economics)

R. Hoppa –

**Grant application update:**

9 of 12 (75%) successful URGP (new faculty)  
3 of 4 (75%) successful UM/SSHRC  
3 of 3 (100%) successful UM/SSHRC Travel Grants

Arts success rates in each of the three areas exceeds the U of M average success rates for the fall competitions.

The call for **CFI proposals** went out before the Christmas break, and Arts is expecting 2 or perhaps 3 submissions for the competition.

The **Indirect Costs of Research proposal** for Arts has been submitted to the Vice President (Research) with a total of approx $140,000 requested from Arts.

L. Wilson

**UM INFO Days** (Feb 23-24, 2011) Plans set and most departments/programs are participating. Two “hot topics” mini-classes this year: Jessica Cameron on the psychology of dating and Arthur Shafer (and philosophy colleagues) with an interactive session---speed-dating with a philosopher.

**ARTS Mini-INFO DAYS for U1 Students**—under construction to coincide with a reprise of the successful “What Can I Do with My Arts Degree?” session in Fall, 2010 presented by Career Counseling and the Arts Faculty student advisors.

**ARTS call for nominations for Students’ Teacher Recognition Reception** will be going to Department Heads/Program Coordinators this week. Each Department/Coordinator will receive a list of top graduating students in her/his area and be requested to nominate one or more students for this honor. The Arts Teaching Excellence Committee will be making the selection by the end of February-early March.
ARTS call for nominations for Excellence in Teaching Awards. Note –if you are nominating someone for one or more of these awards, also consider for full-time probationary and tenured faculty, nominating her/him for a major University teaching award as well, such as the Dr. & Mrs. H. H. Saunderson award and the Olive Beatrice Stanton award. In addition, please, please, please nominate your grad students who are teaching a course for you and who you find are doing an excellent job.

ARTS call for nominations for the Professor of the Year award and the Award in Internationalization. Although deadlines for nomination for these awards are in April, please consider making your nomination now or anytime by those deadlines.

A sub-group of the University 1 Advisory Council has been established to revise the Terms of Reference for that group. Other members of the group are her counterparts in Environmental Design and Science.

A sub-group (Science, University 1 and Arts) of the Vice-Provost’s (Students) Orientation Group has been established to develop an integrated approach that encompasses orientation of students to academic integrity so that the Student Advocacy component can be eliminated from the one-day/two-day welcome of new students to the University. She is looking forward to the new process which will involve having teaching faculty integrating academic integrity learning into their course work. She would welcome ideas on how this might be best accomplished and how we might encourage faculty enthusiasm/support of orientation as part of the class experience. Please email her or visit 308 Fletcher Argue at your earliest convenience with your ideas/suggestions.

Two other UG-oriented events are currently being developed for Winter term. One has opportunities for students’ involvement in their communities (University, local, provincial) and one on managing personal finances for UG students. More on these as they develop.

Associate Deans (Arts) will be inviting all new faculty members (appointments began July, 2008 – January, 2011) to a lunch in either February or March.

B. Ferguson-

CPAC notices will be going out soon for the spring submission.

Arts SEM (Strategic Enrollment Management) Committee is actively at work and the committee hopes to have a report completed for the April Faculty Council meeting. This will center on strategic enrollment management.

4.2 Dean’s Update -

Hiring update – Dean Sigurdson reported that hiring is brisk, although not to the same degree as in past years. He commented on the quality of the applicants for the positions currently available. He also thanked faculty members for their enthusiasm in the recruitment process.

Budget update – Dean Sigurdson reported that he is currently working on the faculty’s budget submission. It is extraordinarily difficult to reduce the faculty’s budget by the amount requested by administration.

Cluster update – reported that Arts is active in 2 clusters; one with business and law and another cluster that includes School of Art, Music and Architecture. In the first cluster, talks have involved the communications positions as well as a request for a web site support person for the cluster. This cluster was also hoping to avoid a centralization of the IT resources held in the three
faculties by sharing the resources, but we have recently received notification that it appears Fort Garry Campus is going to a centralized system similar to the one that has been tested at Bannatyne Campus.

5. **Reports of the Standing Committees**

5.1 Report of the Academic Regulations Committee

L. Wilson outlined the development of a blended entry template for the Faculty of Arts. Blended entry means that some students can apply directly to the Faculty of Arts, with certain requirements, while other students can continue to attend and complete their first 24 credit hours in U1. The template which Arts used was originally developed and approved by the Senate Committee on Admissions. That committee sent a report which included a template to Senate for approval. The committee is recommending that the blended entry proposal be adopted by the faculty, allowing students to enter the faculty directly with certain requirements being met. The template has been followed with one exception and that is that 70% is required in the English requirement vs 60% as recommended in the template.

*MOTION:* That the report of the Academic Regulations Committee be approved as submitted.  
*CARRIED*

5.2 Report of the Course & Program Approval Committee

The report to Faculty Council was presented for information only.

6. **New Business**

6.1 Revision of Terms of Reference for the Academic Regulations Appeals Committee

M. Gabbert questioned the difference in the composition between the old terms and the new. L. Wilson explained that there was a gap between what the current practice is and what the old terms of reference reflected. She also noted that these committee members have attended meetings for as far back as she can remember and that they are good contributors.

M. Gabbert asked what kind of appeals this committee hears. L. Wilson explained that appeals for authorized withdrawals as well as appeals that departments cannot make a decision on will be forwarded to the committee. As well, any item that is included in the academic regulations that applies to students and how we interact with the students can fall under the review of the committee.

*MOTION:* that the revisions to the terms of reference for the Academic Regulations Appeals Committee be approved as submitted  
*CARRIED*

6.2 Revision to the terms of reference for the Local Discipline Committee

*MOTION:* that the revisions to the terms of reference for the Local Discipline Committee be approved as submitted  
*CARRIED*
6.3 Revision to the Terms of Reference for the Research Committee

*MOTION:* that the revisions to the terms of reference for the Research Committee be approved as submitted

*CARRIED*

7. Question Period

M. Joyal expressed his concerns regarding the centralization of our IT resources. Dean Sigurdson noted that he has raised the Faculty’s concerns about the proposed new model for IT but that it would appear that it is moving forward regardless.

B. O’Kell noted that the efficiencies that complicate the teaching and mission of the university, however cost effective they may be, do not support the vision of the university.

There were no questions.

8. Adjournment

*MOTION:* That the meeting be adjourned at 4:00