



## Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 12<sup>th</sup> 2023, 2:30 – 5 pm

Via Zoom meeting

Approved at October 18<sup>th</sup> 2023 School Council

**Attendance:** a) **Faculty:** Alicia Boatswain-Kyte, Delphine Collin-Vézina, Régine Débrosse, Charles Gyan, Nicole Ives, Ainsley Jenicek, Julia Krane, Lucy Lach, Heather MacIntosh, Kate Maurer, Marjorie Rabiau, Nico Trocmé (Director/Chair); b) **Field Coordinators:** Nicole Mitchell, Francine Granner; c) **Administrative Staff:** Sara Marcil-Johnson, Patty Tarica; d) **Students:** Alyssa Salaciak, Pankil Goswami, Anais Cadieux Vanvliet; e) **Field Supervisors:** Jennifer Michelin; f) **Course lecturers:** Corrie Sirota; 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 the February 15<sup>th</sup> 2023 School Council meeting was approved by majority of the attendees.

### 3. Presentation by recipients of SW project & field awards

3.1 Rabiau presented the result of the project and field awards administered by the EGAB committee (Débrosse, Gyan, Pacheco, Rabiau, and Sussman) for 2022-23 academic year and invited some of the recipients to make a brief presentation on how the award has helped with their project (details see *Min\_Append\_I*); and b) Gyan shared the good news about social work students winning the external funding, including the competitive Vanier, and SSHRC masters.

### 4. Business arising/Updates

4.1 Director Trocmé provided an **update on the School-wide news:** a) **Hiring** (*tenure-track assistant professor, practice with individuals, families and groups*): Sarah Tarshis will join the School as of August 1<sup>st</sup> 2023; b) **Selection of the School Director:** Nicole Ives was approved by the Faculty of Arts as the new School Director as of August 1<sup>st</sup> 2023; university approval is yet to be finalized; c) **Convocation and reception:** the School will hold a reception on June 7<sup>th</sup> 2023 at 550 Sherbrooke following the convocation; and d) **other news:** to be posted on the School Bulletin.

4.2 On behalf of the Selection Committee for the School Director (Boatswain-Kyte, Bonner, Collin-Vézina, Orzeck, Pacheco, and Rabiau), Collin-Vézina provided an **update on the selection process and procedure** and thanked the School Community for the support in the process.

4.3 Lach provided an **update on the 2 year-MSW** on behalf of the working group (Hanley, Jenicek, and Lach): a) paper work has been completed and ready for

submitting to the Arts Curriculum Committee for review; b) given the timelines of the various approval bodies, the revised program may not make it for Fall 2023 application; a small window of opportunity lies with obtaining the approval from the Ministry of Higher Education, and the University's approval on moving the application deadline from December to a later date; c) the working group is working with the Ordre (OTSTCFQ) to ensure that the graduates be qualified for Ordre membership application; preliminary feedback from the Ordre was positive; confirmation is yet to receive in the summer after the Order holds its bi-annual meeting in May to review the curriculum.

## 5. Motion on the change to the BSW Program

5.1 On behalf of the BSW program committee, Krane presented a **proposal with regards to the revision of the BSW Non-SWRK complementary courses** (details see *Min\_Append\_II*) and requested that the School Council vote on the below motion:

*The BSW Committee is requesting a) that the School Council approve to remove the list of approved disciplines and course levels currently required for the 12 credits from non-SWRK complementary courses; b) that the School Council approve to remove the restriction that language courses can only count as electives in the BSW program; and c) that the School Council permit the BSW Committee to work with the Faculty of Arts to finalize the wording of the source of the 12 credits (i.e., Faculty of Arts) and to confirm the number of credits that can be allocated to electives (currently 6 credits).*

5.2 The motion was approved by the majority of the attendees.

## 6. Updates from the Constituency Groups

- 6.1 Krane debriefed the group on the **concerns about BSW admissions**: a) there was a decrease of CEGEP applications from 85 in the previous year to 59 this year; b) only 7 out of 26 offers made to the non-CEGEP applicants have been accepted so far, a decrease in response rate as compared with the past; though unsure if this would be an issue of concern given the deadline to accept the offer is May 1<sup>st</sup>, Krane proposed to reach out directly to the applicants as soon as possible rather than waiting for the Enrolment Services to take action; the idea was supported by the group.
- 6.2 Lach provided an **update on the MSW program**: a) admissions: 92 applications were received, 65 files reviewed and 50 offers made (incl. 42 non-thesis, 6 thesis, and 2 for the joint MSW-Law program); only 3 offers are in the International Community Development stream, which necessitates the rethinking about the current MSW streams next year; and c) 2 listening circles were held for students' feedback in 2022-23; info session for prospective students is to be held on August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023.
- 6.3 MacIntosh provided an **update on MScA CFT program**: a) admissions: 15 incoming students (including deferrals); b) instructors retreat will be held on April 21<sup>st</sup> 2023 to reflect on the program and brainstorm on what changes to make; c) with the operation of the simulation centre, the program hopes to increase clinic activities and start the internship earlier; and d) supervision course has to postpone due to the need to adapt to the changes of the professional Ordre.
- 6.4 On behalf of Sussman (Director for PhD program), Maurer provided an **update on PhD program**: a) collaborated with the EGAB committee to provide mentorship and

support to doctoral students to support successful funding applications; b) strengthened connections within the PhD student community through celebrations, workshops, and knowledge exchange; it includes the PhD symposium to be held on April 14<sup>th</sup> for PhD students to discuss research paper ideas, get feedback, and collaborate through joint initiatives; c) developed a strategy for PhD curricular review, which included a survey to be finalized and distributed among students to identify training needs, and gaps and the collaboration with partners from UQAM and UdeM to discuss curricular issues and initiatives; and d) strengthened supports for students at key timepoints in the program, such as special session on preps for comprehensive examination planning and planning on funding workshop in mid-summer to better prepare students for fund applications in the Fall.

- 6.5 On behalf of Orzeck (Director for Field Education program), Mitchell provided an **update on Field Program**: a) Implemented a BSW U2 Field Orientation Day in the Fall of 2022; b) updated the MSW and BSW field evaluations to include a competency on social justice/advocacy; c) established new field education partnerships with EMSB - Wrap-Around Project, Dementia Education Program, etc. and new affiliation agreements with agencies in Ontario; d) initiated joint field-course collaboration where field instructors were brought into the classroom (SWRK 320) as facilitators in a skills lab; e) agency feedback surveys were sent to students at the end of the last three academic years to gather their feedback on their assigned agency and field instructor; the field team is currently correlating the surveys into one agency feedback document for future field placement students to review.
- 6.6 On behalf of the simulation team (Jenicek, Orzeck, and Rosser) Jenicek provided an **update on the simulation centre activities**: a) funding was received for two years for the development of the Centre; b) a project coordinator (Rosser) was hired along with 12 actors who were interviewed and participated in orientation sessions; c) first simulation was being held today, April 12<sup>th</sup> in SWRK326, with 50+ BSW U2 students and 12 actors participating in 3 role plays; evaluation of simulation to follow directly after; and d) assessment of simulation needs in coursework is to be followed over the summer with faculty.
- 6.7 Ives provided an **update on Indigenous Access McGill (IAM)**: a) replacement for the student coordinator is still in the process; and b) IAM is currently working with an Indigenous applicant for the BSW program.
- 6.8 Gyan provided an **update on Black Access McGill (BAM)**: a) the Racial Justice symposium held on March 24<sup>th</sup> was well attended; the event will be co-organized with the Social Work Association of Graduate Students (SWAGS) in the Fall; and b) the McGill-Howard collaboration was moved forward; Ives and David paid a 2-day visit to the Howard University in March and met with the Dean of Arts, faculty and staff to discuss the partnership; Howard will come to visit McGill in the Fall to further explore the opportunities of collaboration.
- 6.9 Mitchell provided an **update on student support**: continued to meet with students and guide them to different resources for help based on the challenges they faced.
- 6.10 Salaciak provided an **update on the activities of SWSA (Social Work Student Association)** : the main goal for 2022-23 was to build community; a series of events were held to bring students together, including the SWAPPY Hour, an event co-organized with SWAGS to bring students and faculty together.

## 7. Adjournment

- 7.1 The meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.