



McGill

Faculty of
Medicine and
Health Sciences

FACULTY OF MEDICINE, FACULTY
COUNCIL

Steering Committee Minutes

August 24, 2020

Minutes of the meeting of the Faculty Council Steering Committee held on August 24, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. by Zoom.

PRESENT (*via zoom*)

Arora, Anish (PGSS)
Filion, Françoise
Robaire, Bernard

Colby, Diana
Marelli, Ariane
Rompotinos, Dennis (MSS)

Eidelman, David (Chair)
Moss, Leah

Regrets: Sanah Alani (ARM)

1. Review of the April 6, 2020 Steering Committee Minutes

The minutes were approved without change.

2. Review of the May 19, 2020 Faculty Council Minutes

The minutes were approved without change.

3. Review of topics for the September 22, 2020 FC meeting [education, research, students]

Research topics

- i. *CFI10 application/ NFRF: the next round:* B. Robaire noted CIHR was a real competition for March grants, combined with CFI. The Chair indicated Martha Crago or someone from her office could be invited to provide an update. He asked L. Moss to verify whether Philippe Gros would be available, while he would speak to M. Crago about it at their next monthly meeting.

ACTION: L. Moss to verify P. Gros' availability to present; D. Eidelman to speak to VP Crago about presenting at a future Faculty Council meeting "NFRF: the next round."
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- ii. *Animal Facilities in Faculty of Medicine:* The Chair mentioned the CMARC office is currently going through an audit, so we should wait to present this. All agreed.

- iii. *Managing Conflicts of Interest (COI)/ Nepotism:* A. Marelli mentioned she is not sure this topic belongs in research as it pertains more to Academic Affairs. She noted having last found something about it online from B. Robaire that was put out a decade ago, so she stated it needs to be addressed and a clear policy outlined. The Chair confirmed that technically, there is a COI form for this, but that it may not be advertised enough. B. Robaire suggested a revision to the COI policy by Secretariat and that A. Marelli could be part of the committee. The Chair asked whether Angela Campbell should be asked to speak about this topic. B. Robaire replied he is not sure it would cover all the cases. A. Marelli agreed it would be a good starting point. The Chair noted this is A. Campbell's area of expertise, so it may be worthwhile to review the policy from the point of view of hiring someone very close to you to highlight what it does or does not say. It was noted that before asking the Secretariat to review the policy, they would only do so under A. Campbell's leadership. F. Filion agreed with A. Marelli that it should be known and clear as this is McGill's policy. D. Colby added that a reminder/clarification on a periodic basis is good when it comes to policies. She suggested a reminder be issued on an annual basis and communicated to each new hire, also noting it could be posted in MedENews, etc. A. Arora suggested this be discussed in terms of how it relates to students. The Chair thought this was a great idea. L. Moss agreed it would be good to have A. Campbell present and that we should provide her with a tangible list of scenarios relating to conflicts of interest. All agreed.

ACTION: L. Moss to verify A. Campbell's availability to present.

- iv. *Round of Committee meetings for AI:* No discussion was had.

Education topics

- i. *CPD Webinar series:* With the kickoff of CPD season set to begin on September 24, L. Lalla hopes to provide an overview of upcoming CPD webinar series and the new CPD platform, which will make registering for courses and watching recorded sessions much easier. The discussion may also touch upon news about credits doctors must earn each year. All agreed this topic could be presented.
- ii. *Campus Outaouais:* While G. Brousseau had provided an overview and introduced the Gatineau team at the May 19 Faculty Council meeting, the Chair was pleased to announce that Campus Outaouais opened last week and that it was a huge success. He indicated it would be worthwhile to have G. Brousseau provide an update on its success, noting that the Dean of Dentistry mentioned wanting to have their department in Outaouais as well, so there is an opportunity for other Schools to become involved there. All agreed.

ACTION: L. Moss to verify G. Brousseau's availability to present at the September 22 meeting.

- iii. *Human Trafficking:* F. Filion indicated this could wait for the winter as there is a student who will be doing their Master's research on a survival story throughout the fall, so by the winter, the results will be able to be shared.
- iv. *School of Population and Global Health (SPGH):* B. Robaire noted T. Evans has been very busy due to COVID-19, but that an update would be good. The Chair agreed, adding that it would be ideal for him to come in winter as he and his team will have more time to reflect.

Dean's yearly: state of the Faculty State of the Faculty- D. Colby reminded the Chair this update was moved from spring meetings to fall meetings.

Student topics:

- i. *Graduate students survey:* B. Robaire provided an update in that the survey went out to various departments; all results are expected by December, so a presentation should be carried out early in 2021. The Chair suggested A. Ryan provide a brief update on the status of this survey.

ACTION: L. Moss to reach out to A. Ryan about availability to present.

- ii. *MASH (McGill Association of Students in Healthcare) update:* D. Rompotinos, incoming MSS President, confirmed the MSS' involvement with MASH but mentioned he has not heard much of late. A. Arora added that he could speak to what was done last year, but suggested postponing this update to a meeting in 2021 in order to explain how COVID affected this year's events. All agreed.
- iii. *Students with disabilities? Accommodations? / WELL Office: mental health among learners:* The Chair indicated there are many changes being considered for the WELL Office. He asked L. Moss how this should be handled. She replied that it was previously decided to hold this topic until the new Dean of Students is named, for which a successor is still being sought. A. Marelli added that it would be useful to have someone from the WELL Office present what is in place. She expressed gratitude for having received an email about a student being put on rounds with her, and that due to disabilities, the student would be limited to XYZ. The Chair confirmed it would be a good idea to hear about this. L. Moss suggested a joint presentation be done between the Office of Students with Disabilities and the WELL. A. Marelli asked the students present whether they know how to refer students to one of these offices. D. Rompotinos replied that he refers MSS students to the WELL; additionally, there is an e-digest reminder regarding student needs for upcoming exams. A. Arora confirmed the same for graduate students being referred to the WELL.

B. Robaire added another component by A. Ryan- there are people from different departments to deal with stress, but they are not well advertised. He stated that the WELL Office is not

supporting graduate students and that many are unaware of alternate sources of support. The Chair agreed this is a good topic to address, but wondered how to present it. B. Robaire mentioned that the timing should be now given it is a stressful time. The Chair agreed. F. Filion stated it would be ideal to know whether students should be referred to the Office of Students with Disabilities or the WELL Office, noting there should be clear outlines for what each office does in order to know which office students should be referred to.

The Chair asked L. Moss to provide a summary of what topics were agreed to. The committee noted the agenda would be quite charged, so the Chair stated that if any topic can be deferred, we could wait for A. Ryan's update on the student survey. D. Colby added that in the state of the Faculty update, we can condense the budget portion somewhat as what we need to know most is what the budget will be for this year and how we are managing through the crisis. The Chair agreed, however noted we will not know this for sure until November, per the Provost.

F. Filion mentioned the Ingram School of Nursing (ISoN) is looking at community organizations where her students go to assist under-served populations. The goal is to ensure the organization is part of the discussion related to placement needs. She suggested this could perhaps be a topic of inter-professionalism for later (inter-professional social accountability).

A. Marelli stated there is a significant amount of research activity around COVID-19 that would be important to highlight. The Chair asked D. Colby if such a forum already exists. She confirmed there is a webpage that captures all of McGill's research related to COVID-19. She suggested to highlight a few projects in the Chair's update with links provided, or have a few speakers at the next Faculty Council. The Chair confirmed that for this round, he will include it as part of his update. B. Robaire suggested T. Evans be invited to speak about their national project and the immunity taskforce. L. Moss was asked to reserve a block of time at the next Faculty Council for COVID-19 from a research perspective in particular, and to ask T. Evans and D. Sheppard to speak to it.

iv. *McGill Ultrasound Interest Group (MUSIG)*: No discussion was had.

v. *Graduate students and postdocs*: No discussion was had.

Business arising/updates

1. *Steering Committee membership (1 CAS rep & 1 graduate student rep)*: no discussion was had.
2. *Nominating Committee membership (1 elected rep)*: no discussion was had.

D. Colby added that in the Chair's update, we will reference the new Faculty name and activities around Black Lives Matter within the Faculty of Medicine.

F. Filion shared that this was her last term on Faculty Council and that she was pleased to serve on it. The Chair thanked her for her input and wished her well.

There being no other business to address, the meeting ended at 2:50 p.m.