

**Department of Educational Studies**  
**Department Meeting MINUTES**  
**Thursday, November 15, 2018 12:30 to 2:30 pm**

**Present:** Mona Gleason (chair), Garnet Grosjean, Mateus Hernandez, Mary Kostandy, Michael Marker, Wendy Poole, Kapil Regmi, Sam Rocha, Shermila Salgadoe, Tom Sork, Michelle Stack, Alison Taylor, Petra Mikulan, Wendy Trass, Jonathan Turcotte-Summers, Jude Walker, Pierre Walter, Fei Wang, Taylor Webb, Cash Ahenakew, Handel Wright, Ran Pei, Zuzana Jackuliakova

**Guest:** Carol Naylor

**Regrets:** Jason Ellis, Carolina Palacios

**Absent:** Bathseba Opini, André Mazawi, Amy Metcalfe, Gerald Fallon, Leslie Roman, Vanessa Andreotti, Rob Vanwynserghe,

### **Announcement before agenda**

Mona announced that six Indigenous women will be graduating during the November convocation. This shows the incredible capacity in our department regarding Indigenous people and it reflects the hard work of our supervisors, working together to ensure that our Indigenous students feel supported and that they can graduate with a project. This makes us think about the broader lessons, that we are all working for in our department; working in community and working for community and how by doing that we can open up new intellectual spaces, opportunities for different kinds of research and research questions. This all reminds us that we are not just spectators here but we need to be participants in all things. Thinking about our responsibilities and who are we responsible to and for in our spaces, this is all connected with the notion of those indigenous graduates, those research projects and what they opened up in terms of us thinking of decolonization in our department.

### **1. Approval of agenda**

The agenda was approved.

### **2. Approval of minutes (meeting of October 19, 2018)**

The minutes were approved with one correction: Eva Bonn from the U of Cologne is a master's student, not a PhD student.

### **3. Introductions**

Daniel Jordan an EDST Student representative introduced himself as the ALE student representative.

Zuzana Jackuliakova is from Hiring Solutions is a new interim Assistant to the Head.

#### **4. Library report (Wendy Traas)**

##### Research Data Management guide

Wendy Traas introduced Research Data Management guide. The guide includes tools such as the DMP Assistant, which helps researchers create data management plans for Canadian funders. The guide is also including information on getting DOIs, and organizing and formatting your data.

##### SOTL fund

Department head asked for more information regarding the fund that the department members could use for publications fees, which are sometimes required by journals. Support program for Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) is offered by the UBC Institute for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (ISoTL) and the Centre for Teaching, Learning, & Technology (CTLT). The SoTL Seed Program provides graduate research assistants, collegial collaborations, and complementary funding for projects that seek to research and evaluate impactful pedagogies. The fund can cover publishing fees and also conference fees. Faculty members can apply for one funding per year with maximum of \$1000. The Head promised to distribute the email regarding this fund to all the faculty members.

#### **5. Topics for discussion/decision**

##### **a. Head's report (Mona)**

##### Hiring

One of the ongoing tasks that we should focus our attention is on the faculty hiring plan. After spending a lot of time researching the old emails and department minutes and having conversation with Associate Dean Mary Bryson, who oversees the hiring, Mona outlined what the Dean's office has received from Educational studies in terms of our hiring asks. There are three: tenure track position in Indigenous Education in the professoriate stream, tenure track in Teacher Education in the Educational Leadership stream, and tenure track in Higher Education in the professoriate stream. The position in HIED was filled, the position in Teacher Education is (hopefully) soon to be reposted and the position in Indigenous Education was put forth as a High Impact Hire but was not successful. Each department head has to submit 3 year hiring plan to Dean's office and Mona presented to Faculty members the sheets which should provide some sense of what is involved in asking for the positions. The Dean's office requests to know all about the capacity already existing in particular area; how does the new hire contributes to our strategic plans, equity and goals; how is the new hire related to the movement within the department (like people leaving, retiring, etc.); what kind of courses and research they offer; how is it related to students needs and wants.

Going forward, we need to think about clearly about the needs of our programs and processes. We need to have some conversation about how to strengthen them together in a planful way, so we know what kind of hiring asks we can make in the future. We are in no rush as we are in a good standing with our hires going forward. Mona can take a lead to ensure that the process unfolds and that we have the consultative approach to hiring.

##### *Discussion*

One faculty member mentioned that one of the EDAL searches was for a limited term position with the funding coming from Claudia's secondment. They inquired if it is still possible to use this money for limited

time hiring. The department head thinks it is not and that the accounting of this line goes to PSI commitment and it would be more beneficial for us to take more long term view.

Another faculty member mentioned that our high impact hire request for indigenous faculty member was not accepted. They wanted to know if we received any feedback why our proposal was not acceptable, because they would like to put it forward again. The department head suggested revisiting the application again and called it an unfortunate opportunity, because this hire request was submitted at the same time as other more urgent hire requests making it less viable at that point. Going forward we should keep this hire request on the top of our radar. Faculty member suggested that if there is no problem about the proposal from the dean's office, they would like to resubmit the hiring request. The department head supported resubmitting and promised to follow up on it with the dean's office.

### Other issues

The department head is still working on (1) handbook of major roles in our department and (2) succession planning for our roles in our department.

### **Green Folder**

Carol Naylor from Student Services came to introduce a new resource called Green Folder. This Folder was first published 5 years ago and refreshed this year. It is meant to be a resource that faculty and staff can just leave on their desk and use it as reference when dealing with student in distress. The Folder gives you simple steps and guidelines how to manage the situation. If there is a particularly difficult situation beyond the help of the folder, you can find there the phone numbers to connect you with Student counseling centre, who can put you in touch with doctor or psychologist. The Folder also contains list of the services on the campus available for students in distress (like coaching and counselling service-Empower me, Wellness centre). Last page of the Folder contains information about the *Early alert program*. It is a very easy portal, where faculty and staff can enter concerns if they see that student is struggling or suffering in some way. As largely decentralized campus, we do not have information about every aspect of each student, but this portal connects all the concerns about specific student in all the areas. Then the case managers can connect this student with the help they need. This program has been going from 2012, received over 10,000 concerns and 80% of students who had been asked to come for chat, agreed to come and see the advisor.

### *Discussion*

There was a question if there is any stress coach for Indigenous students. And the answer was yes, there is one case manager of an Early alert program specialized in working with Indigenous students. Student services also provide counseling services twice a week in the First Nations Housing residence and there is also a team of advisors across the campus specialized in working with Indigenous students.

Another question was regarding the Off-campus students and which program could they use if they never come to campus. It is good to remind them to see their doctor and they can also try online counseling services available for UBC students like Empower me.

A faculty member asked if it would be possible to connect these services to courses on Canvas. They organized a talk about the student well-being in their class and it was very well received by students. It was suggested to have the information about the resources included in Student Orientation, when they

start school because students are not aware of this. It would be useful to include the link where Students can find all relevant information and resources.

Another question was regarding the possibility for students to receive counselling in a language of their choice. This is the area of discussion as Student services do provide counseling in some languages, but they do not have representation for all.

Another faculty member inquired about similar resources for faculty and staff. There are workshop, programs and information sessions provided by a health promotion specialist Miranda Massie working at UBC and there are also some resources online ([wellbeingguide.ca](http://wellbeingguide.ca)).

#### **b. Graduate advisor report (Alison)**

There will be 38 MEds, 6 MA, 2 EdD and 1 PhD graduating at the November 28 ceremony. We had the GPACC meeting for this month on November 13th. One of the items discussed was the Graduate student progress report, which is supposed to be done by students annually. It was suggested to be more forward looking instead of backward, so at the meeting we discussed the changes to the form, which would allow to talk about the changes for upcoming years.

#### Self-study

We will begin discussing about what information we know, what is required and how programs can prepare in December, with reference to documents we have (the last major self study (2009) and Principles for External Reviews for the FoE).

#### Student funding

The time of admissions is coming up, so we need to decide what kind of offers we can make. We have started to talk about the guidelines for deciding on student funding; do we keep the same allocation for the MA and PhD students?, etc. We agreed to maintain the same allocation of GSI funding between MA and PhD programs for this year (30:70). Another point of discussion; if students are refusing offers, then this money is available, so we need to decide how to use this money. For next year, we would like to develop certain guidelines on how to proceed.

#### Innovation funding

We have some innovation funding that we talked about allocating toward PhD minimum funding in the past. However, it was recommended that the \$18k per year allocated to PhD minimum funding from the EDST Innovation funds be deferred until it is most needed to fund students, that is, 2020-21 or 2021-22. This decision should be revisited by GPACC next year.

#### Research courses

We have 3 research courses at Faculty of Education that students should know about: *Post-qualitative Research Methods*, *Case Study Research Methods* and *Causal Inference for Applied Researchers*.

#### *Discussion*

The department head is continuing to press on TA funding. For now, we got guaranteed 2 years of TA funding for Teacher Education courses that we can use for students. But it is not helpful if we don't know

if it is ongoing, so the first thing on the agenda for next Head meeting is to ask for some guarantees about this funding.

### **c. Operations report (Shermila)**

#### Staff Vacancy

The staff position for the Head's Assistant was advertised in UBC Careers website. We have received 30 applications and have scheduled two interviews for next week.

#### Safety/Security of PCOH and Card Access

There were several incidents in the last couple of months that occurred in this building. Shermila provided the details of these incidents in her report.

#### *Discussion*

A faculty member disagreed with using swipe cards 24/7, because it means that there will be lot of students without access to offices. Another faculty member added that this is a public institution and people should have access. Shermila responded that graduate students in the department have access to the Research and Learning Commons on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor and the kitchen on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. Similar access can be given to students to enter 3<sup>rd</sup> floor.

It was agreed to contact Campus Security to find out if there are ways to improve security and safety in our building.

### **d. GAA report (Mary)**

Mary thanked Dr. Kapil Regmi for his workshop on *Educational policy research: Theory and Practice*, which was a very successful event. The Students are open for suggestions on interesting topics. There is one more workshop everyone is invited to attend and that is on *Citation management for an easier life: Mendeley and other citation managers*.

Mary noticed that a lot of students are not signed up in the listserv. It would be great if we could see how many students are signed up in listserv. Shermila explained that we do not register students instead we ask that they register for the listserv and announce it during the Orientation. It is up to the student to sign up. It has been an ongoing challenge to get students to stay on the listserv. Mona mentioned that we have a lot of research presentations taking place and she encouraged everyone to participate in as many as they can because filling up the rooms and having people talking about research is very valuable.

## **6. Announcements**

#### Teacher education review process

Jude as an EDST representative for Teacher Education Advisory Committee (TEAC) made an announcement about Teacher education review process. The copy of teacher education review was sent to everyone some time ago and now the committee will be reading feedback and recommendations that they received. The committee would like to hear responses to these recommendations from each department and discuss it within the group. The committee would like to know what you think, what ideas you might have about changes, and they are looking for specific recommendations. This is a project for next few months. Mona promised to send the review again.

## Introductions

Handel Wright came to introduced Visiting Scholar Ran Pei, who is visiting with the Centre for Culture, Identity and Education (CCIE) and the Department of Educational Studies for the 2018 – 2019 academic year. Dr. Pei is an Associate Professor in the Department of Humanities and Social Science at Harbin Engineering University in China. He holds a PhD in History and has worked extensively in the field of comparative studies of Chinese and Western Education Cultures. The project Pei is working on presently focuses on "Solving the purposes of education in human society by integration of Chinese traditional culture in ancient time and western modern education ideas." He and his team believe that theoretical study on education should be combined with social practice. Only by doing so, the theory could be of social value and meanings. Pei thinks a practice project which will exert positive influence on social development calls for more caring people's involvement. As part of this comprehensive project, Dr. Ran Pei will spend his time as CCIE visiting scholar exploring Canadian multiculturalism and multicultural education (with a view to comparative study with Chinese equivalents).

CCIE is hosting a Prof. Uchenna Okeja, Visiting Scholar at the Peter Wall Institute. He is interested in issues of decolonization, especially decolonization of the university. He is from Nigeria, he received his Ph.D. from Goethe University Frankfurt in 2011 and he is currently based in South Africa, at Rhodes University's Department of Philosophy. He is having a symposium on Decolonization of University on November 26th that involves a lot of EDST faculty members. More information to be coming up and everyone is invited and should consider coming since decolonizing the university is a very important topic.

## **7. Department Forum Discussion**

A faculty member asked if there is still some Strategic planning happening because there was a group that did a lot of work. Some of this larger discussions may inform what we are looking for in terms of hiring and what we think that we need. We are moving into self-study, because we are having an external review next year. We did some strategic planning, there were some pillars that emerged from that discussion, but nothing formal came out of it. Alison confirmed, that discussion is on-going in GPACC at the moment. Mona's hope is to come up with something that is forward looking as well as retrospective. It is going to be an interesting exercise and it will require a lot of work but Mona is confident that if we have a meaningful plan, we can come up with a great self- study.

*Meeting adjourned at 2:05pm.*