

Department of Educational Studies
Department Meeting Agenda and Minutes
June 18, 2015

Present: Claudia Ruitenber (chair), Cash Ahenakew, Vanessa Andreotti, Lesley Andres, Shauna Butterwick, David Coulter, Elaine Decker, Jason Ellis, Gerald Fallon, Hartej Gill, Garnet Grosjean, Erika Hughes, Deirdre Kelly, Michael Marker, Amy Metcalfe, Wendy Poole, Shermila Salgadoe, Hongxia Shan, Tom Sork, Michelle Stack, Alison Taylor, Jude Walker, Fei Wang, Handel Wright

Regrets: Ali A. Abdi, Mark Aquash, Jo-ann Archibald, Jennifer Chan, André Mazawi, Sam Rocha

Students: Miranda Huron, Gang Li, Sarah McCabe

Sessional Rep: Deo Bishundayal

Minutes of EDST Department Meeting June 18, 2015

1. Approval of agenda

The agenda was approved.

2. Approval of minutes

André Mazawi requested that the May 2015 minutes be corrected: the report on a second phase funding for the Haiti project pertains to Gerald Fallon only.

3. Business arising from the minutes

Nothing to report.

4. Recognition for David Coulter and Mark Aquash

Mark Aquash will be leaving the department at the end of the month. Although Mark was unable to attend the meeting, the department recognized his many contributions to NITEP, EDAL and EDST during his career at UBC. Gerald Fallon spoke about Mark's contributions, as the two of them worked closely together designing a course on educational leadership and indigenous perspectives. Mark was also instrumental in the creation of the partnership with the Squamish Nation. This will be the first EDAL cohort with an indigenous nation. The department wishes Mark all the best in his future endeavors.

David Coulter will be retiring at the end of June. Deirdre Kelly highlighted David's contributions to the department, particularly his unique insight into the EdD cohorts. Michelle Stack also spoke on the profound effect David had on students and faculty, particularly those undergoing the tenure and promotion process. The department presented David with a gift and wished him all the best for the future. At David's own request the department did not hold a separate retirement event. However, his services to the department will be recognized at the Ed.D. Institute scheduled for October.

5. Topics for Discussion/Decision

a. Head's report (Claudia)

Ali sent his report ahead of time as he was unable to attend the meeting. No one had any questions about the report.

Ali's report discussed the restructuring of PDCE and the subsequent staffing implications. The restructuring is a result of the PDCE external review which was completed earlier this year. The department heads will be meeting with the Dean to discuss this matter further.

b. Graduate Advisor report (Claudia)

Claudia congratulated the students who graduated during the May congregation ceremony. Jo-ann Archibald was also congratulated for receiving the Killam Award for Excellent in Mentoring.

OGPR is creating a link for the departmental course listings across the Faculty of Education. This will provide students with a centralized location to view the special topics and research method courses that are available to them.

GCAC had a discussion on the role of EDUC 500 and 508 courses. It was decided that it would be helpful to regularize some of the 508s (in a manner similar to the 565 courses). This is necessary as transcripts do not specify which version of EDUC 508 students complete. Michael Marker is working on regularizing the indigenous methods courses (508A and 508B).

One faculty member raised the issue of wait lists for courses. Claudia replied that the department often creates artificial caps for specific classes. This ensures that students who are required to take the courses are able to enroll. Another option, which is slightly more time consuming, is blocking registration for a specific course and instead manually enrolling each interested student. Claudia volunteered to raise the issue of wait lists again with GCAC during their next meeting.

c. Operations Report (Shermila)

The departmental administrators met with Dr. Ratner to discuss sessional appointments in light of the PDCE restructure. The departments were asked to take on the role of Distance Education (DE) appointments, but there will be budgetary implications. Shermila noted that this was a preliminary meeting and no decisions were made regarding the redistribution of appointing sessionals.

Discussion:

One faculty member asked who will provide curricular support for the ALE online courses, particularly those relating to the diploma program. Shermila replied that ETS provides this support and these services will continue as before. However, the details of how specific job duties will be delegated to the departments are still unknown. Extra staff may be required to handle tasks relating to the diploma and cohort programs.

Tom Sork informed the department that there are several on-going discussions about the transfer of PDCE's operations. Over time PDCE has accumulated responsibilities based on the needs of the faculty. Disseminating these duties to the various departments, as well as the Dean's office, will have operational implications. To date, the shifting of PDCE's financial tasks to the Dean's Office is the only confirmed change.

Shermila also reported that all of the course sections (and their corresponding instructors) will be available online later this week. If anyone notices any problems with the listings please contact Shermila and she will follow up with PDCE.

6. Announcements

Congratulations were given to the following faculty, graduates and emeriti:

- Shauna Butterwick on her promotion to full professor
- Handel Wright for winning the silver medal for the 2015 Speaker of Ontario Book Award and for being appointed Senior Research Associate at the University of Johannesburg
- Jean Barman for receiving the 2015 Governor General's History Award for Scholarly Research: Sir John A. MacDonald prize and for being awarded the 2015 Basil Stuart-Stubbs Prize
- Bill Bruneau for receiving the Distinguished Member Award from the Canadian Society for the Study of Higher Education
- Jane Munro for winning the 2015 Griffin Poetry Prize

The department regretfully announced that Dr. John Collins passed away this week. Dr. Collins was a longtime associate of EDST and spent several years working with students in the adult education program. He made many contributions to the department as an adjunct professor. His unique and positive style left a lasting impression on the students and faculty with whom he worked.

Michelle announced that Angela Atkinson-Duina is leaving the department. Angela is a postdoctoral fellow who worked closely with EDAL, conducting alumni surveys and interviews. Her work has been incredibly useful to the program committee and they wish her all the best for the future.

Shauna announced that Dr. Bani Bora finally received her visa and is now able to come to UBC this summer. She will be here from July 6 – 21, during which time she will be delivering seminars on community engagement. A lunch/social will also be held, details to follow.

7. Adjournment

Adjourned at 1:35pm