FACULTY OF ARTS
Minutes of Meeting
September 17, 2019
Robert Vogel Council Room

Attendance: As per Faculty Appendix Book.

Order
Dean Maioni welcomed members to the first meeting of the 2019-20 academic year. The meeting was called to order at 3:03 p.m.

Agenda
101.1 Professor C. Ragan moved approval of the agenda, seconded by Professor P. Brissette. Carried.

Announcements
102.1 Dean Maioni welcomed the new academic staff members that have recently joined the Faculty. Faculty applauded.
102.2 The Dean announced that were 12-15 new licenses that were now being filled and noted that this was a good testament to the continual growth and renewal of the faculty. Dean Maioni expressed how proud the Faculty was of its members and of the commitment of the University to the social sciences, humanities, and languages.
102.3 This concluded the Announcements.

Seating of Student Members
103.1 Dean Maioni welcomed the students to the meeting and thanked them for the time and effort they will be devoting to the Faculty. The list of student representatives was accepted.

Award Presentation
The Rita and Charles Bronfman Award for Excellence in Teaching
104.1 Professor D. Béland (Political Science/Director, MISC) announced that the winner of the Rita and Charles Bronfman Award for Excellence in Teaching for 2018-2019 was Mr. Graham Fraser.
104.2 Professor Béland read the following citation:
“We wish to recommend Graham Fraser for The Charles Bronfman and Rita Mayo Award for Excellence in Teaching. He taught for the McGill Institute for the Study of Canada for the Fall 2018 and Winter 2019 semesters. His impact on the students and the Institute as a whole have been nothing short of phenomenal. We base this recommendation on an extraordinary teaching record. Here are some comments from students.

2018 Fall: CANS 301: Quebec Elections, Present and Past
- Professor Fraser is incredibly knowledgeable, accessible, and engaging.
- M. Fraser a sa propre façon d'enseigner, une méthode qui est très intéressante. Sous forme de raconteur, M. Fraser nous explique les causes et conséquences des diverses élections québécoises.
- Having the perspective of a journalist instead of a pure scholar was really interesting. It is always interesting to listen to Mr. Fraser.

Winter 2019: CANS 303: Language Policies and Language Rights
- Mr. Fraser has been a wonderful teacher, I especially appreciated his easy going manner and flawless ability to explain and transmit his knowledge to the class, resulting in students coming away from the course with much new knowledge on the complex history of language policy within Canada.
- Un des meilleurs professeurs que j'ai eus. M. Fraser est autant une figure imposante de par son parcours impressionnant, qu'une figure paternelle de par son charisme et son grand coeur. Nous l'appelons grand-papa entre nous. Il sait transmettre la matière de façon efficace et intéressante.
- Professor Fraser is an attentive and passionate instructor. The insightful lectures, informative readings, and fruitful class discussions motivated students to produce their best writing. It takes a lot of effort to plan a course with as many politically relevant guest lecturers as we had, but Professor Fraser made it work.
- M. Fraser est excellent. Il connaît sa matière et la transmet avec passion et intérêt. Il est aussi drôle et est vraiment dévoué à sa classe. C'est un homme très chaleureux avec qui c'est très plaident de discuter. Il écoutait toujours les différentes opinions avec beaucoup d'ouverture et savais comment naviguer ce sujet très délicat.
- I really enjoyed hearing from his experiences as Commissioner. Provided a unique opportunity to get any language policy question asked.

We believe that Graham Fraser embodies the excellence to which the title of this Award refers and we are very happy to make him the recipient of this award for 2018-2019.”

Faculty applauded.

104.3 Mr. Fraser said that it was an honour to teach at McGill because he was never able to attend as a student. He had not taken the necessary courses to be eligible, however, he did have close relatives who were students at McGill University. Mr. Fraser thanked Ms. Ann Dadson (MISC, Board of Trustees) for mentioning his name to Dean Maioni which starting things
rolling for him to teach at MISC. The Dean told him that the best thing about the experience would be the students and this certainly turned out to be the case. Mr. Fraser said that the students were wonderful, engaged, and interesting and interested. He said there was a hard core of students in his fall course who also took his winter course and that was a remarkable vote of confidence. Mr. Fraser said that MISC was a remarkably welcoming place with people like Professor Scholtz, Mr. Petros Psaurdis, Ms. Allison Murphy, Ms. Erika De Torres, and Professor Potter, all of whom form a great team. He said the experience was wonderful and exhausting and that he had a new level of respect for everything that goes into teaching and for the quality of students at McGill.

Faculty applauded.

104.4 Dean Maioni said that Mr. Fraser also inspires graduate students and that she first met him as a doctoral student at Northwestern University. Mr. Fraser was inspirational to a whole generation of students who were studying Canadian politics at the time. The Dean thanked Mr. Fraser.

Minutes of Faculty of April 9, 2019

105.1 Professor F. Alvarez-Cuadrado moved approval of the minutes, seconded by Professor S. Manoukian. Carried.

Business Arising from the Minutes
106.1 There was no business arising.

Members’ Question Period
107.1 No questions were submitted.

Report on the Actions of Senate -

108.1 Dean Maioni asked if there were any questions for Senators. No questions 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

109.1 Dean Maioni conveyed the following:

- How happy she was to be starting her fourth year as Dean and to welcome everyone back for the new academic year.
- The University will be celebrating a very important Home Coming this month. The Home Coming event will also launch the bi-centennial celebrations and the bi-centennial campaign which will be the largest campaign in McGill’s history.

A sincere thank you was offered to all those colleagues who prepared an incredibly rich case for support which was designed from the ground up in Arts with
participation from all the units. Principal Fortier commented how good it was, not only in terms of its powerful content, but also in terms of the communication process that engaged everyone.

- Indigenous Awareness Week was taking place from September 16 to 27. Many events will be going on across the Faculty as well as the University.
- McGill, and the Faculty of Arts in particular, is well recognized for the quality not only of its students but also its academic staff and researchers. This year there were two more accolades to add:
  - Professor Juliet Johnson (Political Science) was a new inductee into the Royal Society of Canada.
  - Professor Jessica Coon (Linguistics) was an inductee into the Royal Society of Canada Members of the College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists.
  
  Faculty applauded.

- Sad news for the University community was the death of Desmond Morton who was very dear to our hearts. He began his career at McGill in 1994, was the founding Director of the McGill Institute for the Study of Canada, and became a Hiram Mills Professor in the Department of History until his retirement in 2006. However, he remained at McGill and continued teaching. He will be greatly missed. The official resolution will be read at the November 19th Faculty Council meeting.

  Professor Béland informed members that MISC and Professor Morton’s family will be planning an event to celebrate his life. It was scheduled for October 15th, 11:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Ballroom of the Faculty Club.

- Professor Michael Fronda has agreed to take on the portfolio of Associate Dean, Academic (Administration and Oversight).
- Professor Lucy Lach has returned from sabbatic leave and resumes her role as Associate Dean, Student Affairs. The Dean thanked Professor M. Hickman for the great job she did as Acting Associate Dean, Student Affairs.
- Congratulations to Professor C. Ragan (Economics/Director, MBSPPP) on the good news that thirty-two students have registered for the new program offered by the Max Bell School of Public Policy.

- Items of importance for faculty, staff, and students:
  - Consultations will continue concerning the possible implementation of a fall reading week.
  - Consultations will take place concerning the Cannabis Policy on campus.
  - There will not be any cancellations of academic and administrative activities on September 27th, the day scheduled for the climate change march.
  - There will not be any cancellations of academic and administrative activities on election day (October 21st) but it was recommended that no exams be scheduled on that day.

- The University was now engaged in a project that was leading to the development of the new Royal Victoria site. The Québec Government has allocated approximately $30M to the University to be able to undertake a joint study. Dean B. Lennox (Faculty of Science) will be the academic lead and Professor G. Lane-Mercier will be the Arts representative on the project.
Dean Maioni concluded by noting that the University was heading into a time of great celebration as well as a continued period of renewal. The Dean said that the Faculty was in a good place and that it was important for the Faculty to remain part of the reimagining and flourishing of the campus that was taking place.

Report of the Associate Deans

Academic (Administration and Oversight)

Associate Dean Fronda said that he will have a report for the next meeting. He said that he was bringing forward a revised Space Policy (A-19-2) that his predecessor worked on for the past almost two years. The current policy has been in existence since 2005.

In response to a request for clarification of Point 2 of the Core Space Entitlement section: “faculty who use their office 50% or less of the time per work week during the academic year must share their office in accordance with departmental priorities as determined by the Chair/Director”

Associate Dean Fronda said that the policy was designed to empower Chairs and Directors to make better use of the core space of the department at a time when there was a profound lack of space crisis on campus. The goal was to provide Chairs and Directors with a tool to use should issues arise in their departments concerning space.

Dean Maioni thanked colleagues for their patience to those affected by the renovations taking place around the Leacock Building, especially those who must leave their Leacock Building classrooms and teach in the new (temporary) Campus 1 Building and other buildings. It was hoped that the renovations will be completed by the end of the academic year.

It was noted that the conditions for teaching in the ballroom of the Campus 1 Building were not at all conducive to teaching.

Associate Dean Fronda moved approval of the revised Space Policy (A-19-2), seconded by Professor E. Bolongaro. Carried.

Faculty Affairs

Associate Dean Engle-Warnick provided a very detailed report of all the appointments in Arts.

Dean Maioni said that the numbers outline the complexity and size of the faculty which was an on-going concern for good reasons. The faculty has had a couple of stellar years in terms of its research programs, its SSHRC grants and other grants, and in the ability to attract great graduate students.

Research and Graduate Studies

Associate Dean Sparks reported on the following:

Graduate Studies
- The Mellon Postdoctoral Program has been discontinued at McGill and throughout most participating universities in the U.S. There are currently five Mellon fellows in
Arts and two more were welcomed this fall, all of whom will finish their full terms. Applications are no longer being accepted.

- Update on the ongoing program development at the M.A. level, in parallel with the McCall McBain Fellowship Program: these new prospective M.A.s will pursue interdisciplinary one year degrees and are not designed to replace M.A.s in units where the program is currently running well and able to attract strong students. They are meant to widen our offerings in conjunction with the kind of students that we will be attracting because of the McCall McBain Fellowship.

- There was development, in parallel with the above, of an M.A.&M.S. degree that has been spear-headed by the Provost, which was also designed to be a one-year interdisciplinary cross-faculty degree with an emphasis on theory and practice.

### Research

- The VP Research Office is focused on the New Frontiers in Research Fund (NFRF) which is a very large federal grant that was meant to attract innovative, interdisciplinary, and inter-faculty initiatives. Arts has begun a seed funding program, in part because of the NFRF. It was currently allocating seed funds for six projects and only some of these were for the NFRF. Faculty members can apply for these on a rolling basis; the application process is informal. The funds have been dedicated to activities including research-related travel, research assistantships, and grant support. If any members have projects they were trying to get started, even if they have not yet identified a particular grant, they can contact the Associate Dean to discuss seed funding.

- Related to the above, is the plan to more strategically allocate our Tri-Council funds for faculty research and to do this the Faculty must work within very specific parameters on how we are allowed to use the money and what it is eligible for. The Faculty was drafting three ideas that faculty members could apply for:
  - Money to convene workshops and generate new research relationships with faculty members elsewhere.
  - Funds for research-related travel but not conference or poster presentation.
  - McGill-based conferences that disseminate research to the general public in addition to a scholarly audience.

These will not be formally announced until OSR has cleared them.

110.7 Dean Maioni added that the Tri-Council funds that the faculty receives were directly related to a percentage of the money that members bring in from research funding and, as such, the Dean congratulated everyone on this achievement. This was a great testament to all those who have performed the hard work to get the awards to McGill.

Dean Maioni also added that the Mellon Foundation has closed its postdoctoral awards across the board because they were no longer investing in these kinds of awards. However, they are investing in new kinds of awards. It was important to note that McGill University has kept its relationship with the Mellon Foundation and they have been very happy with the program that ran for almost a decade at McGill. The Faculty applied for the Indigenous Initiatives Award which was another kind of award from the Mellon Foundation. The Foundation allocated $1.25M US to the Faculty. The funds will go directly to enhance the
kinds of initiatives that were being undertaken in Arts in its Indigenous programs and, in particular, in language vitalization.

**Student Affairs**

110.8 Associate Dean Lach began by thanking Professor M. Hickman for replacing her this past year and noted what a stellar job she did working with the staff of OAISIS as well as the students that she met with as Acting Associate Dean. Associate Dean Lach reported on the following:

- Today was the last day of the add/drop period. As a result, courses should begin to stabilize and we will begin to have a better sense of what enrolments are in individual courses as well as in the programs. The Associate Dean, along with Associate Dean Fronda, will be reviewing low enrolment courses and meeting with departments to better understand how enrolment trends were developing.
- A message should be sent out shortly about the Mandatory Sexual Violence Training for faculty members. The same message will be circulated to administrative staff in January. The training will be completed online. Students will also be completing the online module. This was part of the provincial legislation that was passed and requires mandatory training for all universities.
- A review will be undertaken to look at existing interdisciplinary programs. This will be done in order to better understand the programs and where they are situated, the challenges the programs face, and to find out how other universities are managing from a governance perspective. Recommendations will be reported to this assembly sometime this academic year.
- The Strategic Planning Process will be completed this year.
- Meetings will be scheduled with departments and units to discuss some of the trends in the discipline process around academic and non-academic offenses.

110.9 Dean Maioni thanked the Associate Deans for the reports.

110.10 The Dean took the opportunity to let members know that they could contact her, or the Secretary, should they wish to invite visitors to Faculty Council. For example: Deans from other faculties, the Dean of Students, the Dean of Graduate Students, a presentation about the new Royal Victoria project, specific areas that the Provost could address, etc. This was a good forum for the assembly to have guests attend and to be able to understand what was happening in the larger perspective of the university.

**Report of the Nominating Committee**

111.1 Dean Maioni moved approval of the Report of the Nominating Committee “en bloc” as outlined in document A-19-3, seconded by Professor D. Béland. Carried.

**Report of African Studies Program Committee**

112.1 The annual report was accepted.

**Report of the Industrial Relations Faculty Program Committee**

113.1 The annual report was accepted.
Report of the Activities of the Arts Undergraduate Society

114.1 Mr. Tarrabain reported on the following:

- The first Legislative Council meeting took place last week. This was where policies were voted on, like course approval, student fees, etc.
- Weekly executive meetings were scheduled to discuss affairs in our portfolios.
- Departmental orientation sessions were set where items such as equity training are discussed.
- FROSH was extremely successful this year. A big “shout out” to the team was noted. The surplus should be approximately $25,000 which can be used for other initiatives for improving student life on campus in the Faculty of Arts.
- The Grad Fair will take place Nov. 6, 2019 at New Residence Hall. This was good information to share with students who will soon be graduating. There were approximately fifty graduate schools that will participate.
- The audit should be finalized shortly.
- Working with the Arts Internship Office, the AUS will focus on making the internship application more accessible to students. A referendum question will be run to renew the fee that Arts students pay in order to bridge the gap in the amount of money that was being raised for the AIO to continue to exist.

A detailed Report of the AUS was posted on the Faculty web page.

114.2 Dean Maioni commended Mr. Tarrabain for a very clear and complete report. The Dean said that the space constraints that the Faculty was facing was also problematic for the students in terms of the space available to them to be able to convene meetings and space to be able to study. The Dean said the Faculty was looking at ways in which it could possibly remove some of the pressure of the space problems including better spaces for study and other kinds of spaces that can be reclaimed. Dean Maioni also noted that the Fiat Lux Building Project was moving forward and that the renovations taking place in the library will increase and improve student study space.

Report of the Graduate Students

115.1 Dean Maioni welcomed Ms. A. Thorup and noted how happy the assembly was to have graduate student members present.

115.2 Ms. Thorup reported on the following:

- A very successful Orientation Event was held with over 800 students participating in lots of social activities.
- The following classes will continue to be provided: yoga, French, self-defense, and basic life support for non-medical professionals.
- Major projects underway include governance changes, the creation of a volunteer accreditation policy to provide accountability and incentive measures in committee participation, and advocacy for better health insurance plans especially for international students.
• Hiring of several positions have taken place including the Anti-Sexual Violence Coordinator, the Library Improvement Fund Coordinator, the Orientation and Sponsorship Coordinators, and the Accessibility Coordinator.

Ms. Thorup concluded by saying that the graduate students were looking forward to a very successful year and presenting a much stronger presence at Faculty Council meetings.

115.3 Dean Maioni thanked Ms. Thorup for the report and took the opportunity to commend both the graduate and undergraduate student associations for the very successful Orientation and FROSH events this year.

Other Business
116.1 In closing, Dean Maioni said that the Faculty Council meetings will, hopefully, be better populated this year. It was really the place where items could be added to the agenda to have wholesome discussions and deal with business. In the spirit of openness, the Dean thanked members for attending and looked forward to the next meeting.

Adjournment
117.1 The meeting adjourned at 4:01 p.m.