

Department of Educational Studies

Department Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 16, 2019 12:30 to 2:30 pm

Present: V. Andreotti, A. Babunga, T. Baldwin, N. Boskic, M. Edwards, J. Ellis, G. Fallon, M. Gleason (Chair), G. Grosjean, M. Kostandy, A. Mazawi, A. Metcalfe, C. Palacios, W. Poole, K. Regmi, S. Rocha, S. Salgadoe, T. Sork, M. Stack, S. Stein, A. Taylor, L. Tomlinson, J. Turcotte-Summers, F. Wang,

Regrets: C. Ahenakew, J. Chan, J. Daniel, G. Fallon, J. Chan, M. Marker, B. Opini, L. Roman, W. Trass, R. Vanwynsberghe, J. Walker, P. Walter, T. Webb

Absent: H. Gill, B. Opini, E. Öztürk,

Announcement before agenda

The Department head acknowledged our presence on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Musqueam people.

1. **Approval of agenda** – agenda approved.
2. **Approval of minutes (meeting of April 18, 2019)** – minutes approved (moved by André and seconded by Tom)
3. **Education Library Report – (Wendy Traas)** – No report.
4. **GAA report (Mary Kostandy)**

Thank you to all members who have contributed to GAA's events and resources in the 2018/19 school year. The events were a success, with a minimum of ten (10) attendees at each event. Faculty is encouraged to connect with the GAA should one have any events or workshop(s) in mind for the 2019/20 school year. A link with the sign-up sheet will be circulated, please sign up. Additionally, in the department meeting package there was the GAA report, "Video and Audio Recordings for 2018_2019 Winter Term II". This document outlines five workshops that took place in the Winter Term II; follow links on the report for access to video and audio recordings of these sessions.

5. **Update on process for online course revisions (Natasha Boskic, ETS and Lynne Tomlinson, PDCE)**

Follow [link](#) for more details on the changes to online course revision process; the yellow highlights reflects modifications that will be implemented moving forward. The key goal of this change is to have the online course revisions completed in time to match other deadlines in the department especially that of assigning workloads, see [timeline in page 2](#). For any questions or concerns on this change, please submit them to Mona as she will address them with ETS at their next meeting and report back to the department.

6. Update on the TLEF project (online modules on research methods and theories - Tamara Baldwin)

This is year two (2) of TLEF project. The main focus is to support students in their dissertation writing process. These modules are not-for-credit as they are meant to be a support for students already in the program. This will be available to all students with CWL accounts, not just EdD students, and will be used as a self-directed boot camp as it is self-paced online. There is the need to having more inclusive materials and theory, thus Tamara encouraged contributions from faculty to actualize this. All feedback from faculty and students on the project to be directed to Tamara Baldwin or Deirdre Kelly.

7. Topics for discussion/decision

a. Head's report (Mona)

Nina Tomlinson was introduced to the department as the new Grad Student Support. A series of congratulation were in order: Jason Ellis, Sam Rocha and Few Wang received tenure and promotion to Associate Professor; to Sam Rocha received the 2018-2019 UBC Killam Teaching Award; to Jason Ellis launched his new book, *A Class by Themselves?*; and lastly, to Alison Taylor for completing her term as the Grad Advisor. André Mazawi will take on the role as Grad Advisor, a two (2) year term, from July 1 2019.

b. Discussion/decision on Advertisement for TT position in Indigenous Education

Mona moved the motion to accept this advertisement, André seconded – *no objections*. Suggestions were made on the wording “education and Indigenous Studies.” Thus, a friendly amendment to rephrasing to “educational Indigenous Studies” was proposed and passed. This change will be reflected on the final job posting. Suggestions to involve the local Indigenous communities in the job search, recruiting from our EDST PhD students as potential strategic approach to succeed in this job search were discussed.

c. Graduate advisor report (Alison)

May 9th was the last GPACC meeting of 2018/19 school year.

There have been changes adopted to move up deadlines for admissions to the PhD and MA program; meanwhile the EdD deadline remains the same. Additionally, there is an ongoing conversation around adding a section on 'Personal History Statement' in applications, especially PhD applications. This additional information is to be used by respective programs admission committees to get to know more about the applicant's background and commitment to *equity*. GPACC will revisit this topic across all programs in the next school year as there are difficult questions that come with this and have to be resolved. Questions such as: How to get prospective students to share this kind of information? How does the admissions committee intend on using this information to adjudicate applications? How is equity currently reflected in review of applicants' submitted materials and shared information?

d. Operations report (Shermila)

Shared in this meeting's package are Innovation and Operating financial statements for April. If any questions, contact Shermila. In addition, Alexandra Wozny is leaving her position with the department as Web/Admin Assistant. We wish Alex success in her new position. The search to find a web communications personnel will commence; in the meanwhile, Shermila has reached out to Staff Finders to find individuals within their pool with experience in web design for temporary placement in EDST.

8. Announcements/Discussion

a. Congress 2019 – June 1 to 7

Shared with department faculty members is information on the 'with/out modernity' workshops and conversations as part of [Congress 2019](#) conference. More information on this can be found [here](#). Follow this [link](#) to RSVP to attend the With/Out Modernity Subvention Congress 2019.

b. OLAF proposal (Vanessa, Michael, Sharon)

In the meeting package was a Proposal for an online certificate on Pedagogical Complexities of Decolonization and Indigenization. This certificate consists of 5 courses – four (4) delivered online and one (1) face to face. May

24th 2019 is the deadline to approve and submit this proposal. The proposal was not approved as there were numerous questions and concerns raised regarding the proposal.

Concerns: One faculty pointed out that there is no reference to ALGC given the target audience. Another was concerned that the proposed timeline is short, especially since the process to get course approvals is extremely lengthy and recommended not rushing the process. Another raised the point that the proposal appears to exclude other faculty who teach courses on decolonization. Another was highly concerned on the availability of resources for this certificate - it is not a cohort and thus will require the proposed five (5) courses to be taught each year as long as there are students registered in the certificate. The content in the proposal is indeed worthy of further consultation within the department, but it is not wise to rush. Lastly, when introducing new programs or certificates, staffing resources need to be factored in explicitly – how much is the staff workload impacted? In conclusion, there is a strong interest in transforming and reconfiguring the department from all faculty. Among the issues that need to be addressed include how to make program areas more flexible; ensure that the workplace is more *hospitable* to all; encourage more cross-program collaborations; and mapping out where we are as department. This process of mapping our departmental foci will be taken up at the next department meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 2:35PM.