



Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 13th 2022, 2:30 - 5 pm

Via Zoom meeting

Approved at October 19 2022 School Council meeting

Attendance: **a) Faculty:** Alicia Boatswain-Kyte, Shari Brotman, Delphine Collin-Vézina, Charles Gyan, Nicole Ives, Julia Krane, Lucy Lach, Heather MacIntosh, Mike MacKenzie, Zack Marshall, Pam Orzeck, Tamara Sussman, Nico Trocmé (Director/Chair); **b) Field Coordinators:** Nicole Mitchell; **c) Administrative Staff:** Sara Marcil-Johnson; Patty Tarica; **d) Course Lecturers:** Corrie Sirota-Frankel; **e) Students:** Zeke Bertrand, Francesca Capozzi, Hugo Lafrançois, Maya Malik, Kae Parker; **f) Field Supervisors:** Vandana Chaubey; and **g) Non-voting member:** Yong Hong Feng (Minutes), Alice Ishimwe (invited)

1. Approval of agenda

1.1 The agenda was approved by majority of the attendees.

2. Approval of minutes

2.1 The minutes for February 16th 2022 School Council meeting was approved by majority of the attendees.

3. Business arising/Updates

3.1 Universal access to teaching/learning:

- 1) Brotman reported on the activities of the ad-hoc working group on universal access to teaching/learning which included meeting regularly and as needed for trouble shooting, supporting students and providing feedback; the discussions has not moved past the pandemic for long-term planning.
- 2) Trocmé debriefed on the potential opportunities: a) possibility of development funding by the Quebec government to produce more Social Work students; b) School of Nursing's development of online component to increase access; c) Arts' planning on broader way of teaching; and d) more flexibilities and openness for other teaching and learning modalities as shown at the university level.
- 3) MacIntosh reported on the MScA CFT program's efforts to look into the courses suitable for remote learning to reduce students' stress from 9 hours of work per day and to retain students hoping to work and study simultaneously.
- 4) Trocmé reminded the group of the School's current commitments requiring leadership such as the Nunavik BSW program and the Qualifying Year program currently under review before exploring and taking on new opportunities.

Action items: Trocmé to a) bring to Faculty Meeting/Retreat to brainstorm on possible courses that could be adapted; b) report back to the School Council in the Fall; c) strike another ad-hoc group to take on the long-term planning for open

access to broader range of students and teaching methods; Brotman, Krane, MacKenzie and Orzeck volunteered to help.

3.2 SW collaboration with Arts' EDI (Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion)

- 1) Gyan, School's representative to the Arts' EDI group, reported that a) the Arts' new Indigenous studies and community engagement initiative provides various opportunities, including funding for students and for inviting an Elder to class and for presentation (details see <https://www.mcgill.ca/iscei/>); and b) the EDDI (Equity Diversity Decolonization Indigenization) initiative the School has been embarking on was highly regarded by the Arts' EDI group.

3.3 EDDI Initiative on equity info:

- 1) Trocmé reported on the communication with the Office of the Associate Provost (Equity) re: access to students' equity info available at McGill: a) students' info on certain equity categories is collected by McGill and can be shared with the School upon request; b) depending on usage of the materials, it may involve different levels of review and approval by McGill legal services; c) BSW admissions includes voluntary self-identifying equity info as part of a holistic admissions decision.

3.4 CIEL (Community, Innovation, Engagement, and Learning) update:

- 1) MacKenzie reported on the CIEL set up and future planning: a) the furniture has been delivered and set up; delivery of electric equipment is on the way; b) drop-in sessions are being planned to increase the accessibility to the space by the SW community; and c) manual for use of the space is yet to be developed.
- 2) MacIntosh reported on the current usage of the space and the challenges: a) 8 interns have used the space this year, mostly virtual; 4 CFT students will be starting; there will be more in-person meetings with clients; and b) sound proofing and privacy is a major issue to tackle.

Action items: CIEL team (McKenzie, MacIntosh, & Orzeck) to a) provide update on CIEL's simulation teaching and training plan to the School Council in the Fall; and b) to engage people on further planning.

4. Syllabi review

- 4.1 Maurer reported that a) the syllabi review was part of the School's efforts to achieve the Strategic Objective #1 of the EDDI Strategic Plan 2020-2024, i.e. *Integrate equity, diversity, decolonization, and indigenization and anti-racism across the School of Social Work curriculum (all programs)*; b) 5 BSW and PhD students from the BIPOC and other equity-seeking groups were hired to complete the mapping exercise of the curricula of the School, data extraction, and analysis of the findings; and c) finding analysis is in the process.

Action items: Trocmé and Maurer to a) bring to the May 2022 Faculty Retreat; b) to report back to the School Council in the Fall; and c) to publish the findings on the EDDI tab of the School's website.

5. Qualifying Year Program Review

- 5.1 Marshall reported that a) based on the info gathered so far re: Qualifying Year program for those to enter the MSW program without a BSW degree, a 2-year MSW echoed most of the other SW programs; and b) questions requiring further discussion

included the field placement challenges for those with no prior experiences, and arrangement of course contents and sequencing to better prepare students for the field.

- 5.2 Trocmé reminded the group that once we set our pedagogical priorities, we can then work with McGill administration to determine how to fit these into regulatory and funding parameters.

Action items: Marshall to present options at May Faculty Retreat for decision on pedagogical priorities.

6. Update on SW Pilot Climate Survey

- 6.1 Gyan reported that a) the pilot climate survey was launched on Monday, April 11, 2022; 84 people already completed it; b) members from the SW community are encouraged to participate; and c) questions such as how to protect the confidentiality of those from easily identifiable groups (eg., with less than 5 people), who to access data, how to aggregate and analyze info, and how to use the data collected are to be further discussed.

7. End of Term Report

- 7.1 **Sussman reported on PhD program activities:** a) built community building among PhD students and with faculty; b) continued to hold PhD symposium which allowed mutual learning; c) prepared students in transition (e.g., from completing courses to preparing for comps; from completing PhD program to looking for postdoc and other opportunities); and d) re: the admissions, 32 applications were received and 7 offers were made.
- 7.2 **MacIntosh reported on the MScA CFT program activities:** a) explored effective ways of clinical training in pandemic times; b) continued support for BIPOC students through regular meetings (once every 2 weeks) to create space to talk about challenges with the courses, the field, and the EDDI issues; feedback has been positive; and c) dealt with longer term issues including supervisors' retirement and replacement, getting the CFT profession listed in the QC profession list, support for CFT students to work at public setting, and developing a full-year course on supervision to get more graduates to act as supervisors.
- 7.3 **Krane reported on the BSW program activities:** a) finalized advanced standing with McGill Enrolment Services; first cohort will be in Fall 2023 with limit to 15 students; b) followed BSW students' participation in 4 IPEA¹ courses and resolved bumps along the way; will need to evaluate and decide if to make IPEA courses officially part of the BSW program; and c) re: the admissions: 65 files were received from Enrollment Services; 34 offers were made so far while keeping spots for other non-CEGEP students; target number is 20-25 for CEGEP students, 10-15 for those with a social service DEC, and 20ish for non-CEGEP students.
- 7.4 **Granner and Mitchell reported on the Field Education program activities** on behalf of Orzeck: a) continued to support students in field through its Field Fridays; series of lectures were held, recorded and posted on the School's website; b)

¹ A half day workshop that introduces interprofessional education, practice, and the roles of the different healthcare professionals that make up an interprofessional team. <https://www.mcgill.ca/study/2022-2023/courses/ipea-500>

succeeded in placing students in various field settings despite the ongoing pandemic challenges; c) worked closely with the external field liaisons to better respond to students' concerns and needs; and d) the field committee produced fruitful conversations.

- 7.5 **Brotman reported on the EGAB activities** (Endowments, Gifts, Awards & Bursaries committee; comprised of Brotman, Sussman, Debrosse, Gyan, Sciandra, and Pacheco): a) rated, evaluated and made recommendations for internal awards; 6 students received project awards and 2 for field awards; b) supported the applications for external awards; 4 are being considered for SSHRC by McGill and 2 were recommended to McGill for Vanier; and c) improved some of the applications forms.
- 7.6 A questions was raised by student representative re: the purpose of the School's various meetings and if students would be invited to the May Faculty Retreat; Trocmé explained that the purpose of the Faculty Retreat is to discuss and brainstorm on pedagogical and program-related issues; if it needs input and involves changes in policy, it will be brought to the School Council to keep the discussion and decision making process as transparent as possible.
- Action items:** a) Ives (outgoing MSW program director) to provide an MSW review of its 2021-22 activities for the next School Council and the School's annual report.

8. Adjournment:

- 8.1 Trocmé thanked all the members for their engagement in the 2021-22 academic year as we are getting used to new governance structure.
- 8.2 The meeting adjourned at 5 pm.