

**Department of Educational Studies**  
**Department Meeting Minutes**  
**May 19, 2016**

*Present:* Ali A. Abdi (chair), Jo-ann Archibald, Shauna Butterwick, Jessica Egbert, Jason Ellis, Gerald Fallon, Mona Gleason, Garnet Grosjean, Erika Hughes, Deirdre Kelly, Amy Metcalfe, Jo-Anne Naslund, Carolina Palacios, Wendy Poole, Bathseba Opini, Shermila Salgadoe, Hongxia Shan, Michelle Stack, Alison Taylor, Fei Wang, Taylor Webb, Tian Yang

*Regrets:* Vanessa Andreotti, Michael Marker, Sam Rocha, Leslie Roman, Claudia Ruitenber, Rob VanWynsberghe, Pierre Walter, Handel Wright

**1. Approval of agenda**

The agenda was approved.

**2. Approval of minutes (meeting of March 17, 2016)**

The minutes were approved.

**3. Topics for discussion/decision**

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

Last year the department was engaged in multi-level discussions regarding department hiring. The department submitted three requests to hire scholars in Indigenous Educational Administration, Educational Administration and Higher Education. Unfortunately, the Provost Office could not approve these requests due to the hiring freeze.

This year, the Dean's Office has asked that each department submit a request for two positions at the Faculty Planning Retreat. Claudia, Shermila, Amy and Ali have created a request to hire someone with an Indigenous Educational Administration background and someone with a background in Higher Education and Educational Administration and Leadership. These will both be tenure track positions.

The Dean's Office has advised EDST to consider including an Instructor I position (Educational Leadership stream) in its request. The department will therefore ask that one of the current 12-month lecturer positions is converted into an Instructor I. The Dean's Office also hinted at the possibility of converting one of the current sessional positions to a 12-month lecturer.

*Discussion:*

One faculty member asked if the department is allowed to advertise that one of the positions is specifically for Indigenous applicants. Ali confirmed that yes, the university is permitted to frame advertisements in this way.

The department retreat held in April was a success. One of the issues raised during the retreat was around the use of bookshelves in the EDST reception area. In order to ensure the visibility of recent publications, the department will only display books published within the past three years.

Dr. Schugurensky, the department's noted summer scholar, currently has 16 students enrolled in his course EDST 565 - Citizenship Learning and Participatory Democracy. He will also deliver a public lecture to the Faculty of Education and a seminar to EDST students. Details of these events have yet to be determined.

Ali congratulated Sam on the success of the International Conference on Paulo Freire. More than 100 people attended the two day conference. Sam will provide the department with an update on potential outcomes arising from the conference. Anyone interested in organizing the 2018 conference should contact Ali.

Faculty are reminded that academic committee assignments run annually from July 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>. However, coordinators may be asked to serve in the same position for two to three year periods. A committee to oversee the EdD comprehensive exam process will be included in the next round of committee assignments.

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

Claudia could not attend the meeting due to teaching obligations. However, her report is included in the meeting package and anyone with questions is asked to email her.

Faculty are reminded to check with their students on progress reports. It is the student's responsibility to send the report to their advisor. If advisors are unsure who should be sending a report, they are asked to contact Sandy.

**c. Operations report (Shermila)**

Shermila included the 2015 fiscal year reports in the meeting package. The past year ended with a small deficit of \$2,200 in the operating account. This was paid for by the Dean's Office. The outreach account had a surplus of \$310,000 for the

past fiscal year. As a result the \$1000 allotted for program expenses will be moved from the operating to outreach account.

**d. Sessional report (Carolina)**

Carolina, Shauna, Deirdre, Sam and André formed a working group after the March department meeting in order to look at the sessional pay issues. They included a report in the meeting package outlining the university's allocating of sessional pay. The report shows how sessionals in the Faculty of Education have the highest teaching loads yet are the lowest paid.

The working group reminded faculty that in January 2015 Deo Bishundayal, the sessional representative, also brought forward information about unpaid sessional labour. It was suggested at the time to add a line item in the budget to cover the duties performed by sessionals. Shauna, Ali Mark Edwards and Pam Ratner met to discuss this possibility. Unfortunately, the discussions on this did not move forward as the main focus at that time in the Dean's Office was more on budget concerns.

Today, the working group would like to present two revised motions based on the tabled motions discussed in March.

*Discussion:*

Faculty members acknowledged the work the group put into revising these motions. One faculty member asked if the Faculty Association was ever approached about this issue, as per the discussion at the previous department meeting. Shauna replied that the working group was formed in lieu of contacting the Faculty Association.

Another faculty member commented on the disconnect between unpaid sessional labour and the department's response of creating a line item. The working group clarified that the Faculty of Education would create the line item, as the department does not have the authority to create this type of budgetary item. A few faculty members expressed skepticism about the outcome of this plan, given the university's new budget model. The university is actively pushing salaries into departments, making departments accountable for 100% of sessional costs. Sending some of the costs to the faculty level runs counter to this approach. Another faculty member recommended that the issue of sessional pay should be brought up in bargaining with the Faculty Association, as they are the ones who can actually solicit change.

It was also mentioned by a faculty member that a notice of motion should be received more than a few hours before a vote is taken. When a motion is presented to the department, sufficient time is needed to review it. A few years ago the department came to a decision that upcoming motions would be

circulated a few days ahead of the meeting. This is important for the governance of the department and is a practice that should be upheld.

**Motion #1:** We move that the EDST administrative team follow up with the January 2015 agreement that discussions continue with the Dean's office and relevant units such as PDCE to put in place a line item in the budget to pay for important, and at times essential, work currently done by sessional faculty, usually without remuneration.

*The motion was presented by Shauna and seconded by Carolina.*

*14 in favour, 3 opposed, 1 abstention*

**Motion #2:** We move that the administrative team request and bring back to EDST a fully detailed Faculty of Education budget of revenue and costs associated with the ALE Diploma program, including information about what amount of tuition from students' enrollment is transferred to the Faculty of Education.

*The motion was presented by Shauna and seconded by Alison.*

*18 in favour, 1 abstention*

#### **4. Updates on program and degree collaborations (Gerald)**

The Allard School of Law agreed to partner with the Faculty of Education to create a graduate diploma in Educational Administration and Law program that should be attractive to potential applicants. Gerald has created four modules for this program. The templates are complete and there are plans to start running these modules in summer 2017. Legal issues will be linked with material covered in the EDAL program. Staff in the law library will also be involved with this collaboration once the modules are underway.

#### **5. MA committee report (Mona)**

Mona thanked the members of the MA committee for their work over the past year. The committee made eleven offers, of which six were accepted. A number of the top-ranked students declined their offers, with a few citing the department's lack of funding opportunities as the reason. If EDST does not make student funding a priority the whole department will be affected. Ali will bring this issue to the Dean's office.

#### **6. Education minor (Amy)**

The Minor in Education in the Faculty of Arts began in 2014 and consists of thirty credits. Eighteen of the credits must be taken from Education courses, such as those offered in the Community, Adult and Higher Education stream. The remaining twelve credits are drawn from Arts courses. TEO is currently in charge of managing the minor for the Faculty of Education. However, to date all of the Category 1 and 2 changes have gone through the Faculty of Arts, rather than the Faculty of Education. In September, UPACC plans on proposing a Category 2 change which will add ADHE 328 and EDST 493 to the list of available credit options for the program. EDST will also begin promoting this minor alongside the Faculty of Arts at orientation events and career fairs.

## **7. SCPE MEd admissions (Jason)**

SCPE received twenty-six applications this year. The committee made twelve offers and received eight acceptances. Of the eight incoming students, five are domestic and three are international.

## **8. Retreat summary (Amy)**

Amy presented a running action item report of the issues that were raised at the retreat in April. Shermila and the staff have already done a lot of work addressing these issues. Amy reminded the faculty that EDST needs to engage in cross departmental communications with LLED to address the use of shared space. It is important for faculty to be proactive on how they want to use the new space, particularly during this first year. Anyone with suggestions is asked to contact Amy.

## **9. Announcements**

Mona introduced Tian (Tina) Yang, a visiting scholar from the International College of Southwest University in Chongqing, China. Tina completed her PhD last year in Higher Education and is interested in historical approaches to higher education.

Congratulations were given to the following students and faculty:

- Rob VanWynsberghe on the publication of his new book *Adaptive Education: An Inquiry-Based Institution*
- Sam Rocha on receiving the 2015 Outstanding Contribution Distinction from the *Visual Art Research* journal
- Claudia Diaz on receiving a Faculty of Education Graduate Student Research Grant
- Dave Smulders on winning the Faculty of Education Sessional and Lecturer Teaching Prize
- Fei Wang on receiving a SSHRC Insight Grant
- Rob VanWynsberghe on receiving a SSHRC Insight Grant

**10. Adjournment**

*Adjourned at 2:40 pm*