

Department of Educational Studies
Department Meeting Minutes
March 16, 2017

Present: Ali A. Abdi (chair), Cash Ahenakew, Lesley Andres, Shauna Butterwick, Steve Cardwell, Bernard Chan, Jason Ellis, Mona Gleason, Garnet Grosjean, Erika Hughes, Miranda Huron, Michael Marker, Amy Metcalfe, Wendy Poole, Bathseba Opini, Hongxia Shan, Alison Taylor, Jude Walker, Fei Wang, Taylor Webb

Regrets: Vanessa Andreotti, Claudia Diaz, Gerald Fallon, Deirdre Kelly, Sereana Naepi, JoAnne Naslund, Carolina Palacios, Sam Rocha, Claudia Ruitenber, Shermila Salgadoe, Rob VanWynsberghe, Pierre Walter, Handel Wright

1. Approval of agenda

The agenda was approved.

2. Approval of minutes (meeting of February 16, 2017)

The minutes were approved.

3. Faculty of Education website and communication updates (ErinRose and Jacqueline)

The Faculty of Education website funnels a lot of traffic through to the department websites. ErinRose Handy and Jacqueline Thompson are updating the Faculty of Education website to make this process more efficient. There will be an interim change to the website while it is updated. Jacqueline is working closely with Alex to provide departmental support for this project. Alex will remain the point of contact for department website issues. There will also be a link to a feedback survey on the interim homepage. Faculty are encouraged to complete the survey.

Discussion:

Faculty members asked for examples of some of the proposed website improvements. Jacqueline told the department that professional photographs of faculty members may be taken and uploaded to the website. Another faculty member asked if short, 30 second videos could also be uploaded to the website. Faculty members could briefly describe their research and its impact in order to improve website traffic. Jacqueline said this is another project that is currently under consideration.

4. Head's report (Ali)

Program Sustainability Initiative (PSI)

The final PSI template was included in the department meeting package. The department must complete all four sections before submitting the information to the Dean's Office (DNSO) at the end of April. The four sections are:

- proposal summary
- criteria impact
- risk assessment
- financial impact

The Vice-President Academic & Provost budget is providing each department with \$5,000 to assist with the PSI process. EDST is using this money to hire an external facilitator to guide the department through the PSI conversations on April 4th and 20th. Dr. Gary Poole, from the Faculty of Medicine, was selected by the Executive Committee to be the facilitator.

In order to meet the department's targets, EDST must draft proposals to cut costs and generate revenue. Clara Ng and Mark Edwards will need to be consulted the revenue generation plans the department proposes.

Discussion:

Faculty members asked if they should prepare proposals for the first PSI meeting on April 4th. Ali said no, the purpose of this first meeting is to discuss the PSI process, so it is not mandatory to bring fully formed ideas. Proposals will not be written and rated until the second PSI meeting on April 20th. Others asked if proposals should be created by program areas or by individuals. The faculty were told the entire department will work together to draft proposals that reflect the needs and values of EDST. Several faculty members asked that budget information for the entire Faculty of Education be circulated before the April 4th meeting. Budgets for diplomas programs, cohorts, salaries, etc. are needed to ensure the department can draft effective proposals. Ali will try to get this information to the faculty before the meeting.

Faculty were reminded that EDST is not personally responsible for loss of \$126,074. Every department is contributing to the deficit and this is the bill that was allocated to EDST. The amount was based on the department's size. PSI is an opportunity for the department to plan ahead so it will not be responsible for this deficit in five years' time.

EDAL Limited Term Appointment

Ali thanked those serving on the EDAL Search Committee. The committee is working to fill a Limited Term Appointment (LTA) position at the assistant level for EDAL. Ali

acknowledged that there are a lot of service requirements this year and 17 faculty members have already made extra contributions.

Discussion:

One faculty member asked if it was normal to assign 6 people to a search committee. Ali said yes, this number is normal. The committee needs to be made up of members from various programs and ranks. DNSO has already reviewed and approved the list of committee members. There will also be a student and an external member serving on the committee, as per DNSO requirements. Another faculty member asked why the department didn't vote on creating this position. Ali said a department vote was not required to move forward. All of the relevant information was presented at the last department meeting. Ali also discussed this position in-depth with DNSO and EDAL before moving forward with the search.

ALE 12-Month Lecturers

The ALE Search Committee is in the process of conducting interviews for the three available 12-month lecturer positions. The interviews are being videotaped and will be posted online for those unable to attend in person. Shauna will send the link to everyone once AV Services finished editing the videos. Please share your feedback by March 24th. If anyone would like to review the candidates' applications, please contact Erika and she will email you the information.

5. GPACC motions (Mona and Taylor)

Motion #1

To amend the description of the EDST Graduating Paper (EDST 590) as currently included in the document *MEd Graduating Papers and MA Theses*. The changes remove mention of research methods requiring BREB approval as suitable for the Graduating Paper.

This motion was presented by Taylor and seconded by Lesley Andres.

Discussion:

One faculty member asked for more information on this proposal, as it could have significant repercussions for the EDAL program. This faculty member also asked why this motion was needed in the first place. Taylor said it is needed because the graduating papers are getting too large and unfocused for faculty workloads. If students are planning on working with human subjects they should consider doing an MA instead. Other faculty members said if there is going to be a distinction between MEd and MA programs then there also needs to be a distinction between a graduating paper and a thesis. This isn't a new policy. It is clarifying the difference between the two.

The department was also told that the EDAL representative for GPACC was present at the meeting where this motion was discussed. The representative voted in favour of the proposal. Other members of EDAL disagreed and said this motion doesn't take into consideration the type of research skills EDAL students cultivate. These skills prepare students for the types of data collection required for leaders in today's schools. The program offers MEs rather than MAs because students don't want to do a project as big as an MA thesis. The level of theory EDAL requires of students is also not at the MA level.

Other faculty members were in favour of this motion. They said amending the graduating paper description would be useful for the department. Faculty members would be in a better position to help each other and could agree more readily to be a second reader.

Amendment

Remove the second sentence in 2nd paragraph and replace it with *Graduating papers are considered scholarly treatments of important topics or issues that often make connections to practice.*

Remove strikeout on last sentence of paragraph and so it reads *However, MED students may, with the approval of their supervisors and clearance from UBC's Behavioural Research Ethics Board, collect and analyze original data.*

The amendment was presented by Shauna and seconded by Jude.

16 in favour, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions

The department was told this motion is not an attempt to alienate any programs. EDAL is not the only program to use EDST 590. For instance, the Sustainability cohort will be affected by this motion as well.

Tabling Motion

EDAL motions to table this amended motion until the next department meeting in May.

The tabling motion was presented by Wendy and seconded by Steve.

8 in favour, 4 against, 2 abstentions

Motion #2

To expand the policy on EDST 565 courses and new course proposals. The policy for new course proposals will state: The process for proposing and seeking approval for new courses (Category 1 proposals) is laid out in the Guide to Curriculum

Submissions for UBC Vancouver (UBC Vancouver Senate). In EDST, new courses should be proposed by a tenure stream faculty member who is a coordinator of an area specialization or program. Graduate courses that are not associated with a particular program (e.g., methodology courses) can be proposed by the Graduate Advisor. Undergraduate courses that are not associated with a particular program can be proposed by the Undergraduate Coordinator.

This motion was presented by Mona and seconded by Michael.

Discussion:

One faculty member said this motion is very elitist. An area coordinator, regardless of their title, should be allowed to propose new courses. GPACC disagreed, stating that new courses should be shepherded through by full-time faculty members in order to guarantee ownership of a course. Oversight cannot be guaranteed if the course is proposed by someone employed on a contractual basis. EDAL pointed out that next year their coordinator will not be a tenure-track faculty member. If this motion passes, EDAL will not be able to propose any new courses.

Amendment

Strike out *tenure stream faculty member who is* and change it to *New courses should be vetted and proposed by an area specialization or program area.*

This amendment was proposed by Wendy and seconded by Alison.

14 in favour, 0 opposed, 0 against

The department voted on the amended motion:

16 in favour, 0 opposed, 0 against

6. PhD committee update (Alison)

Alison thanked Sandy and the members of the PhD Committee for their work this year. The committee has made 14 offers of admission, 9 of which have been accepted. Three of these offers were declined and the committee is still waiting to hear from the final 2 applicants.

Today the PhD Committee is holding a meeting to discuss possible changes to core PhD courses. This meeting will take place after the department meeting and all are welcome to attend. The committee is also looking to revise the information currently on the website and application site. If anyone has any suggestions please contact Alison.

7. Research interest videos for website (Mona)

ErinRose spoke to this item today and Mona has nothing more to add.

8. Announcements

Congratulations were given to the following faculty and students:

- Ryan van den Berg on receiving the 2017 Thesis Award from the Canadian Philosophy of Education Society
- James Thornton on the publication of his book “Community-Based Qualitative Research Study: Adult Learning and Meaning-Making in Guided Autobiography Developmental Exchanges”

Michael Marker will be presenting at the next Critical Dialogues scheduled for March 29th at 2:00pm in PCOH 2012. The seminar is entitled “The Power of Place as Methodology in Indigenous Research” and all are encouraged to attend.

The EDST International Conference on Cultural Studies and Education will be held May 4-6th. As this is an EDST conference, everyone is strongly encouraged to attend.

The seminar “Social Movements and NGOs” will take place on April 11th at 2:00pm in PCOH 2012. Salma Ismail, visiting scholar from the University of Cape Town, will be delivering this talk. All are welcome.

There are students in the department using the AMS food bank. The food bank accepts both food and cash donations. Please contact Amy for further information on how/where to donate.

Adjourned at 2:30pm