

Department of Educational Studies
Department Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 17th, 2020 12:30 p.m. to 1:25 p.m.

Present: C. Ahenakew, L. Andres, A. Babunga, C. Bobadilla, K. Chen, M. Edwards, G. Fallon, M. Gleason (Chair), O. Hauck, D. Kelly, M. Kovach, H. Gill, G. Grosjean, N. Gupta, A. Mazawi, A. Metcalfe, B. Opini, C. Palacios, A. Parent, K. Regmi, S. Rocha, Y. Ronen, C. Ruitenber, S. Salgadoe, H. Shan, M. Stack, T. Sork, S. Stein, A. Taylor, R. Vanwysberghe, J. Walker, P. Walter, T. Webb, T. Wisniewski, H. Wright

Regrets: N/A

Absent: A. Abdi

On leave: V. Andreotti, J. Ellis, M. Marker, L. Roman, F. Wang

Announcement before agenda

The Department Head acknowledged our presence on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Musqueam, Selish and Tsleil-Waututh people.

- 1. Approval of agenda** – agenda approved.
- 2. Approval of minutes (June 18, 2020)** – minutes approved.
- 3. Welcome back from the Dean – Dr. Blye Frank**

The Dean, Dr. Blye Frank welcomed the EDST community to the 2020/21 academic year. He confirmed that working remotely will continue until Winter Term II. He acknowledged that remote working experience varies and is challenging for many given their respective unique circumstances. He encouraged staff, faculty and students to reach out to him should they need assistance to better improve their remote working, teaching or learning experiences. Dr. Blye welcomed two new faculty members to Educational Studies, Drs. Amy Parent and Margaret Kovach. He also thanked all faculty for successfully transitioning to online teaching.

4. Education Library Report – Wendy Traas

Most physical locations remain closed including the Education Library: E-book collection expanded through the [HathiTrust Emergency Temporary Access Service \(ETAS\)](#). Through this service, UBC students, faculty and staff will have access to nearly 750,000 digitized items as well as continued access to more than 6.7 million public domain and Creative Commons-licensed works.

Further updates: The Library will no longer collect fines for late fees. However, outstanding fees prior to March 2020 will remain and have to be paid in full. All recalled items have to be returned. There are 'Return Book' bins outside the Scarfe building. Irving K. Barber Learning Centre and Koerner Library are also accepting returns. Due to the Safety Plan, materials have to be quarantined for 72hrs upon return before they are checked in which will cause a delay in your account. Also, it takes up to one week to process pick up requests. Stay up to date with the Library's

services and resources at <https://services.library.ubc.ca/covid-19-response/>. For questions contact Wendy Traas at wendy.traas@ubc.ca.

5. Topics for discussion/decision

a. Head's report (Mona)

Please see the report included in the meeting package. No questions arose.

b. Deputy Head's report (Lesley)

Please see Deputy Head's report included in the meeting package. No questions arose.

c. GA-GCC joint report (Claudia & Tom)

Please see the GA-GCC joint report included in the meeting package.

Tom put forward a motion for department approval. Motion for Category 2 curriculum change to delete EDST 690, EdD Thesis from the University Calendar with the idea that EDST 699, Doctoral Dissertation, will be used for both EdD and PhD dissertations. [Old terminology for dissertations; EDST 699, Doctoral Dissertation, can be used instead.] This motion was approved. With 25 in favor, 0 oppose and 0 abstain, the motion passed.

d. Budget report (Shermila)

Please see the operation and innovation budget report included in the meeting package.

e. GAA report (Yotam)

GAA appointments for 2020/21: There are four GAAs for this school year including Yotam Ronen, Neil Bassan, Vanessa Lawrence, and Roshni Kumari. As a team, they offer support and advocate with and for EDST graduate students.

Student Representatives for 2020/21: Faculty was encouraged to inform students of opportunities to serve in their program committees. GAAs will meet regularly with student representatives to discuss the current issues on their respective committees. The feedback from last year's student reps was that there lacked corporation and communication between student reps; GAA is committed to changing this in order to create a more meaningful experience. Below is a list of current student reps

- Department meetings: Tierney Wisniewski, Olivia Hauck, Keru Chen, Denneisha Griffin-Pinnock, Neha Gupta
- Heads Advisory Committee (HAC): Neil Basran
- Graduate Student Society Council (GSS): Zhenyang Xu, Julia Burnham
- Graduate Programs Advisory and Curriculum Committee (GPACC): Deanna Bracewell
- Scholarships Committee: Deanna Bracewell
- PhD Committee: Yeonjoo Kim

Events: Refer to the report for a list of September's events. Faculty was encouraged to connect with GAA team at edst.gaa@ubc.ca to collaborate on student workshops.

f. TEAC report (Sam/Jude/Jason) — None.

6. Announcements

Bimema Family Award in Teacher Education: Bathseba spoke on this as the [award](#) was created to honor the lineage of educators in her family. The aim of this [award](#) is to support Black students financially as they work towards the completion of their education. The goal is to support at least **two** teacher candidates every year. Dean Frank supported this initiative, and all faculty was encouraged to donate for the cause as well as spread news of it within their circles.

EDST Speaker Series: Responding to Racism. The first speak will be Dr. Njoki Wane. Dr. Wane is a professor at OIDE and Chair of Social Justice department at U of Toronto. She is a recognized scholar in the areas of Black feminisms in Canada and Africa, African Indigenous knowledges, anti-colonial and decolonizing education, and African women and spirituality. Please join her talk on September 24, 2020, over zoom.

7. Forum Discussion

Allocating funds to support students during Covid-19: Students are greatly affected by the pandemic, especially financially. Therefore, it is integral for the department and faculty member to look into supporting our students through creating job opportunities and additional funding for students. Faculty is encouraged to hire students should they have some funds. In addition, reallocation of fund to meet students' needs during COVID-19 can be made in the *Innovation* Budget only, as any remaining balance in the *Operations* budget will be rolled over to the next year. This issue will be discussed in the monthly HAC meeting in October.

EDST Blog: The GAA was recognized for all their hard work in being instrumental to getting the department blog site up and running as well as putting together a team. An open call was sent out asking for engagement. Contact the GAA at edst.gaa@ubc.ca for any questions.

Department Priorities: The Head's priority is to support faculty as it's not business as usual. Taking on new commitments at this time is not wise to do. However, the department's commitment to anti-racism and equity will continue. Be kind to yourself and one another.

Meeting Adjourned at 2:25p.m.

Next Meeting: October 15, 2020.