



Meeting Minutes

Wed, February 24th 2021, 2:30 – 5:30 pm

Via Zoom meeting

Approved at April 7th 2021 School Council Meeting

Attendance: **a) Faculty:** Alicia Boatswain-Kyte, Sharon Bond, Wanda Gabriel, Charles Gyan, Jill Hanley, Nicole Ives, Julia Krane, Mike MacKenzie, Kate Maurer, Pam Orzeck, Marjorie Rabiau, Nico Trocmé (Director/Chair); **b) Field Coordinators:** Francine Granner, Nicole Mitchell; **c) Administrative Staff:** Sara Marcil-Johnson, Patty Tarica; **d) Field Supervisors:** Carly Berlin, Wendy Lavier; **e) Course Lecturers:** Corrie Sirota-Frankel, Nona Moscovitz; **f) Students:** Happiness Anekwe, Julia Barclay, Nour Daoud, Maya Malik, Francesca Capozzi and **g) Non-voting member:** Yong Hong Feng (Minutes)

1. Approval of agenda

1.1 The agenda was approved by majority of the attendees.

2. Approval of minutes

2.1 The minutes for November 25, 2020 School Council meeting was approved by majority of the attendees.

3. Business arising

3.1 CASWE (Canadian Association of Social Work Education) Accreditation: summary of the School's 2020 Self-Study was shared with the Council (see *Nov. 25 2020 SC Minutes, 4.1, Action Item*).

Trocmé reported that the site visit by the CASWE COA (Committee on Accreditation) would be held in the upcoming Fall/Winter or later depending on the COVID-19 situations; a progress report may be provided but is not required.

- **Action item:** Trocmé to a) keep Council informed of updates on the site visit plans; and b) share with Council the CASWE COA 2012 site visit recommendations.

4. Social Work student support coordinator

4.1 Trocmé introduced Nicole Mitchell, the new Social Work student support coordinator, whose main responsibilities include: a) meet students in need of support; b) coordinate resources available to students at the School, Faculty and University level; and c) make referrals and provide guidance on process and procedures re: access to services.

5. Nunavik Initiative

5.1 Ives and Gabriel reported on a proposal for delivery of the McGill BSW in Nunavik. The Nunavik BSW would be the first post-secondary education in the region. Co-developed by IAM (Indigenous Access McGill) and McGill Continuing Studies, the initiative will use a co-teaching model including school faculty, Inuit instructors and elders.

- **Action item:** Gabriel and Ives to provide Council with an update once the contract is finalized.

6. Fall 2021 Teaching Options

(*Note: Pacheco, BSW Student Affairs Coordinator, was invited to join the conversation)

- 6.1 Trocmé debriefed the Council on the University-wide plan based on the assumption that many academic activities in Fall will be in-person, complemented by online components, depending on public health guidelines.
- 6.2 The School was asked to identify the priority rating of its courses and activities based on the level of its impact of in-person delivery for students: a) Priority 1 are in-person courses/activities that are programmatically essential to offer in-person; b) Priority 2 are courses/activities that will be scheduled in-person if possible but could be adjusted; and c) Priority 3 are courses/activities that could easily be delivered remotely, and where the value/impact of in person delivery for students is lower.
- 6.3 Classroom access has become an immediate concern due to the closing of Wilson Hall; Trocmé has been working with Faculty of Arts and McGill Timetable Office to resolve the issue.
 - **Action item:** Pacheco to send the most recent version of the timetables to Trocmé and program directors with notes of concern on classrooms to be addressed.

7. Updates from SC constituency groups and Committees

- 7.1 Directors of BSW Program (Krane), MSW Program (Ives), MScA CFT Program (Acting, Bond), PhD Program (Hanley), Field Education Program (Orzeck) and lead of EGAB (Endowment, Gifts, Awards and Bursaries Committee) (Rabiau), IAM (Indigenous Access McGill) (Gabriel), SWSA (Social Work Student Association) and SWAGS (Social Work Association of Graduate Students) all provided updates on their respective work (details see *SC Min Appendix I*).

8. EDDII updates

- 8.1 **Syllabi review:** Maurer reported that a) the 2-stage work started as of last Fall with assistance from 3 U2 students; b) data input/extraction will be completed in March and followed by data content analysis/reports on which no definite timeline has been set.
- 8.2 **Faculty retreats:** Trocmé reported that a working group (Gabriel, Gyan, Hanley, Ives, Krane and Trocmé) has been working with an external consultant on planning the next faculty retreats aiming to focus on rethinking of the social work curricula and its approaches of teaching, communicating and engaging with the larger community.
 - **Action item:** Trocmé to provide updates on the faculty retreats.
- 8.3 **Social Work lessons learned forum:** Gabriel reported that this is an event co-organized by IAM and SWAGS aiming to provide space for Social Work community members to come together to share their experience and reflect on the lessons learned in decolonization; the event is to be held on Thursday, March 11th, 2021.

9. Adjournment

- 9.1 The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.
- 9.2 Next School Council meeting will be held on **April 14th, 2021**. Suggestion was made by students to open up one of the Council meetings to the whole SW community.

Appendix I: Updates from SC constituency groups and committees

1. BSW (Krane)

- Good student representation in the BSW Program Committee;
- Advanced standing BSW was approved in January; the Committee is working with Enrolment Services and other McGill departments to work out further details;
- BSW syllabi are being reviewed to ensure the consistency with EDDII principles;
- Admissions will start shortly.

2. MSW (Ives)

- Admissions: 86 applications were received and 54 offers were made with the target enrolment number at 50;
- One Mastercard fellow from Africa may join the MSW program; this is the first time for the Mastercard fellowship to open to MSW (before it was only open to BSW).

3. MScA CFT (Bond)

- The MScA CFT Program Committee includes 2 student representatives;
- Feedback have been received on challenges of online instruction on clinical training;
- Admissions: 66 applications were received with 55 dossiers being eligible; 13 applicants will be interviewed by the Committee on Friday, February 26, 2021.

4. Field (Orzeck)

- The field team has been working with external liaisons and field instructors to provide support to students in field placement; CASWE has been flexible with field hours;
- The team will work on the field guide and plan for field-related training activities.

5. EGAB (Rabiau)

- The EGAB team (Bond, Debrosse, Hanley, Rabiau, and Pacheco) has been working on the review of applications for travel grant and project/field awards;
- Update will be provided on the fund-request form at the future meeting;
- Application forms will be reviewed to allow more flexibility, including acceptance of e-signature.

6. IAM (Gabriel)

- A part-time student support coordinator has been hired to support students;
- Nunavik initiative will continue to be the focus of IAM's work;
- Indigenous Field Course (IDFC 500) will be held in May; so far 25 students from Medicine, Anthropology, Law and Social Work have registered for the course; day trips will be organized to allow students to explore Indigenous urban experience.

7. PhD (Hanley)

- Admissions: 8 offers have been made;
- Student research symposium will be organized in the Fall;
- The change of McGill's funding structure will enable PhD students to receive funding up to 5 years (previously it was 3 years); Social Work students have had great record for obtaining external funding in the past.

8. SWSA & SWAGS (Barclay, Daoud & Malik)

- SWSA is pulling together a video year book for the U3 graduating cohort;
- SWAGS is finalizing the representatives for the executive team and pushing for keeping up the spaces for student discussions and feedback.