

**Department of Educational Studies
Department Meeting Agenda and Minutes
September 17, 2015**

Present: Ali A. Abdi (chair), Cash Ahenakew, Jo-ann Archibald, Shauna Butterwick, Jason Ellis, Gerald Fallon, Blye Frank, Garnet Grosjean, Deirdre Kelly, Michael Marker, Amy Metcalfe, Wendy Poole, Sam Rocha, Leslie Roman, Claudia Ruitenber, Shermila Salgadoe, Hongxia Shan, Alison Taylor, Rob VanWynsberghe, Fei Wang, Handel Wright

Regrets: Vanessa Andreotti, Lesley Andres, Jennifer Chan, Elaine Decker, Yu Guo, Gang Li, Bathseba Opini, André Mazawi, Michelle Stack,

Students: Mary Victor Kostandy, Sarah McCabe, Sereanna Patterson

Librarian: Jo-Anne Naslund

Visiting Scholars: Elisa Thiago, Simone Sarmento

Sessional Rep: Carolina Palacios

**Minutes of EDST Department Meeting
September 17, 2015**

Introduction: This year the department retreat was held on the Musqueam Indian Reserve on April 14, 2015. This was organized so that we could understand and appreciate the historical part of the land that we live and work on. We learned about the lives, culture and the context of the Musqueam Peoples. We discussed developing new programs; some of these programs have already started. Ali, on behalf of the department, recognized and acknowledged the unceded territory of the Musqueam Peoples that we stand on, and the need to continuously understand and appreciate it.

Ali gave a warm welcome to all; Mona Gleason, Pierre Walter, and Rob VanWynsberghe who returned from sabbatical. He thanked staff member Ryan Matheuszik for his contributions and welcomed Alexandra Wozny for the Admin/Web Assistant position. Ali also acknowledged Carolina Palacios, Sessional representative and thanked Deo Bishundayal for representing the sessionals in the last two years at the department meetings. Ali also welcomed two visiting scholars, Elisa Thiago and Simone Sarmento, to the department.

1. Approval of agenda

The agenda was approved.

2. Approval of minutes

The minutes were approved.

3. Business arising from the minutes

None.

Ali acknowledged Dean Blye Frank's presence. Dean Frank is a faculty member of the department and was visiting all departmental meetings to provide a briefing.

Brief remarks from Dean Frank on items were noted. All new faculty members will be welcomed at the September Faculty Meeting. At the end of the meeting there will be a special toast to celebrate recently tenured and promoted faculty.

The Dean attended the opening of the new Centre for the West Kootenay Teacher Education Program (WKTEP), Faculty of Education, UBC, in Nelson, B.C. The program is funded by the Ministry of Education. Last year all 32 students who graduated from the cohort received positions in rural B.C.

Paragon Event – The Dean and the Senior Administration attended the celebration of the new partnership with Paragon Testing, which is part of UBC. Paragon brings approximately \$1.8 m funding for post-doctoral students, and a professorship position for 7 years.

Dean Frank attended the first Senate meeting chaired by Acting President and Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Martha Piper which Claudia Ruitenbergh also attended. Dr. Piper was clear in her message that she will only serve in the interim position as President of UBC, until June 30, 2016.

The FoE Alumni event is on September 23rd – The event will be attended by 253 people to recognize 100 Education alumni. There will be a full page ad in the Saturday's Vancouver Sun newspaper recognizing the celebration of the Centennial event at the Robert H. Lee, Alumni Centre. Thirty-five out of the 100 alumni are Indigenous. The Dean apologized to the Jewish community for choosing this date as it falls on Yom Kippur.

PDCE MET External Review – The external report is being reviewed by Tom Sork, Mark Edwards along with the MET Management Budget committee and MET Advisory committee. The feedback on the reports received from the Review Team will be provided to the Dean, and the external review reports and feedback will be posted on the FoE website.

There will be a long term staff position that will be eliminated. If there is anyone who wishes to speak with the Dean about this issue, the Dean will do so in confidence. The FoE continues to advocate for staff professional development and growth, but there are times that difficult decisions have to be made.

The Dean personally thanked faculty who are serving on Senate, personnel and search committees and for being good citizens. The faculty has 191 tenured and/or tenure track faculty positions. The Dean spoke of the hiring freeze and that Ali is coming to see him next week to speak about possible hiring for EDST. A faculty member asked the Dean to involve, not just senior faculty, but newer faculty in the hiring process.

Another faculty member asked about the review of OGPR. The Dean said that the OGPR review has been postponed for the time-being until the Faculty review is over. The Faculty review is steered by the Provost's Office. The departments and units have been asked to provide information for the Faculty self-study. The team of external reviewers will be on campus November 16-18. The external review report is expected to be received before the December holidays.

Another faculty member asked about the Summer Noted Scholar process. The faculty member was disappointed that the process was not made clear. The theme of last year was Year of Research and the scholar was chosen from LLED. Next year the faculty has decided to offer two Summer Noted Scholar

positions and EDST and KIN (will partially fund its own) will forward nominations to the faculty. The Dean indicated that there will be clear guidelines in place and that his office will oversee the process.

The Dean thanked Ali and other heads for working together with the senior leadership team. Ali thanked the Dean for attending the department meeting.

4. Topics for discussion/decision

a. Head's report (Ali)

Hiring - Ali had meetings with the executive team, coordinators and faculty re: faculty hiring. The meetings have been useful to identify possible weaknesses in terms of research and teaching that we need to fill this coming year. Ali will be meeting with the Dean to discuss hiring.

Summer Noted Scholars - The focus is to invite a distinguished Summer Noted Scholar whose area appeals to most of the disciplines in the Faculty of Education. There will be a meeting held in the department to review the nominations and to arrive at consensus. Ali will check the stipend and other expenses compensated for this position.

Research Space - The Research Space Allocation in PonCommons was discussed with the Dean a few times. The department has been assigned 3 offices and one large office space. Ali will meet with the executive and decide on allocation.

A faculty member asked how Centres and Institutes will be allocated if these are not situated in departments. Ali had discussed with the Dean and Mary Bryson that if a faculty member in EDST has a centre, the large space could be assigned to the centre. Other small spaces could be assigned to faculty holding grants and have students appointed through those grants. The space allocations will be reviewed yearly.

Another faculty asked if there is space for emeriti. Shermila responded that there are three offices for emeriti to be shared with LLED. Each office has 3 tables/chairs. These offices won't be assigned to particular emeriti, but any emeriti will be able to use these spaces while on premises.

Ali asked Jo-ann Archibald if there was space allocated for an Aboriginal Elder in PonCommons. Jo-ann was not aware of this. Ali asked if space for aboriginal students is a priority in PonCommons for which Jo-ann indicated that any space for aboriginal students should be connected with the Longhouse. There are study and social spaces in the Longhouse, but what was not available is an office for graduate students.

A student inquired if space will be available for students in PonCommons. Shermila responded that the two departments will discuss how to use the limited student space on the 3rd floor. There will most likely be common space for students to use, and not assigned space.

EDST Annual/Biennial International Conference – Sam has graciously volunteered to host the first International Conference on Paulo Freire (May 6-7). A Call for Proposals has gone out. Sam has received positive feedback from fellow scholars. Keynote speakers are being considered. Sam has received three abstracts already. Sam asked faculty to share the information with their colleagues.

Faculty Review/Department Self-Study – Information will be given to the Dean's Office by the executive.

Musqueam/EDST Educational program update – At the department retreat, a few of the faculty met with Musqueam Elders to discuss possible areas for a “wish list.” Some concerns were raised regarding their children’s education; forms of educational assessments, areas of activities for K-12 students, and having more interactions with UBC. There was a field trip organized by our graduate students with Musqueam students to UBC Farm. The plan is to have more events organized in the future so that Musqueam students get an opportunity to interact with our students and possibly faculty.

Graduate Students’ Brown Bag Seminar Series – Ali reminded the group about the brown bag seminar series. He asked faculty to make every effort to attend these talks, especially talks given by students.

b. Graduate Advisor’s report (Claudia)

The Scholarship Committee has limited time to review SSHRC applications and forward successful applications to G+PS. Claudia asked that faculty respond to their supervisees draft proposals and help them with the process without delay. The success rates of our applications helps the department receive more funding.

A faculty member asked if students are notified in advance of scholarship deadlines. Claudia responded that the admission letters include scholarship information.

c. Operations report (Shermila)

There were 42 applications received for the Admin/Web Assistant position. The hiring committee consisted of the LLED Administrative Manager, ECPS Communications and Technology Assistant and Shermila. The committee interviewed four candidates and all four were given a short assessment of the work involved, and Alexandra Wozny was chosen amongst the candidates and was offered the position.

Moving to PonCommons – Shermila provided a brief update of a meeting with Move Coordinator and what is to be expected prior to the move. More details to follow. A faculty member inquired about art work space in offices; Shermila will provide the information at the next meeting.

5. TEO Update (Wendy Carr)

Wendy Carr introduced herself and her new role as the Associate Dean in TEO. Wendy thanked Rita Irwin for providing a wonderful mentorship during her term as Associate Dean. Wendy introduced John Yamamoto and Rod Brown. John will be overseeing the practicum in Elementary, Secondary and Community. There will be two other coordinators doing part of that work. John will also be the point person on CCASA issues that come up with students. Rod will be taking over administration and will be working closely with deputy heads and administrative managers around workload that involves education courses and appointments. Rod will also be in charge of personnel matters in the TEO. Both John and Rod will be serving on the Teacher Education Advisory Committee. Amy Metcalfe is EDST representative on this Committee.

TEO continues to focus on three areas. The first is **Mental Health Literacy**, building on the work of Shelley Hymel and Kim Schonert-Reichl. This focus will help the teacher candidates to go forth as new teachers with some knowledge about mental health, and mental illness. These are new ways of reducing the stigma in the field around mental health and illness and also learning more about where and how to seek help. This work will be taking place through EPSE courses.

The second is **Professionalism** which has always been a concern. – To be clear about expectations of professional conduct and protocol around allegations of misconduct.

The third is **Teaching and Learning** – An area that is of interest to teachers in the field and pre-service teachers is transformation that is taking place in terms of teaching and learning in the province including the new curriculum. How the new curriculum is integrating with First Peoples principles of learning, trans-disciplinarily and basing progress on competencies rather than discreet grade levels. These issues are particularly challenging for both experienced and new teachers. Most of the work is exploratory to determine how best to support the teacher candidates.

A faculty member asked if TEO will be exploring other undergraduate programming that is not certificate oriented. The Education Minor has been an ongoing discussion. Wendy responded that teaching and learning and concepts on what it means to be an educator is interesting. Wendy is open to discussing non certifying degree programs in the future.

Another faculty member suggested that TEO invite a scholar as a Noted Practitioner on the three areas emphasized by Wendy. Wendy appreciated the suggestion and recommended that this is something that the faculty member should bring to the attention of the Dean as there are many initiatives that are currently underway.

6. Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) and EDST Involvement (Gerald)

Last June a few faculty attended CSSE in Ottawa, and TRC discussions. This is not on the radar for policy discourses but there was a desire expressed to get involved. TRC is part of integration and Gerald brought up the topic to see if there is an interest in the department. EDAL put it on the agenda for discussion and within EDAL, it will be an ongoing item that could move the agenda forward.

A faculty member suggested that the topic be included in the Critical Dialogue in Education seminars. Ali indicated that the seminar is full this year, perhaps to revisit in February and reserve time for discussions. Gerald said that TRC should be a multi-year plan of events.

One faculty member said that UBC will be one of two universities that will have a research centre dedicated for residential school discussion. There should be a larger Indigenous conversation that brings FoE and the entire university together.

Action: Ali suggested striking an Ad hoc committee to discuss this topic.

7. PhD Transfer Policy Recommendation (Handel)

Handel brought forward a recommendation on requests to transfer to the PhD.

Motion: PhD committee should review transfer requests on a case by case basis.

Discussion: a few friendly amendments were suggested to item nos. 2, 4 and 5. The document was voted on, in principle, with the understanding that the amendments will be incorporated.

Vote: In favour – 16; Against – 1; Abstention – 0.

8. Education Library Report – The report from Jo-Ann Naslund was circulated with the minutes.

9. Announcements

- Handel Wright and a few others received a grant “Race Literacies: A Black Canadian Scholars’ Series to Promote Transformative Curricula and Research”. This grant has led to hosting a Summer Institute to look at visible minority groups.
- Congratulations to Sam Rocha for receiving the 2015 American Educational Studies Association Critics’ Choice Book Award for "A Primer for Philosophy and Education".
- Congratulations to Gerald Fallon and Andre Mazawi for their book on *Au-delà d’une école à deux vitesses* that was published on the Haiti project.
- Wendy Poole announced that she is the representative for EDST on the Advisory Committee for ECE program and Institute. The program is looking for faculty members from all departments who are interested in teaching related to ECE. For information, please contact Wendy.
- Michael Marker announced that Ts’Kel will be hosting *Coyote's Keyboard - Writing the Ph.D. Thesis in an Indigenous Voice: Content, Context, and Controversy*

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m.