

**Department of Educational Studies**  
**Department Meeting Minutes**  
**November 17, 2016**

*Present:* Ali A. Abdi (chair), Cash Ahenakew, Vanessa Andreotti, Lesley Andres, Natasha Boskic, Shauna Butterwick, Steve Cardwell, Gerald Fallon, Mona Gleason, Erika Hughes, Deirdre Kelly, Michael Marker, Sereana Naepi, Carolina Palacios, Bathseba Opini, Wendy Poole, Leslie Roman, Claudia Ruitenber, Shermila Salgadoe, Hongxia Shan, Michelle Stack, Alison Taylor, Rob VanWynsberghe, Jude Walker, Pierre Walter, Fei Wang, Taylor Webb, Handel Wright

*Regrets:* Garnet Grosjean, Amy Metcalfe, Jo-Anne Naslund, Sam Rocha

**1. Approval of agenda**

The agenda was approved with the addition of item #9 *EDST Connect Usage Report*.

**2. Approval of minutes (meeting of October 20, 2016)**

The minutes were approved.

**3. Topics for discussion/decision**

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

Departments are instructed to start thinking how they can best implement the full-funding proposal for incoming PhD students. There will be a few more meetings with G+PS and ORE to finalize the details of this proposal before the anticipated start date of 2018.

The department meeting scheduled for December 12<sup>th</sup> will be a budgetary meeting. The department needs to discuss how to spend its surplus in relation to the overall Faculty deficit. Details on the department's budget will be circulated before the meeting.

There was a student presentation in the Ponderosa Commons Multipurpose Room on November 16<sup>th</sup>. The event was well attended by students but not by faculty members. Faculty members should make a point of attending these events in order to support the student presenters. Reminders for these events will be circulated on the Faculty listserv in order to encourage greater attendance.

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

G+PS will hold open forums on Nov 23<sup>rd</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> to discuss the full-funding proposal for incoming PhD students. This will be one of the only opportunities for faculty members to discuss this proposal with G+PS. A final decision on this issue has yet to be made, so there is still time for faculty members to provide input and ask questions.

The department will now adjudicate the EDST graduate student research grant (formerly OGPR). A call for applications will come out in January.

Faculty are reminded that students can only take 6 credits of EDST 565 courses toward their program, and that these courses aren't distinct in any way on student transcripts. Ultimately, it doesn't benefit students or faculty to have long-standing courses under the 565 number. Years ago, the department agreed on a policy in which faculty would only use this number a few times before regularizing the course. Claudia can help faculty members who would like to put a new course proposal forward, in lieu of repeatedly using EDST 565. Another option for faculty includes using another existing course on the books with a title that covers the content.

**c. Operations report (Shermila)**

The Card Reader access will be installed on the new 3<sup>rd</sup> floor security doors. ID cards, programmed into the system, will soon be required to open the door at all hours of the day. The installation of this system was discussed at the vice president level as it is a matter of infrastructure and safety.

Alex is working hard on improving the format and navigation functions of the EDST website. Faculty cooperation is appreciated.

The department may start capping the number of compliance fees it pays for visiting scholars. Once the quota is reached, faculty wishing to support a visitor will need to pay the fee from their own research grant. The \$230 compliance fee is needed to support the work permit applications individuals require in order to come to UBC as visiting scholars. Occasionally visitors are exempt from this fee. For instance, if they will be at UBC for less than 6 months or if they are visiting from a country which doesn't require its citizens to have a tourist visa to enter Canada. If a visitor falls into one of these categories they are able to enter Canada as a "business visitor" and work permits are not required. This means the \$230 compliance fee is not required.

*Discussion:*

One faculty member asked if EDAL could be added to the list of programs that will be included in the outreach fund usage discussion in December. EDAL is

already included under the heading *cohort programs*, but Shermila will specify the program on the list.

A faculty member asked if the department could try being more vigilant as a community rather than activating the card reader during regular office hours. Another faculty member expressed dismay that the security doors will prevent visitors from accessing the third floor. When the system is set up, Shermila will ask if the doors can be left unlocked during regular office hours. However, there are no guarantees that this request will be granted by the university. Faculty are reminded that the installation of this system does not mean that there is an issue to their personal safety. Rather, the security doors are being installed to prevent incidences of petty theft.

**d. Sessional report (Carolina)**

Nothing to report.

**e. GAA report (Sereana)**

Faculty volunteers are needed to run the student workshops next semester. The students really value these weekly workshops so please volunteer if you're able. Thanks to those who have already volunteered for workshops this fall.

EDST Student Research Day will take place on April 7<sup>th</sup>. Please remind your students to participate in this annual event.

**4. ADHE updates (Pierre)**

There are approximately 1000 undergraduates enrolled in the online ADHE courses. These courses are run by 6 or 7 sessional instructors. ADHE has met with members of other Faculty of Education departments, including PDCE and TEO, to come up with policies and procedures regarding sessional responsibilities. These policies were circulated as part of the meeting package in order to ensure that they are officially entered into the EDST minutes.

**5. PhD committee update (Alison)**

The PhD committee set criteria for the usage of the one-time financial assistance offers from the department. Students could only apply if they had passed their comps and hadn't already received 4-year funding. The committee expected to receive 10 applications, however only 6 were submitted. Of these 6, only 3 met the criteria. The PhD committee divided the financial assistance fund equally amongst the 3 students. Anyone with comments/suggestions on the financial assistance criteria should contact the PhD committee.

The application deadline for the PhD program is December 1<sup>st</sup>. So far, the committee has received 17 applications, which will be made available for review on eVision. Please provide your feedback by January 10<sup>th</sup>, as the committee will be meeting shortly afterwards to finalize the rankings. Alison has asked Sandy to put together a master list of applicants, including topic and potential supervisors (both applicant and committee recommended). If faculty members have been in contact with potential applicants please let Alison know before January 10<sup>th</sup>. Please also tell Alison if you're unable to supervise students next year.

## **6. DACR update (Vanessa)**

DACR is discussing the search for structural support and services, including research scholarship and infrastructure. There are more opportunities for match funding, however, applications can take up to 2 months to adjudicate. Faculty members are asked to keep this in mind when applying. DACR also discussed how the Faculty needs more support for budgeting, particularly for insight grants. Currently, budget requests will also have to be submitted a few months in advance of the actual need.

The corporate/private funding discussion is still ongoing at DACR. There will be a paper on this topic circulated to faculty members in February. The paper will examine ethical issues and conflicts of interest that may emerge once this proposal is implemented. There is also a faculty wide discussion on minimal funding, with a push for faculty to be responsible for income generation. This practice has been implemented in several other universities, including one in Australia where faculty are expected to raise 30% of their salary per year via funding. Supervision may also be tied to the idea of minimal funding, where only those with funding will be allowed to supervise students. In order to mitigate career progression and the effect this will have on it, UBC proposes that new faculty have half of a PhD funded as part of their startup.

### *Discussion:*

As there will be low level consultation with the department on this issue, faculty members must be as active as possible in terms of response. Many faculty members commented on the negative effect minimal funding would have on the department. It will impact their freedom to supervise and will raise ethical issues around accepting students who don't have funding.

On January 13<sup>th</sup> there will be an information discussion in response to the paper "*New voices, new knowledges, and new politics of education research: The gathering of*

*a perfect storm?"* by Stephen Ball. This will take place from 2:00-4:00pm in the Ponderosa Commons Multipurpose Room.

EDST will also have a full departmental discussion on this issue before it is implemented. Graduate students will also be invited to participate as this will impact their future academic careers. One faculty member suggested that in preparation for this meeting the department should garner feedback from universities where this policy is already in place. Another faculty member suggested consulting the Faculty Association before the meeting as this issue may be an infringement on academic freedom.

## **7. Undergraduate certificate in ALE (Shauna)**

Shauna circulated information on the undergraduate certificate proposal in the meeting package. This proposal is for a non-conferred certificate, which won't cost the department any money. Once students complete 15 credits of ALE courses they will automatically receive this certificate from PDCE. The certificate won't show up in the students' transcripts but they will receive actual paper certificates. This proposal will benefit students who can't afford to enroll in the 30 credit diploma program.

Mark Edwards has confirmed that this is a category 1 change and so must go through all of the standard steps to be implemented. The proposal has already been approved by UPACC. EDST now needs to approve this proposal. Once official, the department will need to market the certificate in order to raise awareness for it.

### *Discussion:*

Shauna was asked to speak to how this certificate positions in the market in relation to the other certificates offered by PDCE. Shauna replied that an informal survey was conducted 2 years ago to gauge student interest in the creation of this certificate and that students responded positively. The creation of this certificate may also make EDST courses more attractive to undergraduate students. This would result in higher enrollment numbers, which in turn would create the need for additional sections. Additional sections mean more employment opportunities for sessionals. Shauna was also asked who would be responsible for processing applications for the certificate. Shauna stated that EDST would not be responsible, as all of the administrative work would be handled by TEO/PDCE.

### **Motion #1**

I move that EDST accepts the circulated proposal for the creation of the undergraduate certificate in Adult Learning and Education.

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

*22 in favour, 0 opposed, 1 abstention*

## **8. CCIE and visitor updates (Handel)**

Handel introduced Alireza Sadeghi and Jennifer Kelly, the CCIE visiting scholars and Dan Cui, the CCIE postdoc. A brief write-up on these individuals was provided in the meeting package and faculty are encouraged to introduce themselves when they have a moment.

The theme of the May 2017 EDST conference is *Cultural Studies and Education*. Handel included a draft of the conference overview in the department meeting package. Feedback is welcome, as are suggestions for keynote speakers, panel themes and non-traditional performances. Anyone with suggestions for GAA hires should also contact Handel.

*Discussion:*

Only a small number of EDST faculty members registered to attend the 2016 EDST conference. Faculty members are strongly encouraged to attend this year's conference. One faculty member pointed out that the C2UExpo 2017 will be held the same weekend as the EDST conference. This may negatively impact attendance for the EDST conference.

## **9. EDST Connect Usage Report (Natasha)**

ETS has started collecting feedback from the Faculty on Connect usage. An online form has been created to collect this information from faculty members at the end of every term. Natasha will provide a link to this form so faculty members can provide their feedback. ETS is using this information to determine how many instructors are actually using Connect each term, the number of courses taught online, etc. This information will help ETS ensure that Connect continues to meet the needs of faculty members.

*Discussion:*

A faculty member asked what ETS was doing to ensure that Faculty of Education courses meet accessibility needs. Natasha reminded the department that ETS began working to ensure that courses complied with accessibility requirements in 2008. ETS still ensures that these requirements are met today.

## **10. Announcements**

Congratulations were given to the following faculty and students:

- Lisa Brunner on being awarded the Donald N. Byers Memorial Prize
- Handel Wright on receiving an Hampton Grant
- Andre Mazawi on his appointment as Associate Researcher at the University of Geneva
- Lesley Andres on being awarded the 2016 BCCAT Leadership Award
- Michelle Stack on her continued role with UBC Roundhouse Radio

The next Critical Dialogues Seminar will take place at 3:00pm on December 1<sup>st</sup> in the Ponderosa Commons Multipurpose Room. The seminar is entitled *Feminist Decolonizing Solidarity* and will be presented by Shauna Butterwick.

The EDST Holiday Lunch will be held on December 15<sup>th</sup> from 12:00-2:00pm at St. Johns College. Faculty, students, sessionals, visitors and emeriti are invited. Please be sure to RSVP by December 5<sup>th</sup> if you haven't done so already.

*Adjourned at 2:25pm*