

Department of Educational Studies
Department Meeting Minutes
October 20, 2016

Present: Ali A. Abdi (chair), Cash Ahenakew, Vanessa Andreotti, Shauna Butterwick, Steve Cardwell, Mona Gleason, Garnet Grosjean, Erika Hughes, Deirdre Kelly, Michael Marker, Amy Metcalfe, Jo-Anne Naslund, Sereana Naepi, Carolina Palacios, , Sam Rocha, Claudia Ruitenber, Shermila Salgadoe, Hongxia Shan, Alison Taylor, Rob VanWynsberghe, Jude Walker, Pierre Walter, Fei Wang, Taylor Webb, Handel Wright

Regrets: Lesley Andres, Bathseba Opini, Michelle Stack

1. Approval of agenda

The agenda was approved.

2. Approval of minutes (meeting of September 15, 2016)

The minutes were approved.

3. Topics for discussion/decision

a. Head's report (Ali)

Ali met with Mary Bryson to discuss converting one of the department's sessional positions into a 12-month lecturer position. A few more details still need to be confirmed before a decision can be made.

Undergraduate distance education courses (e.g. ADHE Diploma, EDST 493) generate approximately \$464, 000 per year. Of this amount, approximately \$405, 000 goes towards operating costs. The remaining \$59, 000 is split between EDST and the Dean's Office. Ali has met with the Dean's Office and the Executive Committee to discuss using these funds to support extra sessional work. It was decided that EDST will allocate \$10,000 this year in order to support extra work performed by sessionals. Each sessional will receive up to \$1,000 depending on the amount of credits they teach. This plan will be implemented on a one-year basis and is open to modification.

Discussion:

Faculty were told that EDST is the only department in the faculty to provide sessionals with this type of compensation. One faculty member pointed out that certain costs shouldn't always devolve back to departments. There needs to be a

broader discussion with the Dean's Office on recognizing and compensating the extra work performed by sessionals. Another faculty member suggested that EDST's plan may encourage other sessionals to ask their departments for similar compensation.

Shauna has submitted a request for the appointment of Dr. Jane Dawson as an EDST Adjunct Professor. Dr. Dawson designed one of the ADHE online courses and would be a valuable asset to the department. As an adjunct, Dr. Dawson would not receive any remuneration and her appointment would not have any FTE or teaching implications.

Motion #1

We move that the department appoints Jane Dawson as an unpaid Adjunct Professor. This appointment will be for a three year period, subject to renewal.

The motion was presented by Ali and seconded by Shauna.

19 in favour, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions

b. Graduate advisor report (Claudia)

In September GCAC discussed changes to the way summer research credits are administered. Currently, these 9 credits are administered by ORE (formerly OGPR). At the September meeting, GCAC proposed devolving these credits to departments on a rotating basis. Courses will still be coordinated with GCAC in order to prevent duplication. However, departmental bidding for courses will no longer be necessary (this disrupted the departmental scheduling process in the past). EDST will be a part of the rotation beginning in Summer 2018; we will not receive any credits for Summer 2017 because we were given all 9 credits in Summer 2016.

The Faculty of Education meeting in September discussed a new PhD funding proposal which may begin in January 2018. The proposal states that all incoming, full-time PhD students must be funded for 4 years, receiving a minimum of \$18,000 per year. Faculty members need to start thinking about the repercussions this will have on the department. Some of these repercussions include a greater pressure on faculty to apply for grants, in order to free up department money for funding packages. G+PS is also considering alternative funding options for part-time PhD students. This would benefit students already working full time, but risks creating a two-tier system of PhD students.

Discussion:

Several faculty members suggested forming subcommittees to discuss this proposal and the implications it will have on the department. It was decided to allocate this item more discussion time during a future department meeting.

Motion #1:

We move that:

1. EDST create a \$2,500 award for MA students for 2017/18 and 2018/19. This award would be for academic excellence but financial need may also be considered. The award would be named so that it is distinctive on a student's record. It would be adjudicated by the MA Committee for new applicants, and can be combined with other entrance funding.
2. EDST create a \$2,500 EDST Community Engagement and Leadership award, open to students in all programs, to be adjudicated by the Scholarships & Awards Committee. Depending on how quickly we can set this up and whether the Scholarships and Awards Committee can accommodate adjudication in their schedule, it could be for 2016/17 and 2017/18 or perhaps start in 2017/18. Like the MA award, we would do this initially as a trial, so commit only for two years, which means the award does not have to be approved by Senate.
3. EDST set aside \$10,000 per year in 2016/17 and 2017/18 to contribute to PhD 4-year funding packages, in anticipation of this becoming policy for students incoming after January 2018.

The motion was presented by Claudia and seconded by Pierre.

19 in favour, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions

c. Operations report (Shermila)

Faculty were reminded that after-hours and weekend elevator access to the third floor requires the use of UBC ID cards. Faculty cards have been programmed into the system for several months now, in order to ensure that the third floor can be accessed during these times.

There is an ongoing problem with students who aren't from EDST and LLED using space on the second and third floors. There have been instances of EDST students needing to use a room on the third floor, only to find it occupied by students from another Faculty. There are also problems with undergraduate BEd students using the second floor kitchen and not cleaning up after themselves. A

painting from PCOH 3072 has also gone missing. The staff from EDST and LLED have been asked to make rounds and ensure that the students who use the space are actually from one of the departments. Unfortunately, this is a difficult undertaking as there are so many students coming and going in these areas.

Discussion:

A few faculty members said the department needs to have a conversation on space and the right to space. One faculty member asked why the departments couldn't let other students use the unoccupied spaces in Ponderosa Commons. Faculty were reminded that BEd students and other undergraduates have a lot of places on campus where they can study, eat, etc. EDST and LLED students only have this building. Another faculty member suggested posting notices which state that priority for space is given to EDST and LLED students. The department was reminded that these signs are already posted throughout the building. One faculty member indicated that this should be kept as an ongoing discussion for the time being.

d. Sessional report (Carolina)

Carolina thanked Ali for the time and effort he has put into addressing the issue of unpaid sessional labour. Carolina has been in communication with the other sessionals and this is an issue everyone is still very much interested in resolving.

The ADHE diploma program recently held another meet and greet event. This was a chance for students and instructors to meet each other in a face-to-face setting. The event was a success, with approximately 18 students in attendance.

e. GAA report (Sereana)

Sereana thanked everyone who has assisted with the graduate student workshops this year. There has been quite a good turnout at these events, with between 7 and 14 students at each. More workshops will be held within the next few weeks. Anyone with topic ideas is asked to contact Sereana.

The GAAs are working with Alex to redesign the student profiles on the EDST website. The profiles are based on the template used by the sociology department.

4. Update from the MA committee (Mona)

The MA Committee plans to increase the number of applications to the program this year. Faculty members are encouraged to talk more about the MA program to potential applicants. If program coordinators come across MEd applications that are

better suited to the MA program, they should have the applicant contact Mona. The MA Committee will happily talk to the applicant and explain how the MA program may be a better fit.

When MA applications are received this year, the committee will be sending the files to faculty members, in search of supervisors, etc.

The committee also has plans to develop the MA student profiles that are currently on the website.

5. Announcements

Congratulations were given to the following faculty and students:

- Sereana Naepi on being selected for the UBC Public Scholar Initiative
- Deirdre Kelly and Leslie Roman on their 25 years of service at UBC
- Tom Sork for his 35 years of service at UBC

Amy is hosting a student workshop on Thursday, October 27th at 11:00am. The workshop is entitled *Demystifying Comprehensive Exams*.

Fei Wang will be speaking at the next HERG seminar on Friday, October 21st at 12:00pm. Last month's HERG presentation packed the room, so anyone planning on attending should arrive in good time. Faculty members are asked to encourage students to attend as well.

Faculty members are strongly encouraged to attend this year's *Graduate Student Seminar Series* in a show of support for the student presenters. Please attend as many seminars as you can.

The National School Library Day Colloquium will be hosting a talk on Wednesday, October 26th at 4:00pm. The talk is entitled *Reconciling Difficult Colonial Truths* and will be held in the Irving K. Barber Center.

The annual EdD Institute was held this fall. The event was a success, with several faculty members, students and alumni in attendance. Several alumni agreed to mentor incoming students. Several workshops were also held throughout the weekend, which proved very popular.

Adjourned at 2:10pm