



## Meeting Minutes

Wed, October 20<sup>th</sup> 2021, 2:30 – 4:40 pm

Via Zoom meeting

Approved at December 15<sup>th</sup> 2021 School Council Meeting

**Attendance:** **a) Faculty:** Alicia Boatswain-Kyte, Shari Brotman, Delphine Collin-Vézina, Régine Debrosse, Wanda Gabriel, Charles Gyan, Nicole Ives, Julia Krane, Lucy Lach, Heather MacIntosh, Mike MacKenzie, Zack Marshall, Kate Maurer, Pam Orzeck, Tamara Sussman, Nico Trocmé (Director/Chair); **b) Field Coordinators:** Francine Granner, Nicole Mitchell; **c) Administrative Staff:** Sara Marcil-Johnson, Patty Tarica; **d) Course Lecturers:** Nona Moscovitz; Corrie Sirota-Frankel; **e) Students:** Zeke Betrand, Ash Lowenthal, Jo Roy, Alyssa Salaciak,; and **f) Non-voting member:** Yong Hong Feng (Minutes).

### 1. Introduction & orientation to the Council

- 1.1 Trocmé a) welcomed the attendees to the first School Council for 2021-22 academic year; b) gave a brief introduction to the background of the School Council and its Bylaws approved in September 2019; and c) reminded the attendees that the School Council Bylaws and meeting materials can be accessible on the School's website (<https://www.mcgill.ca/socialwork/about/governance/>).
- 1.2 The attendees took turn to make a brief self-introduction.

### 2. Approval of agenda

- 2.1 The agenda was approved by majority of the attendees.

### 3. Approval of minutes

- 3.1 The minutes for April 14<sup>th</sup> 2021 School Council meeting was approved by majority of the attendees.

### 4. Business arising

- 4.1 The spreadsheet tracking all the action items arising from the School Council meetings for 2020-21 academic year was reviewed; items that remain to be done were all tabled for the October 20<sup>th</sup> 2021 meeting.

### 5. Update on EDDI (Equity Diversity Decolonization Indigenization) Initiative

- 5.1 Trocmé a) provided an update on the EDDI strategic plan, which was approved by the School Council at the November 2020 School Council; a spreadsheet was produced to track the progress on the 88 action items and indicators, including 34 on-going, 40 to-do, and 14 unclear items; b) stressed that the EDDI initiative is not a new structure superseding the other School programs/working groups such as IAM (Indigenous Access McGill), Race Caucus, and BAM (Black Access McGill) to be developed; c)

reported on the progress, which included the syllabus review, the BAM initiative modelling on the success of IAM, the work of the student support team (Mitchell, IAM coordinator, Orzeck, Granner et al.), and the School's collaboration with the Faculty of Arts through the School's representation, Gyan, in the Arts' EDI (Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion);

- 5.2 Maurer reported on the progress on the syllabus review. Upon the completion of the review and data analysis in the Winter of 2022, feedback will be provided on changes to be made both at the program, curriculum, and course levels.
- 5.3 **Action items:** a) Trocmé to lead, with the help of Maurer, Lach, and Marshall, to revise the wording for the current EDDI initiative and its Strategic Plan to avoid confusion about its structure and role, and to update the Bylaws and the website content accordingly; b) Gyan to report back on the work with the Arts' EDI; and c) Trocmé to share and review the EDDI tracking spreadsheet with interested members/groups.

## 6. Update on exploration on increasing universal access to teaching

- 6.1 Roy reported on the work that has been done by the working group (Brotman, Kelly, Krane, Orzeck, & Roy) since the summer, and the recommendations made based on the evolution of the pandemic situations as well as McGill's changing policies and regulations; the recommendations stressed the importance of continuing and multiple-level advocacy both as a School and a profession for increasing universal access to learning/teaching, not only as a response to the pandemic situations, but also from a longer term and post-pandemic perspective.
- 6.2 Faculty pointed to the importance of planning in advance and getting the proper support and resources from the Faculty and University levels to ensure quality teaching/learning. Course lecturers also noted that their Union has reminded them that since there are no additional resources for hybrid teaching, they should limit themselves either to in person or online.
- 6.3 **Action items:** a) Lach to provide info on the university working group/task force on exploring how to increase accessibility in teaching and learning beyond Covid-19 context; b) Trocmé to bring the issue to the Arts' Chairs & Directors group; c) the working group to continue to document the efforts made by the School as a whole demonstrating the feasibility of a hybrid teaching/learning model; and d) Brotman to liaise with the Arts to find out the personnel to be hired for equity training on accessibility to teaching, and to invite, if possible, the person to the School for some training sessions.

## 7. Director's Report

- 7.1 Trocmé reported on a) the School's achievements for 2020-21 (details see [SSW Annual Report 2020](#)); he brought the Council's attention to the decreasing enrollment number for 2020-21 which, though not directly tied with budget, will be monitored and discussed with the Program Directors; b) the progress made on the priorities for 2020-21; c) the School's priorities set for 2021-22 (details see [SC Min Append#1](#)); and d) the site visit by the CASWE-COA (Canadian Association of Social Work Education – Commission of Accreditation) is likely to take place in the Winter of 2022, to be followed by a self-study on the competencies requirements to be submitted to the Ordre. Trocmé, along with Lach, also debriefed the group on the Ordre and the

Ministry's concerns about the lack of social workers in the youth protection and the disabilities sectors.

- 7.2 **Action items:** a) Trocmé to provide update on the simulation centre and the re-design of Wilson Hall; b) Trocmé to provide update on CASWE-COA's site visit plan; and c) Marshall to report on the review of the MSW-QY program.

## **8. Priorities from School Council constituency groups & committees**

- 8.1 Directors of MSW Program (Ives), MScA CFT Program (MacIntosh), PhD Program (Sussman), Field Education Program (Orzeck) and lead of EGAB (Endowment, Gifts, Awards and Bursaries Committee, Brotman), IAM (Indigenous Access McGill, Gabriel), SWSA (Social Work Student Association) and SWAGS (Social Work Association of Graduate Students) all reported on their plans and priorities for 2021-22 academic year (details see *SC Min\_Append#1*).
- 8.2 **Action items:** Krane to report on the BSW priorities.

## **9. Adjournment**

- 9.1 The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m. The next School Council is to be held on **Wednesday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021.**