

**Department of Educational Studies**  
**Department Meeting Minutes**  
**January 21, 2015**

*Present:* Ali A. Abdi (chair), Vanessa Andreotti, Lesley Andres, Jo-ann Archibald, Shauna Butterwick, Jessica Egbert, Gerald Fallon, Mona Gleason, Erika Hughes, Deirdre Kelly, Mary Victor Kostandy, Michael Marker, André Mazawi, Heather McGregor, Amy Metcalfe, Jo-Anne Naslund, Carolina Palacios, Sereana Patterson, Sam Rocha, Leslie Roman, Claudia Ruitenber, Shermila Salgadoe, Amber Shilling, Tom Sork, Michelle Stack, Alison Taylor, Rob Vanwynsberghe, Pierre Walter, Fei Wang, Handel Wright

*Regrets:* Jennifer Chan, Jason Ellis, Garnet Grosjean, Hongxia Shan

**1. Approval of agenda**

The agenda was approved

**2. Approval of minutes**

The minutes were approved

**3. International engagement website (Tom and Heather)**

Tom and Heather asked for department assistance in enriching the content of the international engagement website. The website is used to celebrate and document the international engagement work in which the Faculty of Education is involved.

The website contains a series of forms where faculty, students and staff can input the details of their international engagement projects. Participants can be as brief or as loquacious as they wish when completing the forms. These forms are automatically sent to Heather, who cleans up the information and uploads it to the website. Some of the information may be used on digital signage throughout the university. This will help the Faculty of Education do a better job communicating its international activities.

The website should not only include current engagement projects, but previous ones as well. This information will assist in building an international engagement database for the Faculty. Faculty should clearly state on their forms if they do not want the information publically shared. Tom and Heather are aware of the need to be sensitive with certain ongoing projects and will only use the information for database purposes if requested.

Financial support for future international engagement projects is somewhat limited. Tom is sometimes able to provide a cost sharing option with departments, although

it is difficult to do and not guaranteed. If it is a project that will generate revenue, the Dean's office can sometimes front the money. However, faculty should not rely on these options when planning upcoming projects.

#### **4. Fees for course materials (Vanessa)**

Vanessa brought the issue of copyright permissions and fees to the attention of the department. This year, Vanessa was required to remove one of the readings from her list as the publisher was charging \$4,000 for the use of an article. Vanessa was upset, as she was the author. She is currently looking into this issue, with the assistance of an expert from the University of Alberta. However, this is a complex issue, as in Vanessa's case, the CRC expects her to publish only in high impact journals. Conversely, SSHRC fund recipients must publish in journals that will become open access within 12 months of publication.

##### *Discussion:*

Jo-Anne Naslund recommended that Leonara Crema, Scholarly Communications Librarian, should be invited to talk to the department on this issue. She also recommended that faculty be aware of UBC's Institutional repository. The repository grants open access to the deposited articles. This ensures that SSHRC responsibilities are met and also eliminates related reading list publication fees.

#### **5. Topics for discussion/decision**

##### **a. Head's report (Ali)**

Dr. Schugurensky, EDST's visiting scholar, has signed his offer letter and will join the department in July.

Ali recognized Sam Rocha's work on the EDST International Conference on Paulo Freire. Sam reported that the department has received a total of eighty-nine submissions in three languages, English, Portuguese and Spanish. The conference will be self-funding, but free registration for people in community and reduced fees for students are being considered.

The department is still in talks regarding the provision of internal scholarships for students in dire financial distress.

##### *Discussion:*

One faculty member mentioned that international student visas limit the number of hours students are able to work. This type of visa allows holders to work unlimited hours on any university campus but very limited hours off campus.

The faculty needs to be more proactive in informing students that they can't rely on securing campus work when they arrive.

**b. Graduate advisor report (Claudia)**

Claudia presented a graph from G+PS on funding distribution for PhD students. The graph revealed that domestic and international students on average receive similar amounts of funding. However, overall there is a wide range of funding received by PhD students. G+PS has suggested that departments provide enough funding to cover the first four years for every PhD student. However, the department has made a conscious not to follow this suggestion as it would drastically cut the PhD intake.

*Discussion:*

Several faculty members asked how much pushback the faculty can give to the university regarding the G+PS suggestion. Pushback is needed as the funding amounts have not changed, while the number of students has grown. Another faculty member stated that EDST has two doctoral programs, EdD and PhD. The suggestion from G+PS is only related to the PhD program. Any changes the department makes to PhD funding will have implications on the EdD program. Other faculty members asked if the PHD committee would ahead with its usual adjudication approach this year or move closer to the suggestions recommended by G+PS.

*Decision:*

This year the PhD committee will continue with its adjudication approach as per usual.

**c. Operations Report (Shermila)**

The move to Ponderosa Commons will take place on February 15<sup>th</sup>. Shermila acknowledged the staff's efforts in packing up the buildings in preparation for the move.

The NSE5 cohort surplus this year is \$22,812. This includes the advance of \$10,000 which was provided last year. The REA4 cohort surplus is \$38,936, including the advance of last year's \$15,000. The surplus amounts in 2014/15 for the ALE diploma program (Distance Education) was a result of the twenty

seven sections offered in that year. This was the final year the faculty grant \$800k was included in the surplus funds.

Alex is the EDST representative for IT governance committee. She will bring any questions the faculty may have to the attention of the committee.

#### **d. Sessional report (Carolina)**

Summer contract dates and unpaid work are the two issues sessionals are most concerned about. Summer contract dates have a direct impact on benefit qualifications. Courses that run from September to December and January to April have contracts which begin on the 1<sup>st</sup> of first month and end on the 30<sup>th</sup> of last month. However, contracts in summer months only run for duration for course. This forces sessionals to pay out of pocket in order to keep their benefits. The amount of unpaid work sessionals are required to do on top of their teaching duties is also a concern. This type of work includes writing letters of reference and dealing with plagiarism cases.

##### *Discussion:*

These issues were discussed at a previous meeting. At that time the department decided to find funds to set aside to pay for unpaid sessional work. Plans were made to insert a line item in the budget for this purpose.

##### *Decision:*

Ali will check on the status of these plans with Mark Edwards. Once the status has been determined, a meeting with Mary Bryson may have to take place.

#### **6. MA committee update (Mona)**

The MA committee have invited all MA students to attend a town-hall mingle on January 27<sup>th</sup>. The students will be asked to provide feedback on MA program requirements, funding, professional development and supervisory support.

Mona thanked all of the members of the MA admissions committee for their work. Twenty-six applications were received this year and admission offers will be extended to twelve individuals.

Students have been confused about the number of credits associated with EDST 571. Please ensure students know that EDST 571 is one course, spread over two terms, for a total of six credits.

#### **7. MEd in EDAL with Indigenous focus (Jo-ann and Gerald)**

There has been increasing interest from professional communities to engage in a MEd cohort with an indigenous emphasis. The EDAL group has met to discuss potential revisions to the program. Some of these changes include modifying the program to address indigenous education in a more positive and effective way. The program plans to have a feedback consultation session to discuss these changes. Educators in the field will be invited to speak and share their approaches to program. Currently, this event is planned for April 14<sup>th</sup>, however this date has yet to be confirmed.

## **8. Announcements**

The PhD committee is currently adjudicating thirty-eight applications. The files are available for everyone to see and faculty members are encouraged to have a look.

Amy is part of group which is pressuring the university to finalize its sexual assault policy. A virtual teach-in will take place on January 25<sup>th</sup>. Contact Amy for more information.

The Critical Dialogues and Graduate Student seminars will take place on January 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

There will be a Truth and Reconciliation panel session on March 10<sup>th</sup> from 4-6pm. The panel will discuss the calls to action in relation to education. Further information will be available closer to the date.

A talk on women's rights and government obligations will also take place on March 10<sup>th</sup>. More details to come.

Congratulations were given to the following students and faculty:

- Claudia Diaz for receiving the Janusz Korczak Association of Canada Graduate scholarship in Children's Rights and Canadian Indigenous Education award
- Ashley Pullman on being awarded the Donald and Ellen Poulter scholarship
- Kapil Dev Regmi for receiving the Joseph Katz Memorial scholarship
- Neila Miled on being awarded the Joseph Armand Bombardier Canadian Graduate scholarship
- Vicheth Sen for receiving the Centre for Khmer Studies Senior Fellowship
- Omer Aijazi on being selected to participate in the 2015 Public Scholars Initiative
- Shauna Butterwick for the publication of her new co-authored book *Women, Adult Education, and Leadership in Canada*
- Alison Taylor for the publication of her new book *Vocational Education in Canada*

## **9. Adjournment**

*Adjourned at 2:30 pm*