



McGill

Faculty of  
Medicine and  
Health Sciences

FACULTY OF MEDICINE & HEALTH  
SCIENCES, FACULTY COUNCIL

## Steering Committee

### Minutes

April 12, 2023

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Minutes of the meeting of the Faculty Council Steering Committee held on April 12, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom.

#### **PRESENT (via Zoom)**

Colby, Diana	Eidelman, David (Chair)	Gonnerman, Laura
Maione, Stefanie (secretary)	Marchionni, Caroline	Marelli, Ariane
Moss, Leah	Robaire, Bernard	Soufi, Ghassen (ARM)

**Regrets:** Shashika Bandara (*PGSS graduate student rep*), Rami Habib (*ARM delegate*), Amanda Morrone (MSS)

#### **1. Review of the January 25, 2023 Steering Committee Minutes**

The minutes were approved without change.

#### **2. Review of the February 21, 2023 Faculty Council Minutes**

The minutes were approved without change.

#### **3. Review of Steering Committee membership/renewals:**

L. Moss confirmed that L. Gonnerman and C. Marchionni have both agreed to renew their mandates on the Steering Committee. She and the Chair thanked them for their participation.

#### **4. Review of topics for the May 16, 2023 FC meeting [education, research, students]**

Before proceeding, the Chair reminded committee members that at its previous meeting, the committee decided to do planetary health as a big theme for the May 16 Faculty Council meeting.

L. Moss provided a brief action summary based on feedback from the last meeting.

### Thematic topics: Planetary Health

- i. Planetary Health update:* L. Moss confirmed that the students who kicked off this topic at the February 2022 Faculty Council meeting have accepted to provide an update.

- ii. *Réseau d'action pour la santé durable du Québec* : L. Moss noted that over the past year and a bit, we have been approached to sign a number of accords and agreements with the Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada, the Okanagan Charter and others. One of the groups that we do have representation at is the *Réseau d'action pour la sante durable du Québec*, and S. Richer is our representative there. He has agreed to present on this topic.
- iii. *Indigenous perspective*: Further to S. Bandara's suggestion, L. Moss reached out to K. Rourke, Director of Indigenous Health Professions program and she has agreed to present.
- iv. *ISoN Planetary Health group*: L. Moss indicated that the Ingram School of Nursing has created a planetary health group; they reached out to the Dean on a separate occasion and have agreed to present.
- v. *Research related to exposure to environmental pollutants and their effects on human health*: L. Moss mentioned that from the School of Population and Global Health, specifically in the Department of Epidemiology, Biostatistics and Occupational Health, and in the area of research on this topic, J. Baumgartner has agreed to make a presentation. L. Moss thanked B. Robaire for having made this suggestion.

Before proceeding, the Chair asked L. Moss about timing of presentations. L. Moss mentioned that should the Steering Committee deem additional topics warrant presenting at the upcoming Faculty Council meeting, presenters could be asked to shorten their presentations. The Chair then opened the floor to other presentation suggestions. D. Colby asked whether the School of Physical and Occupational Therapy or Communication Sciences had been reached out to. L. Moss replied she had not reached out to every student group, noting we do not have anything from graduate students. B. Robaire added there is a green committee in the School of Biomedical Sciences that is quite active. He suggested verifying with the Director of the School. The discussion proceeded based on the topics outlined below.

Other potential presentations:

- a) *Mitigating waste in the labs (recent article in Health e-news)*: B. Robaire noted the article contains a lot of initiatives; he was not sure if anyone was talking about hospitals and what is being done there to minimize the amount of materials being used. The Chair asked if there is a champion for that within the Faculty. B. Robaire asked A. Marelli if she knew of anything being done at the MUHC to minimize use of materials in surgical wards, for which she was not aware. L. Moss noted this brings us to the JAMA article topic.
- b) *JAMA article students*: L. Moss noted students from the Department of Surgery wrote about reducing waste without any issues to compromising patient care. She mentioned she has not reached out to them as it was an outstanding question pertaining to being too focused on medicine and she was not sure if we were extending ourselves to initiatives that may be seen as hospital based rather than faculty based. D. Colby mentioned she has a bias towards

focusing on the Faculty first and at least reaching out to other Schools that are not represented on this committee before going into the hospitals. B. Robaire noted he would love to see someone from the hospitals take the lead on this. C. Marchionni added she is not sure who could speak to this, but suspects there are a lot of little local initiatives that individuals are doing, for instance in Radiation Oncology there is an environmental committee looking at issues about waste. The Chair stated having a champion present would be impactful and would still like to hear from the students.

B. Robaire supports having this topic presented, and making every participant aware of the article as it may cause someone to become a champion. All agreed.

- c) *Okanagan Charter*: Briefly discussed in item ii above.
- d) *Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada (AFMC) planetary health protocol – FMHS has signed on*: Briefly discussed in item ii above.
- e) *Centre on Climate Change & Health (being developed by SPGH & Dept of Toxicology/Pharmacology)*: B. Robaire provided an update, noting that he reached out to K. Mann to see whether she had heard anything and T. Evans has not been in touch. The Chair provided a slight update on that, noting they are trying to recruit a department Chair and likely want to hold off on the Centre until someone is recruited.
- f) *Montreal Children’s Hospital Nurse doing sustainability work*: During the January 25, 2023 Steering Committee meeting, C. Marchionni indicated there is a nurse from the Montreal Children’s Hospital who is a champion; she recently graduated from McGill and has done some work on reducing waste. As of April 12, no discussion was had.

D. Colby suggested that in terms of continuity, it would be great to identify some recurring themes or some themes that we wish to be repeated over the next year or two to create momentum with respect to what we are focusing on as a Faculty, noting Planetary Health could be one of them. The Chair agreed, and asked if anyone else had any recurring themes to suggest. B. Robaire mentioned the topic of getting A. Ryan to update on what is happening with graduate programs. L. Moss added two other potential recurring topics: AI in education and the disruption it may be causing as well as to invite M. Crago to do a presentation about research results grant success. B. Robaire further suggested the topic of animal facilities now that we have a new vet, for which the Chair provided an update in that animal facilities will be moving to the VP, Research and Innovation Office over the next couple of years. He agreed an update is warranted following a CCAC visit this Fall. G. Soufi brought up having an update on French in the Faculty. All agreed.

The Chair thanked everyone for their time and participation on this committee. There being no other business to address, the meeting ended at 2:30 p.m.