

**FACULTY OF
ARTS AND SCIENCE**

Arts and Science Faculty Council

Minutes of the meeting held on, November 20, 2020

OPEN SESSION

Present: P. Sicotte, C. Parkinson, I. Lacelle, J. Muir, M. Barker, E. Bloodgood, W. Brake, W. Bukowski, P. Caignon, J. Capobianco, B. Caron, A. Champagne, S. Chlopan, R. Courtemanche, C. Daniel-Hughes, S. Dayanandan, E. De Martinis, C. DeWolf, J. Didur, M-F. Dion, E. Faure, M. Gagnon, J. Grant, J. Hansen, C. Hyndman, A. Johnson, M. Kenneally, S. Kennedy, M. Kissock, I. Kraulis, P. Leroux, D. Liakin, D. Linetsky, K. MacDonald, K. Manning, C. Martel, T. Matraxia, P. Morden, B. Nelson, M. Penney, V. Pepin, C. Richardson, R. Saha, F. Scala, D. Secko, M. Sharma, Mahesh Sharma, A. Swiffen, T. Tower, C. Townsend, L. Vileno

Regrets: G. Carr, H. Muhammad, S. Smith, A. Whitelaw, P. Wood-Adams

Guests: N. Bhuiyan, A. Isac, L. Mitchell, A. Nash

Documents Circulated and/or Considered at the Meeting

ASFC 2020-7M	Minutes of the meeting held on September 25, 2020
ASFC 2020-7M-A	Elections and Ratifications
ASFC 2020-7M-B	Liberal Arts College, LBCL-6
ASFC 2020-7M-C	Department of Economics, ECON-34
ASFC 2020-7M-D	Department of Philosophy, PHIL-25
ASFC 2020-7M-E	Department of Psychology, PSYC-17

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called by P. Sicotte at 10:00 am.

2. Territorial Acknowledgement

P. Sicotte stated the territorial acknowledgement.

3. Approval of the Agenda

ASFC 2020-7M-1 It was moved and seconded (M-F. Dion/R. Saha) that the agenda be approved.
Carried, unanimously

4. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held September 25, 2020

ASFC 2020-7M-2 It was moved and seconded (J. Grant/R. Saha) that the minutes be approved.
Carried, unanimously

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was none.

6. Presentation by Taylor Tower and Elisabeth Faure, Communication Advisors on what they do and how they can help

Taylor and Elisabeth stated that they are here to support all communication initiatives within the Faculty of Arts and Science so please don't hesitate to reach out to them. They were unable to meet with chairs/principals in the spring and summer like they usually do however, they are hoping to have these meetings during the winter semester. The Fall open houses were a learning experience and all are better prepared for future ones. If you have any materials (ex. PDF documents or videos) needed for the next open houses please let them know as soon as possible. Taylor and Elisabeth are looking for good news stories from departments so please share any you have with them. They are there to support faculty for media interviews. Elisabeth announced the Annual Deans Awards for Excellence will be taking place on December 10th and will be in a virtual format.

7. Presentation by Nadia Bhuiyan, Vice-Provost, Partnerships & Experiential Learning, Laura Mitchell, Executive Director, Student Services, Student Success Centre and Alice Isac, Experiential Learning Lead, Office of the Provost and Vice-President, Academic on the Student Pathways Project

Nadia stated that she is currently working on a Student Pathways Project with a few other members of the Concordia Community. She showed some statistics which proved the need for a transformative experience at Concordia. The objective of this project is to offer undergraduate students an integrated academic and career development pathway through coordination of efforts across the university. They would like to incorporate certain tools such as a major map (student pathways), complementary transcript, ePortfolio and a visual transcript. The main impact objectives of this project are to increase undergraduate student retention rate, increase graduation rate, increase student satisfaction and to increase the number of students graduating with an

experiential learning experience.

After her presentation there was a brief question and answer period. Dr. Bhuiyan ensured those whose questions she could not answer during council would be sent responses shortly after the meeting.

8. Presentation by Alan Nash, Professor, Department of Geography, Planning and Environment and Nadia Bhuiyan, Vice-Provost, Partnerships & Experiential Learning on the Centraide Campaign

Nadia Bhuiyan stated that everyone has until December 31st to contribute through Concordia or you can contribute directly to Centraide throughout the year. This has been a very difficult year for many so Centraide really needs our help. Concordia set a goal of raising \$170,000 and that goal has already been reached and is growing. Centraide's overall mission is to help Montrealers in need and they do this through 4 areas of action:

- Support youth success;
- Take care of the essentials;
- Break social isolation;
- Build caring communities.

Nadia shared a few examples of what the money you donate can provide for those in need. If you are a first time leader (\$1,200+) your gift will be matched by the Huot Foundation.

Alan Nash encouraged everyone to donate and thanked everyone who had donated so far. He encouraged all to think about increasing the amount donated as the need is greater this year than ever. He shared a personal story about why he donates and why he became involved. He reminded us how we are so fortunate to still have jobs and to be able to help others.

9. Remarks of the Chair

Dean Sicotte stated that the last few weeks have been really demanding and she can hear the fatigue in everyone's voices and see it on their faces. Everyone in our institution; faculty, staff and students are feeling the weight of this demanding semester and month number 8 of the pandemic and confinement. She reminded us to be patient with ourselves, and that, will help us be patient with others and to help them. It is important to remember that we have a right to disconnect and it is our choice when we choose to do the work, we all have different situations at home that can affect our work.

There will be a message coming from the Provost's office soon which will have a set of measures to help relieve some of the stress that the students are experiencing.

A TA support program is being worked on at the Provost's office. The newest initiative is being called a departmental level TA program. TAs will be trained through the Centre for

Teaching and Learning and these trained TAs will then be able to train others. This will be a “train the trainer” type of program.

10. Consent Agenda

- a. Elections and Ratifications ASFC-2020-7M-A
- b. Undergraduate Curriculum
Liberal Arts College, LBCL-6, ASFC-2020-7M-B
- c. Graduate Curriculum
Department of Economics, ECON-34, ASFC-2020-7M-C
Department of Philosophy, PHIL-25, ASFC-2020-7M-D
Department of Psychology, PSYC-17, ASFC-2020-7M-E

ASFC 2020-7M-3 It was moved and seconded (W. Bukowski/J. Didur) that
the documents be approved.

Carried, unanimously

11. Forum – Conversation on “Undergraduate Student Advising – Making improvements with existing resources”

All members of ASFC broke out into separate rooms to discuss the topic of this Forum. Significant feedback was received through a survey designed by A. Champagne. Future Forums and topics will be decided upon once the feedback is taken into account.

12. Question Period

The question period occurred during the Remarks of the Chair. Topics such as TAs, plagiarism, decline in class attendance after midterms, zoom and other topics were discussed.

13. Other Business

There was none.

14. Notices of Motion

There were none.

15. Next Meeting

The next meeting of Faculty Council will be held on Friday, December 18, 2020.

16. Adjournment

ASFC 2020-7M-4

It was moved and seconded (P. Leroux/D. Secko) that the open session be adjourned at 11:55am.

Carried, unanimously