

**FACULTY OF FINE ARTS**

TO: Members, Fine Arts Faculty Council

FROM: Helen Athanassiadis, Secretary, Fine Arts Faculty Council

DATE: January 8, 2016

---

Please be advised that the next meeting of Fine Arts Faculty Council will be held on **Friday, January 15, 2016 at 9:30 a.m.** in EV 2-776.

**AGENDA**

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of the Agenda
3. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of December 11, 2015
4. Business arising from the Minutes
5. Presentation by David Howes, Director, Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies in Society and Culture on HUMA and new initiatives (FFAC-2016-01-D7)
6. Chair's Remarks
7. Question Period
8. Appointments (none)
9. Approval of the motion to endorse the Co-Curricular Record Reform proposal (FFAC-2016-01-D8)
10. Academic Affairs
  - 10.1. Curriculum Changes (none)
  - 10.2. Report of the Associate Dean, Academic Affairs (FFAC-2016-01-D4)\*
11. Planning and Academic Facilities
  - 11.1. Report of the Associate Dean, Planning and Academic Facilities (FFAC-2016-01-D5)\*
12. Research
  - 12.1. Report of the Associate Dean, Research (FFAC-2016-01-D6)\*
13. Committee Reports
  - 13.1. Board of Governors Report – Prof. Haidee Wasson
  - 13.2. Senate Report (none)
14. Other business
15. Next Meeting – February 12, 2016
16. Adjournment

\* These documents will be distributed at the meeting.

**Concordia University**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of the Meeting of the Faculty of Fine Arts Council**  
**December 11, 2015**  
**9:30 am – 12 pm**  
**EV2.776**

**Present:** R. Duclos, H. Athanassiadis, B-A. Bacon, G. A. Baldassare, B. Bartolome Herrera, J. Blinkhorn, A. Cappelluto, K. Caruso, M. Corwin, C. Cucuzzella, G. Dionne, C. Hammond, S. Johnston, I. Kraulis, pk Langshaw, E. Mongerson , F. Morelli, E. Murphy, L. Oades, E. Regler, C. Russell, G. Schwartz, Y. Silverman, E. Simon, M. Sussman, P. Visentin, A. Whitelaw, A. Zhao-Djokic

**Regrets:** L. Adams, E. Little, S. Panet-Raymond, D. Pariser, D. Saenz, J.-M. Edwards

**Guest:** J.-F. Hamel, P. Kelley, R. Bhattacharya, K. Riad, P. Goubko

**1. Call to Order**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

**2. Approval of the Agenda**

**MOTION:** (A. Whitelaw/M. Corwin)

“that the agenda for the meeting of December 11, 2015 be approved.”

**CARRIED**

**3. Presentation by Benoit-Antoine Bacon, Provost and Vice-President, Academic Affairs, with Patrick Kelley, Interim Chief Financial Officer, and Jean-François Hamel, Senior Director, Financial Planning and Budgets, Financial Services: *Financial Update and Discussion***

- The Provost and Patrick Kelley presented an overview of the 2015-2016 operating budget which has been approved by the Board of Governors, changes to the pension plan, and the new budget model going forward.
- In view of recent cuts of \$6.2 M by the Government of Quebec, the university has decided to present an \$8 M deficit in order to maintain the integrity of its academic programs and the student experience. This deficit is in line with other universities.
- There is a new class of deregulated 1<sup>st</sup> cycle international students in JMSB and ENCS.
- The Ontario government is giving bursaries to students from families with an income of less than \$160 K, so that they will remain in the province to pursue their studies.
- The cost of the pension plan to Concordia is 80%, which is 30% above the cost of other institutions. Under the recently passed Quebec government pension legislation Bill 57, effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018, all employees will be obliged to contribute to the pension plan and the employee/employer contributions, as well as the cost of the deficit, are to be shared 50/50%.
- The university has undertaken to assume the full cost of the \$77 M pension deficit in its effort to negotiate with the bargaining units and maintain a defined benefits plan. Moving forward non-contributory members must contribute to the plan. All are strongly encouraged to attend the information sessions on pension plan changes that will be set up in 2016.
- Financial services is putting together a new budget model based on the following six principles:

- Alignment with university and sector priorities
  - Rewards for meeting pre-agreed targets
  - The faculty that provides the teaching receives the funding
  - Efficiency gains will be shared by units that achieve them
  - Teaching should happen where it is best suited
  - University remains a federation.
- Budgets will be based on targets agreed upon with the Provost and must be precisely met. The budget presentation will be distributed to Council members.

#### 4. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of November 13, 2015

**MOTION:** (J. Blinkhorn/E. Mongerson)

“that the minutes of the meeting of November 13, 2015 be approved with a minor correction.” **CARRIED**

#### 5. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

#### 6. Chairs Remarks

- As a means to gather input from faculty, students, and alumni for phase 2 of the Strategic Directions initiative, the Dean has organized a series of Idea Labs, the fourth of which, Idea Lab.04, will be held on January 20<sup>th</sup>, in the Blackbox. The faculty, student and alumni presentations, a total of 50 in all, will be summarized so that staff can discuss how to operationalize the initiatives born out of the labs, at a January 28<sup>th</sup>, Staff Idea Lab.
- The Dean has been gathering input from PhD Pop Ups with the graduate students and Afternoon Tea with the undergraduate students, as well as from Deans and Chairs meetings and previous conversations regarding curriculum ideas and experimentations. She has also been engaged in a comparison of Canadian, US and international art schools to get an understanding of the current tone of teaching. She is proposing that the January 15<sup>th</sup>, Faculty Council meeting be primarily devoted to a discussion and critique around the ideas, directions, and philosophy the faculty wants to adopt and present to the Provost, VPs, and Deans.
- The Deans, VPs, and various service units will be submitting a one-page document of their findings based on the four main strategic directions (double your research / teach for tomorrow / grow smartly / embrace the city, the world) to see if common themes are emerging across faculties. This will be followed by a full-day strategy summit.
- The Dean will be seeking counsel on two initiatives at the February Council meeting:
  - The Institute for Urban Futures would be grounded in Fine Arts and would serve as an umbrella arena to federate courses, projects and activities across faculties that have to do with urbanity, arts and culture sustainability, and climate issues. An off-campus co-op site in the Mile-End is under consideration.
  - The Embedded Researcher initiative would allow part-time and full-time faculty to be embedded in another culture, discipline and research centres across faculties. Potential collaborations include the Perform Centre, the Centre for Nano-Science Research, and the Centre for Microscopy and Cellular Imaging, where tremendous resources and

research equipment are housed. Dean Duclos is introducing the Faculty of Fine Arts to other faculties in view of establishing partnerships. Questions remain regarding who this initiative should be opened up to, which communities would benefit most from it, and whether the process should include adjudicating proposals.

- With a current focus on graduate students, the Dean intends to devote the 2016-17 year to developing para-curricular activities for under-graduate students.

#### **7. Question Period**

There were no questions.

#### **8. Appointments**

There were no appointments.

#### **9. Presentation by Raja Bhattacharya, Coordinator, Student Advocate Program**

- The Student Advocate Program has been moved from the student sector to the Provost's Office.
- Its role is to:
  - make students aware of the 2015 revised Code of Conduct under which common responsibility to uphold the rules of academic integrity, belongs to students, faculty and staff
  - develop workshops and information sessions to help students understand the rules, regulations and consequences, i.e. of unauthorized collaborations, plagiarism, etc.
  - help instructors deal with difficult code cases
- The Coordinator, Student Advocate Program, emphasized the importance of having a clearly defined course outline at the onset of the course, in order to eliminate the misinterpretation of expectations.
- Questions were raised regarding the responsibility of staff reporting code incidents. Various circumstances and what constitutes an incident that merits reporting, were discussed.

#### **10. Presentation by Kerolés Riad, Graduate Student Association, and Paul Goubko, Co-Curricular Record Assistant, Dean of Students Office: *Co-Curricular Record Reform***

- The Co-Curricular Record (CCR) is a tool that tracks voluntary work done by students. Under the CCR Reform this tool would be promoted, recognized, and finally automated. The reform proposes a three-track process whereby the student association would tie the student's voluntary work into the funding process so that it appears in a database, the organizer of the event the student volunteered for would enter the student activity in the database, and as a final step the CCR Assistant would validate the work so that it appears in the student's transcript. Associate Dean Whitelaw expressed her reservation about tying the CCR to funding which may not be a viable process for Fine Arts.
- The GSA believes that the CCR helps the students and university be respectively more attractive for external and internal grants. The GSA has obtained letters of support from other faculties and is now seeking to obtain the same letter of support from the Faculty of Fine Arts.

- The GSA feels that the CCR's initiative is aligned with the strategic directions and its objective is to be ready to present the CCR reform in time for phases 3 and 4 of the strategic directions.
- Questions were raised regarding the validation process and what is considered valid CCR volunteer work.
- The Dean expressed her support of the initiative.

## **11. Presentation by Sophy Johnston, FASA**

- Sophy Johnston and Avery Zhao-Djokic, FASA representatives on Faculty Council, gave an overview of the services FASA offers undergraduate students and provided a break-down of the student projects that were funded under FASA's special programs grants. Many students are unaware of this funding opportunity and FASA is calling on faculty to pass on the information in time for the grant application deadline that is not yet determined but will fall during the week of February 8<sup>th</sup>.
- FASA is fully run by six students and four honorarium-based positions are currently open.
- At the general meeting the week of January 20<sup>th</sup>, the four positions will be voted in, revenues, expenses, and an explanation of the students' fee levy will be presented. FASA is asking all department Chairs to reach out to the students and encourage them to attend the meeting so that quorum can be met.

## **12. Academic Affairs**

### **9.1 Report of the Associate Dean, Academic Affairs (FFAC-2015-09-D4)**

Report distributed. Questions/comments may be directed to Mark Sussman at [mark.sussman@concordia.ca](mailto:mark.sussman@concordia.ca)

## **13. Planning and Academic Facilities**

### **10.1 Report of the Associate Dean, Planning and Academic Facilities (FFAC-2015-09-D5)**

Report distributed. Questions/comments may be directed to Ana Cappelluto at [ana.cappelluto@concordia.ca](mailto:ana.cappelluto@concordia.ca)

## **14. Research**

### **11.1 Report of the Associate Dean, Research (FFAC-2015-09-D6)**

Report distributed. Questions/comments may be directed to Anne Whitelaw at [anne.whitelaw@concordia.ca](mailto:anne.whitelaw@concordia.ca)

## **15. Committee Reports**

- 14.1 Board of Governors Report** (no report)
- 14.2 Senate Report** (no report was submitted)

## **16. Other business**

There was no other business.

**17. Next Meeting – January 15, 2015 at 9:30 a.m.**

**18. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Submitted by E. Murphy

December 15, 2015

Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies in Society and Culture (CISSC)  
 Director: David Howes

### **New Directions 2015—2016**

**Research Currents.** CISSC is reviving and expanding the Research Currents (RC) webpage. The RC webpage identifies areas of research concentration at Concordia (e.g. “performance studies,” “cognitive science”) and gives a brief description of the area as well as a list of faculty who participate in research in the current in question. The page is a way of publicizing the research expertise of Concordia faculty and attracting students. It is also very helpful for prospective Humanities (HUMA) Ph.D. or Individualized Programs (INDI) Ph.D. students wanting to put together a supervisory committee. There are currently 25 research currents listed. They were formalized in 2011 and have not been updated. In 2015-16, we will be updating extant entries and soliciting suggestions for 15 more entries. Suggestions welcome. See <http://www.concordia.ca/offices/sgs/individualized/research-currents.html>

**CISSC Happenings.** CISSC will be taking a collaborative approach to staging happenings in future. In the past, CISSC has concentrated on sponsoring four public lectures per year at \$5000 each. Going forward, we propose to take a more collaborative approach, teaming up with individual faculty members, teams or research units interested in staging a research-related event. The event could be an exhibition, public lecture, symposium or other happening. CISSC would contribute \$300, \$600, \$1200 or \$1800. A call for proposals will be issued mid-May and periodically thereafter. Applications will be received and vetted by the CISSC Steering Committee on a rolling basis. One key deadline will be August 15. It is timed so that applicants can hear back from the CISSC Steering Committee concerning the success of their application prior to applying to the Aid to Research-Related Events (ARRE) program run by the Office of the VPRGS in mid-September. (Matching [1:1] support is mandatory for anyone applying to the ARRE program.) CISSC will continue to put on two major public lectures of its own accord each year.

**CISSC Working Groups.** CISSC will continue to support four working groups per year. The intention of this program is to sponsor interdisciplinary discussions that may lead to new collaborations and the formation of new research teams, or lay the groundwork for new cross-departmental or cross-faculty cooperation. Each working group is granted a \$1500 discretionary budget with the possibility of additional funding. Current working groups include Critical Disability Studies (Chapman, Communication Studies), Risk Research (French, Sociology) and Waters Lost, Waters Found (Hammond, Art History). A call for proposals for the 2016-2017 academic year will be issued mid-February. Deadline: mid-March. All proposals will be reviewed by the CISSC Steering Committee

**Ethnic and Social Diversity.** CISSC will be using its access to a special endowed fund “to provide seed funding for new research projects on ethnic studies and social diversity, as well as to organize research-dissemination events such as workshops, conferences and visiting lectures”

(according to the terms of the endowment). Specifically, each calendar year, CISSC will offer up to four research travel stipends of \$1500 each that can be used by faculty members to engage in exploratory research in ethnic studies and social diversity (understood broadly). A call for proposals was issued in mid-December 2015. Deadline: 15 January 2016. See <http://www.concordia.ca/artsci/cissc/news/notices.html.html>

CISSC will also be using the proceeds from this fund in order to sponsor a talk on diversity by a visiting lecturer in the Winter term 2016 (\$1500) and to augment the discretionary budget of a working group dedicated to exploring the topic of diversity, should one be proposed for 2016-2017 (\$3500)

**Conference.** CISSC will endeavour to put on one interdisciplinary research conference per year. In 2016-2017, the International Visual Literacy Association (IVLA) will hold its 49th annual conference at Concordia from October 6-9. The conference is a co-production of the IVLA and CISSC. It will involve the collaboration of other units at Concordia, the Canadian Centre for Architecture and the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts as well. Application will be made to the SSHRC Connections grant program for funding. The call for papers will be posted in mid-February. See <http://ivla.org/new/category/conference/>

**Graduate Student Conference.** CISSC will continue to sponsor an annual graduate student conference organized by the HUMA Ph.D. Student Association. This year's theme is "Consumption and Detritus: Stories of Destruction and Reconstruction." Gisèle Trudel (arts visuels et médiatiques UQAM) will give the plenary address. The conference will take place March 4-5.

**CISSC Fellows.** CISSC is seeking feedback regarding models and best practices for supporting interdisciplinary research. For example, many Humanities Centres have fellows attached to them. Sometimes an annual theme is chosen and fellows are selected on the basis of the theme. In the case of the Humanities Center at Miami University, for example, there are two core fellows each year. They direct a senior undergraduate seminar on the theme of the year (e.g. the anthropocene) and the seminar is interspersed with lectures by visiting speakers. The speakers also present at a faculty seminar, which is attended by the other 5-6 fellows attached to the Center for the year. Is this a good model for CISSC to adopt? What other models would you suggest that we consider?

Note:

CISSC, founded in 2007, is a joint creation of the Faculty of Fine Arts and the Faculty of Arts and Science. It houses the Humanities Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program (HUMA) which was established in 1973. David Howes is CISSC's third director, and started his term in June 2015. He works in close collaboration with Bina Freiwald, who served as HUMA director from 2008 to 2011 and returned in July 2015.





**Fine Arts Faculty Council  
Meeting of January 15, 2016**

**AGENDA ITEM:** 9. Approval of the motion to endorse the Co-Curricular Record Reform proposal (FFAC-2016-01-D8)

**ACTION REQUIRED:** For approval

**SUMMARY:** Following the presentation by Keroles Riad, GSA Councillor, at the December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Fine Arts Faculty Council, the Fine Arts Faculty Council Steering Committee met on December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015 and drafted a response of endorsement for the Co-Curricular Record Reform proposal for Council's approval.

**BACKGROUND:** The Co-Curriculum Reform Proposal has received support from the Office of the Dean of Students, the School of Graduate Studies, the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science, the Co-Chairs of the Teaching, Learning and Research Engagement Sub-Committee, and various student groups including: the Concordia Student Union, the Engineering & Computer Science Association, , the Arts and Science Federation of Associations, the Commerce and Administration Student Association, and the Fine Arts Student Alliance.

**DRAFT MOTION:**

Having heard the proposal of the Co-Curricular Record Reform at the December 11, 2015 Fine Arts Faculty Council, Fine Arts is, in principle, in support of this initiative.

There are, however, some unanswered questions, including but not limited to what the CCR covers, what is excluded, and what are the mechanisms for the verification process.

We applaud the efforts in moving the reform forward and encourage that these efforts continue.

**PREPARED BY:**

Name: Helen Athanassiadis

Date: January 8, 2016

Graduate Student Association Proposed Concordia Co-Curricular Record Reforms  
October 2014

**Objective**

To utilize Concordia Co-curricular Record (CCR) by fully integrating it in societies' activities using a seamless process and have it properly recognized and rewarded by the university.

**Aspects**

For this objective to be achieved, actions in three aspects need to be taken in parallel:

- 1) Integrating it in societies' framework through student association's policies.
- 2) The process of having activities recorded need to be simpler and more automated.
- 3) The university need to automatically include it for consideration, recognition and rewarding in internal awards applications as well as suitable graduate programs' applications of Concordia students.

**Current Process of adding activities to CCR**

- 1) An organization fills an online form to add an activity to be considered for CCR database.
- 2) The activity is validated by the dean of students' office
- 3) Students who participated apply to have that activity mentioned in their CCR. (The activity must already be in the database)
- 4) After validation with the organizer, the activity is added to the student CCR.

**Student associations' role**

- To pass a resolution modifying the Funding policies with the following proposed modifications:

- 1) Each applicant must apply to register at least one activity that is recorded in CCR database each semester.
- 2) Every half a year the society's president will act as a validator and must provide a list of students that participated in the registered activities and their number of hours.
- 3) Higher society's activity based on CCR is an asset (not a requirement).
- 4) Create a most active society award.

- To ensure that the following activities are in the CCR database and updated every semester with names of students and number of hours:

- 1) All students' members of committees.
- 2) Councils/execs for associations.

**Office of the Dean of students' role**

- 1) Create a more automated process that skips the step where the student applies to have an activity added and simply use the list provided by societies while still allow for the manual process for other activities where a list is not available.

- 2) Create a more organized interface to facilitate finding activities by interested students looking for co-curricular activities to do.
- 3) Ensure that the CCR exist in an information system that is easily accessible by SGS for it to be automatically added to applications similar to normal transcripts.

**School of Graduate Studies' role**

- 1) Recognize and include CCR in applications for internal awards to be recognized and rewarded by considering it as an asset. (Applicable in all university not just SGS)
- 2) Identify suitable graduate programs (practical programs), clearly state and emphasize that extra-curricular work is an asset and include CCR for applicants with a history in Concordia University.