FACULTY OF ARTS  
Minutes of Meeting  
January 21, 2020  
Robert Vogel Council Room

Attendance: As per Faculty Appendix Book.

Order
Dean Maioni welcomed members and called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

Agenda
301.1 Professor D. Béland (Political Science/MISC) moved approval of the agenda, seconded by Professor N. Trocmé (School of Social Work). Carried.

Seating of Student Members
A-19-1A
302.1 The revised list of student representatives was accepted.

Announcements
303.1 Dean Maioni announced the following:
  • Professor Jessica Coon (Linguistics) has been named the Director of the Indigenous Studies and Community Engagement Initiative for a five-year term. The funding has been made possible by the Mellon Foundation. It was also noted that Professor Coon will chair a Provostial search in Indigenous languages which is a joint position in Linguistics and Education.
  • A new position has been created in the Provost Office. Professor Christopher Buddle (former Dean of Students) has been appointed as the Associate Provost (Teaching and Academic Programs) and he will be responsible for many tasks including many that are directly related to key interests of the Faculty of Arts, such as the development and launching of online courses, the improvement of Teaching and Learning Services, the introduction and innovation of academic programs, and academic space needs.
303.2 This concluded the Announcements.

Minutes of Faculty of November 19, 2019
A-19-9
304.1 Professor B. Trehearne (English) moved approval of the minutes, seconded by Professor F. Ruge-Murcia (Economics). Carried.
Business Arising from the Minutes
305.1 There was no business arising.

Members’ Question Period
306.1 No questions were submitted.

Report on the Actions of Senate -
307.1 Dean Maioni asked if there were any questions for Senators who all attended the last Senate meeting. No questions or comments were raised.

Detailed minutes of Senate meetings can be found at: https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/senate-2019-2020/senate-meeting-documents-2019-2020

Report of the Dean
308.1 Dean Maioni reported on the following:

• As Chairs and Directors were recently informed Arts has a new endowed chair referred to as the Steven Jaroslawski Chair in Technology and Human Nature. This Chair was developed in great part due to the input from Professors H. Sharp (Chair, Philosophy) and J. Levy (Political Science/Director of Yan P. Lin Centre) and it should be open for the fall hiring season. The search will be conducted at the Faculty level and, as result, the Dean will be asking colleagues for suggestions of members for the search committee. The Chair, itself, expects to be an innovative kind of exploration that can lead us in research that has to do with ethics, AI, and the aspects of democracy that are being affected by technological change.

• There are fourteen licenses in play and this reflects the support of the University for social sciences and humanities as well as the Faculty’s recognition, itself, of constant and continual renewal. Two searches have been completed in Political Science and negotiations are underway for a joint position in Education and Linguistics which should be filled very soon. Activities are taking place in units to fill positions in: medical anthropology; Japanese studies; economics, Canadian history; African history; Islamic studies; and, southeast Asian religions. These are very competitive searches and a great deal of work has been done by the search committees. Other licenses in play are a joint position in the School of Public Policy and Economics and one license in the School of Social Work.

• Currently being implemented by Human Resources was the pilot program that will allow for flexible work time arrangements. There are two aspects that are anticipated with this new program: 1) for administrative staff to be able to request flexible work hours. For example, to be able to bypass rush hours or to shorten their working day by not taking their entire lunch breaks etc.; and 2) requests to apply to work at home one day a week. This type of request may not be possible across all units or all administrative titles. Procedures on vetting and accepting the applications were being put into place and the program will be starting soon. This will have an impact on units.
This concluded the Report of the Dean.

Report of the Associate Deans

Academic (Administration and Oversight)

Associate Dean Fronda reported on the following:

- Teaching allocation request forms for AY 2020 have been distributed to all departments in preparation for the departmental budget exercises. About half of the departments have submitted their request forms to the associate dean. These forms are crucial in calculating teaching support budgets.
- Several updates on matters pertaining to space and construction projects. The Leacock basement storage had been overfilled with used furniture; a major clean-up of the storage was conducted in January. Henceforth Arts furniture storage would be inventoried and curated more carefully to avoid future build-ups. Construction on the Leacock building continues on schedule. Reorganization of the ASC1 and ASC2 administrative spaces is on hold until a project manager can be found.

Faculty Affairs

There was no report.

Research and Graduate Studies

Associate Dean Sparks reported on the following:

- The research committee is reading applications for internal and external chairs. The number of chairs to be awarded is down from 6 last year to 3 this year. No decisions have been made yet, but he Associate Dean will be communicating with applicants and chairs in the about a week.
- The research funding year ends in March and there is still some seed funding for new projects available which needs to be spent down. Most seed funding has gone to assistant professors who have responded to the call for proposals, but the funding is open to all levels.
- The Associate Dean is currently reviewing NFRF Transformation Grant applications, however the application process is still open. Faculty interested in applying need to submit a two-page letter of interest, due in February, and should contact the Associate Dean for more information.

Student Affairs

Dean Maioni gave the following report on behalf of Associate Dean Lach:

- The Strategic Planning Process was moving towards the last stages of the process. This was the point that it was very important to acquire input from as many colleagues as possible. Stakeholder meetings will be held over the next couple of months to obtain input for the mission, vision, and values that it was hoped to confirm through this process as well as the strategic priorities that are being drafted.
- Part of the Strategic Planning Process will include a survey of faculty on the contribution to community engagement. The goal is to capture how faculty
members are involved in different communities both inside and outside of McGill, and both inside and outside of the academy. This survey will be a pilot project that has already drawn interest around the university. It matches the Provost’s interest in better defining and quantifying the service component of faculty members’ academic duties.

• Reminders of important upcoming dates, including the end of add/drop today, graduate recommendations due on January 29, supplemental exam period for Fall 2019 will be during reading (the week of March 2), and OASIS providing career advising in March.

309.5 Dean Maioni thanked the Associate Deans for the reports.

Report of the Nominating Committee A-19-10
310.1 Associate Dean Fronda explained that the proposal by the Nominating Committee to dissolve several faculty-level interdisciplinary program advisory committees did not mean that the programs were retired, but rather is part of a wider re-organization of the governance and oversight of interdisciplinary programs in Arts. Several interdisciplinary programs will be administratively relocated to departments, centers or institutes. Remaining interdisciplinary programs would receive oversight from a new subcommittee of the Curriculum Committee. To facilitate this administrative change, a corresponding revision of the Curriculum Committee is also proposed: to expand its membership and to articulate standing sub-committees on for Screening and for Interdisciplinary Programs.

310.2 A brief discussion followed. Prof. Bolognaro commented that although the Liberal Arts program had been relocated to the Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures a couple of years before, there were still administrative and technical problems, for example administrative staff in LLC are not able to schedule LIBA courses in Banner. Associate Dean Fronda noted this concern. Dean Maioni reiterated that the intent of the proposal was not to close the programs but to enhance and streamline governance.

310.3 Dean Maioni moved approval of the Report of the Nominating Committee “en bloc” as outlined in document A-19-10, seconded by Professor E. Bolongaro (Languages, Literatures, and Cultures).

310.4 The motion carried.

Report of the Curriculum Committee A-19-11
311.1 Associate Dean Fronda moved approval of the Report of the Curriculum Committee “en bloc” as outlined in document A-19-11, seconded by Professor B. Trehearne (English).

The report contained the following proposals:

**HISTORY AND CLASSICAL STUDIES**
Proposed program revisions:
- Major Concentration in Classics CC-19-51
PHILOSOPHY
Proposed new option:
Ph.D. in Philosophy, Teaching Philosophy Option  CC-18-106

Note: Proposed new courses: PHIL 702 (CC-18-104/PRN 14882,V2) and PHIL 703 (CC-18-105/PRN 14883,V2) were approved by the Curriculum Committee on September 23, 2019.

311.2 The motion carried.

Report of the Activities of the Arts Undergraduate Society
312.1 Mr. Chan reported on the following:
- Ethical Business Practices committee is meeting regularly and is working with the University on procurement standards and procedures
- AUS is working on improving services in SNAX
- Reminder of upcoming AUS events including AUS awards.
  A detailed Report of the AUS was posted on the Faculty web page.

312.2 Dean Maioni thanked Mr. Chan for the report.

Report of the Graduate Students
313.1 Ms. K. Kouchakji reported on the following:
- Fall orientation activities were well attended.
- The Study Session for Parents With Kids program has also been well attended, though tickets are still available.
- Reminder that PGSS is offering French courses as part of their slate of leisure courses
- Reminder that the travel grant application due date is February 1 for travel taking place between April 1 and August 31.
- Reminder to departments to encourage sending delegates to PGSS council. Many units have not been sending delegates.
  A detailed report was posted on the Faculty web page.

313.2 Dean Maioni thanked Ms. Kouchakji for the report.

Other Business
314.1 Dean Maioni informed the members that the Provost would be attending the March 31st Faculty meeting to discuss the University’s budget. She encouraged members to submit their questions for the Provost to the secretary in advance of the meeting.

Adjournment
315.1 The meeting adjourned at 3:49 p.m.