

Department of Educational Studies
Department Meeting Minutes
May 18, 2017

Present: Ali A. Abdi (chair), Lesley Andres, Mark Beauchamp, Natasha Boskic, Shauna Butterwick, Steve Cardwell, Jason Ellis, Gerald Fallon, Heather Frost, Mona Gleason, Garnet Grosjean, Erika Hughes, Michael Marker, Amy Metcalfe, Jo-Anne Naslund, Robert Olaj, Carolina Palacios, Wendy Poole, Bathseba Opini, Carolina Palacios, Kapil Regmi, Sam Rocha, Claudia Ruitenber, Shermila Salgadoe, Hongxia Shan, Alison Taylor, Jude Walker, Pierre Walter, Fei Wang, Taylor Webb, Handel Wright

Regrets: Cash Ahenakew, Vanessa Andreotti, Claudia Diaz, Deirdre Kelly, Rob VanWynsberghe

1. ORE visit (Mark Beauchamp)

Over the past few months, Mark has put together grant related data for the Faculty of Education departments. EDST can choose to use this information for department strategic planning purposes.

On June 24th ORE will deliver a session on SSHRC humanities applications. Resources with a humanities focus will be available for potential applicants. ORE is providing this session in June so faculty will have time to prepare their applications to meet the fall deadlines.

The internal deadline for SSHRC applications is Friday, October 6th. Completed RPIF forms must be received by this date. Please be sure to submit all necessary documentation with the RPIF. If anyone has any questions about the application process they should contact ORE for assistance.

Discussion:

One faculty member asked about ORE's relationship with SPARC. The department was told that SPARC is a scholarly peer review service, while ORE focuses more on budgetary issues.

2. Approval of agenda

The agenda was approved.

3. Approval of minutes (meeting of March 16, 2017)

The minutes were approved

4. LMS selection process (Natasha Boskic)

Natasha provided faculty with an update on the Learning Management System (LMS) migration. The timeline for LTS is quite aggressive and there have already been two pilot courses. The first migration is scheduled for September 2017. In January 2018 ETS will expand the number of courses included and the final migration will take place in September 2018. Connect will still be available during the migration. ETS knows it takes time to navigate new systems and they will be available to provide support to faculty.

ETS is also working closely with Emerging Media Lab (EML). Resources are available for anyone wishing to try out EML technology. Catch boxes are one of the technology features ETS is testing. These boxes have an embedded microphone which can be plugged into a room system. ETS has two of these boxes available and faculty are free to test them out as a means to engage students, etc.

5. Topics for discussion/decision

a. Head's report (Ali)

Programmatic Sustainability Initiative (PSI)

Ali thanked Shermila, Claudia, Amy and Erika for their work on the PSI project. Ali also thanked the faculty for their constructive work during the PSI retreats in April. The proposals were submitted to the Dean's office and were received with constructive pragmatism. After the proposals were submitted, two additional sections of ALE courses were created. This means the department may not have to take money from the innovation fund. When the Executive committee met, they discussed how creating more sections may provide additional teaching opportunities for PhD students.

Discussion:

One faculty member asked if the department could be told more about which proposals were submitted. Ali told the department that the submissions were all for proposals which could be enacted now in order to save money. There were no proposals for the creation of new certificates, cohorts, etc. Amy said she is not pleased with everything the Executive committee submitted, in a larger more principled sense. Increasing sessional labour is the opposite of what we intended to do. Amy would have preferred that the department used money from previous funds to pay the bill. Hiring graduate students to teach these extra sections would create a more ethical balance. However, based on the way sessionals are hired we can't guarantee this will happen. Claudia added that, due to time pressure, the final set of proposals submitted was not discussed by the Executive committee.

A faculty member said it was imperative for the department to acknowledge that these proposals have deep consequences on the work done by the faculty.

Another faculty member said the department is walking in a conflicted space with these proposals, as the proposals are taking away potential work from students.

Indigenous EDAL Limited Term Appointment (LTA)

The EDAL LTA hiring committee recommended a failed search. The search will be relaunched at a future date. Ali thanked the committee for their work.

Discussion:

One of the committee members commented on how the committee did not have gender equity. Another faculty member said the scholarship committee did not have gender equity either. Other faculty members said equity should not be confined to one category. Increasingly academia uses equity to reflect gender only. Ethno-racial equity is not taken into consideration. There are many different categories which need to be juggled. Gender is important but shouldn't be only the equity category.

ALE 12-Month Lecturers

Ali welcomed to the department Drs. Carolina Palacios and Kapil Regmi, the new 12-month lecturers. As 12-month lecturers, they are required to teach 30 credits per year.

EDST International Conference

Ali thanked Handel for organizing a successful conference this year. This was EDST's second international conference and Handel was pleased with the number of international participants. Handel thanked those who presented at the conference, including Michael, Shan, Amy, Sam and Taylor. Handel also thanked the student volunteers and staff, particularly Shermila and Alex, for all of their work on the conference.

Departmental Committees

Ali shared the updated committee list and reminded the department that the committees run from July 1st to June 30th. In the past year many faculty members were asked to serve on additional committees. Committee workloads were taken into account which is why some people served on more committees than others. The department will revisit the committee structures at a later date to see which committees are essential and which can be merged.

b. Graduate advisor report (Claudia)

Last night UBC Senate passed the 4-year PhD funding package proposal. The proposal will be implemented for the September 2018 intake. All incoming, full-time PhD students must be funded with a minimum of \$18,000 per year for a 4-year period. It will be left up to individual departments as to how these packages are assembled. There is language in the policy stating if a person wants to continue to work during their studies, a portion of their income can be included as part of their 4-year funding package.

The proposal to introduce PhD part-time status was also approved at UBC Senate last night. Claudia sent out a draft of these proposals a few weeks ago. PhD students will have schedule A and schedule C tuition payment options. Students will be locked into their choice once they select their schedule payment option and will be required to sign a letter declining 4-year funding if they choose to register as a part-time student. Part-time student status will not preclude students from tri-council funding. PhD students with part-time status will still be eligible for travel funding.

c. Operations report (Shermila)

UBC staff are participating in the benchmarking program UniForum. This Australian based software program has also been applied to universities in New Zealand and the UK. EDST staff have noticed that the descriptions of the working codes don't match up to what actually happens at UBC.

Discussion:

One faculty member said the university needs to be careful with this kind of benchmarking process. It reflects the neoliberal policies of Australian and UK universities. Quantifying the type of work carried out may also have huge implications on tenure and promotion.

d. Sessional report (Carolina)

Carolina is stepping down from her role as sessional representative, as she is now a 12-month lecturer. Erin Graham will take over as the sessional representative in September.

Carolina thanked everyone who served in the sessional working group. The sessionals are very grateful for the time and energy this group dedicated to the unpaid labour issue.

6. Proposed change to EDST teaching workload policy re: undergraduate education courses (Amy)

EDST has an outdated policy on short term teaching assignments. Amy, in her role as deputy head, is in the process of updating this policy. Amy has already discussed

this document with UPACC. Understanding how EDST programs work together will help streamline the course allocation process. It will also hold everyone accountable for what they teach. The revised information will be brought forward for a department vote in June.

7. PhD management & admissions committee activity (Alison)

The PhD committee met last month but will need to meet again now that the 4-year funding packages have been approved. The questions on the application form will have to be changed to reflect part-time and full-time enrolment options. A committee may also need to be established to decide how these funding packages will be put together.

The PhD committee created a Connect shell in which all faculty members are invited to participate. The shell is intended for faculty to share information and ideas between committee meetings. One of the ideas being discussed is the enforcement of a stricter deadline to receive completed PhD applications.

8. MA committee report (Mona)

Mona thanked the MA committee for their work on the EDST 571 curriculum changes.

Motion #1

To make the curriculum changes to EDST 571 as outlined on the UBC curriculum proposal form.

The motion was presented by Mona and seconded by Michael.

Discussion:

Faculty members agreed with the justifications outlined in the document Mona circulated. No additional issues were raised.

19 in favour, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions

9. Search committee guidelines (Shauna)

Shauna created a list of guidelines future search committees should follow. This information is based on Shauna's experience as chair of the ALE 12-month lecturer search committee. The list was circulated in the meeting package.

Discussion:

One faculty member suggested that unsuccessful applicants should be notified by phone call rather than email. Shauna will add this suggestion to the guidelines.

10. Announcements

Congratulations were given to the following faculty and students:

- Claudia, Alison and Vanessa on their promotions to full professor
- Shan on her promotion to associate professor
- Sam and Fei on their reappointments
- Jason for being selected as a Spencer Postdoctoral Fellow
- Michelle on being awarded the Killam Faculty Teaching Prize
- Ashley Pullman and Janine Jongbloed in recognition of their star article in the European Journal of Education
- Lesley, Jason, Leslie, Sam, Alison, Pierre and Jude on being awarded HSS seed grants
- Alison for her appointment as grad advisor

The 2017 Paz and Knute Buttedahl Memorial Lecture will take place on June 6th at 7:00pm in PCOH 2012. This year's lecture will be presented by Shirley Walters and is entitled "Adult Learning and Education in a Post-Truth Society".

There will be a book launch for Amy and Mona on June 7th from 2:30-4:30pm in PCOH 2012. All are welcome.

Jason Ellis will be presenting at the next Critical Dialogues on May 23rd at 2:00pm in PCOH 2012. The seminar is entitled "Educating Etobicoke: Suburbs, Schools and Inequality, 1945-present" and all are encouraged to attend.

Adjourned at 2:40pm