

NOTICE OF MEETING

60th Meeting of Faculty Council
Thursday January 12th, 2017
3:00 pm – 5:00 pm, Senate Chamber, N940 Ross

Agenda

1. Call to Order and Approval of the Agenda
2. Chair's Remarks
3. Minutes of the **December 8, 2016** meeting..... 1
4. Business Arising from the Minutes
5. **Presentation: Update from Provost Rhonda Lenton & Vice-President Gary Brewer**
 - <http://laps.yorku.ca/files/2015/04/LAPS-Faculty-Council-January-12-2017.pdf>
6. Dean's Report to Council
7. Question Period
8. **Presentation: Research Ethics**
 - <http://laps.yorku.ca/files/2015/04/Ethics-open-house-presentation-January-2017.pdf>
9. Collegial Conversations: IIRP
10. Other Business

2016- 2017 Liberal Arts & Professional Studies Faculty Council Meetings are normally on the second Thursday of the month at 3:00pm in the Senate Chamber, N940 Ross.

February 9, 2017
March 9, 2017
April 13, 2017
May 11, 2017
June 8, 2017

**York University
Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies
LA&PS Faculty Council**

Senate Chamber
Minutes of the 59th Meeting of Council
December 8, 2016
#161208

M. Adriaen, R. Asgar, A. Asgary, P. Avery, K. Blake, M. Buccheri, H. Campbell, R. Coombe, T. Cora, A. Daley, A. Davis, L. de la Cour, M. Derayeh, N. Dood-Persaud, T. Drezner, A. Duncan, M. Dycharme, P. Evans, I. Ferrara, G. Georgopoulos, P. Giordan, M. Harper, T. Hudson, R. Kenedy, P. Khaiteh, A. Khandwala, R. Koleszar-Green, J. Letkiewicz, D. Leyton-Brown, S. Liaskos, S. Lino, A. MacLachlan, J. Magee, G. Maharaj, S. Maiter, T. Maley, C. Marjollet, J. McMurtry, K. McPherson, A. Medovarski, J. Mensah, D. Murray, L. Myrie, R. Ophir, A. Ramjattan, N. Razack, C. Robinson, J. Rozdilsky, L. Sanders, D. Scheffel-Dunand, M. Schotte, A. Schauwers, R. Sheese, A. Solis, K. Thomson, A. Valeo, A. Weiss, R. Wellen, S. Whitworth, E. Winslow, M. Zito

Guests: R. Arata, J. da Silva

1. Call to Order and Approval of Agenda

The Chair called the meeting to order.

It was moved, seconded, and carried that the agenda be approved.

2. Chair of Council's Remarks

The Chair welcomed members to the 59th meeting of Council.

The Chair noted that Vice-Chair, C. Ehrlich sends his regrets and will not be in attendance. An Executive Committee member, L. Sanders will be Acting Vice-Chair.

The Chair mentioned that a notice for motion on e-voting was circulated at the November Faculty Council meeting. Faculty submitted modest revisions, which will be introduced by the Acting Vice-Chair under the report of the Executive Committee. The Chair reassured Councilors that all comments received by the Executive

Committee were carefully deliberated and weighed by members of the Committee. Where it was appropriate, the motion and the rationale were modified slightly. The Chair noted that under the Senate rule that allows authorization of Senate Business by electronic communications in exceptional circumstances, Executive has authorized this vote to be taken electronically.

The Chair noted that there is some opposition to this motion, and with disagreement, there is an opportunity to engage in vigorous and thoughtful debate, which is always welcome. The Chair applauded Councilors' ability to focus on the important merits and demerits of this or any other motion under debate, and noted that she particularly appreciates the ability of Councilors to avoid imputing any dishonorable intention to a colleague.

The Chair stated that three curriculum items were added to the Agenda earlier this week. She noted that these items were passed through the appropriate governance processes, and that bringing these items forward to the December Council meeting ensures that, should they pass, these items will be processed in time to meet calendar deadlines for the 2017-2018 academic year.

The noted that Associate Dean J. McMurtry's team has been preparing a Course Proposal tracking system, with close to 200 proposals. The tracking system was sent to Chairs and Directors prior to the Faculty Council meeting.

The Chair mentioned that in response to a suggestion at the last Council meeting, the Collegial Conversation assigned for this meeting is the Institutional Integrated Resource Plan (IIRP). The Chair noted that Council invited fifteen LA&PS colleagues who sat on the IIRP working groups to share their experiences. Unfortunately, most were unable to attend the meeting and send their regrets.

The Chair concluded her remarks by noting that there was no request to move items off the consent agenda, these items were deemed approved.

3. Special Presentation: Years of Service Awards for Staff

Prior to the meeting of Faculty Council there was a reception and the Dean recognized York staff members with 15 and 20 years of service.

4. Minutes of the November 10, 2016 Meeting

A. Blake moved, seconded by D. Leyton-Brown that the minutes of the November 10, 2016 meeting be approved. The motion carried.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was none.

6. Dean's Report

Dean Mukherjee-Reed gave Council an update on the Markham programming development in the Faculty of LA&PS. She noted the Faculty is working on three programs:

- **Bachelor of Commerce:** The School of Administrative Studies has their own Markham planning committee.
- **Criminal Justice:** The Dean noted that one draft notice of intent in criminal administration has been submitted to the Dean as of now and is under review.
- **Interdisciplinary Liberal Arts Major:** The Dean reported that a working group has been struck with members nominated by each department. A first meeting had been held and discussions were proceedings toward the development of a Notice of Intent for the proposed program, which could potentially be paired with a Minor in a professional program.

The Dean mentioned that there are two pan-university committees involved in Markham. First is a steering group which includes herself and other Deans. The second program is a coordination committee, on which Associate Dean J. McMurtry represents LA&PS. The program leads will also be on those committees, reporting back to their programs as initiatives develop.

The Dean mentioned that Professor Maggie Quirt, who happens to be the Chair of Race and Equity caucus of Markham, brought some interesting information about how Markham City is looking at its own development, and partnering with indigenous communities in the North. The Dean noted that she hopes this can be built into our programming as we move on.

The Dean explained that they are working on a draft Notice of Intent, which has to be widely consulted on and that consultation has to be

reported. The Dean encouraged anyone interested in participating in any of the groups to write to her, and noted some departments have nominated people already.

The Dean raised a concern she has heard from students, staff and faculty members about discursive practices that have come to characterize our collegium. She noted that the practice of accusations and allegations creates defensiveness which inhibits healthy discussions. The Dean explained that she wants to bring to the attention of Council the inadvertent effect this can have on our community.. She asked Councillors to think of how the Faculty can foster an environment where people can speak without fear of having to take sides. She asked Councillors to reflect on her comments and expressed her hope that there is a way to address this collectively.

7. Question Period

No questions were asked.

8. Reports from Standing Committees of Council

- **Executive Committee**

The Acting Vice-Chair presented the Executive Committee Report. She opened the floor for nominations for the LA&PS Representatives on the Community Safety Council.

The Acting Vice-Chair moved, seconded by A. Davis, to close the nominations for the LA&PS Representatives on the Community Safety Council. The motion carried.

The Acting Vice-Chair mentioned that the Executive Committee prepared a report to summarize the matters discussed during the Collegial Conversation on Safety on Campus at the last Faculty Council meeting. She noted that the report can be found in Appendix A of the Executive Committee Report.

The Acting Vice-Chair presented the Item for Action: Electronic Voting for Statutory and Strategic Motions. The Acting Vice-Chair moved the motion on Electronic Voting, seconded by R. Kenedy that the motion be approved. Councillors were given the opportunity to speak to the motion.

A Councilor noted that the only time Senate provision kicks in is when Senate rules are lacking. He stated that the rule is clear and not debatable. He mentioned that permitting electronic voting would be a violation of Senate and Faculty Council rules.

A Councilor emphasized that we must follow Rules of Council. He noted it is very clearly spelled out that to change the Rules and Procedures of Council that it must be approved by a two thirds majority of Councilors present at Council.

The Chair noted that if procedures are not clarified in Council's rules and procedures, Senate rules and procedures apply.

A Councilor moved to challenge the Chair. The motion was seconded. The motion was defeated.

The Acting Vice-Chair presented that the Executive Committee brings forward a change in the Rules and Procedures that proposes to use electronic voting on motions that are either statutory or strategic. The Acting Vice-Chair noted there have been two minor modifications from the draft that was circulated in November:

- 1) The motion itself that now states: "The category of the motion shall be justified." This addition serves to ensure that a rationale for the categorization is always provided.
- 2) Where the previous rationale stated that the categorization would be "determined by Executive Committee," the current rationale omits this statement. The Acting Vice-Chair mentioned that some Councilors felt the statement risked confusion about who has the ultimate authority on matters of Council. To avoid any confusion, the statement was removed.

The Acting Vice-Chair went on to explain that while the Executive Committee is the body responsible for coordinating, advising, and making recommendations to Council on the work of Council, it does this on the behalf of Council. She reminded Councilors that a Councilor may, at any time a substantive question is under debate, intervene with a motion to refer back (a non-debatable motion) that question where further clarification or substantive amendment is in order.

She mentioned that as stated in the rationale, the Rules and Procedures of Council are silent on electronic voting. Faculty Council, a creature of Senate, with Senates acknowledgement that Council may cite Senate rules, which does allow electronic voting in exceptional circumstances; the Executive Committee recommends this statutory motion on e-voting itself be taken into an e-vote.

The Chair noted that some Councilors have already expressed their views on their interpretation of this motion. She opened the floor for discussion on the motion itself.

A Councilor asked what the importance of electronic voting is. The Acting Vice-Chair responded that the benefit is that broader Faculty membership will be able to speak to matters of great importance. Looking back at the motion and rationale-procedure would be that if something is voted on of strategic or statutory motion, material would be circulated to all members of council before an electronic vote takes place. It is meant to invite more participation in crucial affairs of Council.

A Councilor expressed several problems with the motion. The Councilor explained it is very problematic to have members voting on issues when they are not present at Faculty Council meetings to hear arguments for or against the proposed motion. He questioned whether the proposed motion is democratic, and compared this procedure to other Faculty Councils across other universities, stating this Faculty would probably be the only university with this procedure (if the motion passes).

A Councilor mentioned they appreciate that this motion is designed to encourage participation. The Councilor raised concerns about the categorization of strategic motions. It is very important to be at Council and be present for the debate. Debates will not take place if all voting takes place electronically. The Councilor also noted that electronic voting stated in Senate rules is meant for summer authority, voting on issues that come up in the summer when Council do not normally meet.

A Councilor raised concerns as to who decides what is strategic and when it that decision made. What type of discretion does the Executive Committee have as to what is strategic and when can they exercise that discretion? The Councilor asked whether

deliberations in Council will have always taken place in Council with quorum before a vote is referred. What percentage of faculty must vote for the vote to be valid? The Councilor noted that Faculty Council minutes do not represent content of contested deliberations. It was noted that a new form of deliberations would be needed if those deliberations are going to form an e-vote. This is costly and a tedious exercise that we will have to budget for.

A Councilor mentioned that there are not enough Chairs present that day to represent the entire Faculty. The Councilor suggested that the process of recording deliberations is neither difficult nor costly to do. These deliberations could be easily recorded and accessed by Councilors prior to an e-vote.

A Councilor asked how a decision about what is strategic is determined and how will it be communicated.

A Councilor made a point about the importance of hearing a full debate in this body before a vote. The Councilor reminded Councilors of at least two earlier meetings of this Council where matters of unquestionable importance were under debate where members were lined up at microphones to participate, and there was a motion to call the question and it passed. The Councilor noted that being present is not a guarantee of hearing the discussion. The Councilor noted that they would rather hear from all members than restrict the vote only to those who are present.

A Councilor noted that e-voting is a very effective procedure for YUFA, and as such they are all familiar with the pros and cons of e-voting. The Councilor noted that this procedure will not deprive any member of participating and will give everyone an opportunity to weigh in on important issues if they cannot attend Faculty Council, which takes place once a month at a specific time. The Councilor noted that the goal of this motion is to promote inclusivity and democracy.

A Councilor asked which contract faculty will have access to electronic voting and how will that be determined?

A Councilor commented that recording/televising debates is not necessarily the way to go; it is part of an alienating culture. They noted that it is important to preserve face-to-face interaction.

A Councilor asked if the votes that come by email will be tracked or if they will be anonymous.

A Councilor asked about a pre-council approval for a vote to actually happen. Will this two-step process be considered?

A Councilor proposed an amendment to the motion. That there be provision, before this body, it be ratified by this body as a strategic motion. Members' assembled have to decide it is strategic before it can go for an e-vote. The Councilor noted this is the most democratic solution, and does not leave the decision only with the Executive Committee.

K. McPherson moved to refer the motion back to the Executive Committee. A. Khandwala seconded. Motion to refer back concluded and passed. The statutory motion on e-voting will be referred back to the Executive Committee.

- **Committee on Curriculum, Curricular Policy and Standards**

The Chair of the Committee on Curriculum, Curricular Policy and Standards presented the report.

The Chair presented a Change to Existing Degree: BA Anthropology. A. Weiss moves, seconded by A. Schrauwers that it be approved. Motion carried.

The Chair presented a Change to Existing Degree: Jewish Studies BA, BA Hons, Advance Undergraduate Certificate. A. Weiss moves, seconded by C. Majollet that it be approved. Motion carried.

The Chair presented a Change to Existing Degree: Children's Studies. A. Weiss moved, seconded by A. Davis that it be approved. Motion Carried.

The Chair presented a Change to Existing Degree: International Bachelor of Arts. A. Weiss moved, seconded by D. Murray that it be approved. Motion carried.

The Chair presented a Change to Existing Degree: Professional Writing, Honours BA. A. Weiss moved, seconded by R. Sheese that it be approved. Motion carried.

The Chair presented a Change to Admission Requirement: Bachelor of Disaster and Emergency Management Program. A. Weiss moved, seconded by A. Solis that it be approved. Motion carried.

The Chair presented a Rubric Transfer: TESOL Certificate. A. Weiss moved, seconded by P. Avery that it be approved. Motion carried.

9. Presentation: Update from Provost Rhonda Lenton

The presentation was postponed to the next Faculty Council Meeting.

10. Committee on the Whole

The Chair explained that at the last Faculty Council meeting, it was suggested that Council assign time on the agenda to have a discussion of academic processes and related IIRP issues and that LA&PS colleagues who sat on the working groups be invited to share their experiences. Responding to that suggestion, the Executive Committee assigned that topic for the Collegial Conversation.

Council moved into Committee of the Whole for an open discussion on the "IIRP".

The Chair mentioned that many of the faculty members who sat on the working groups are away. I. Ferrara and D. Leyton-Brown were asked to speak to their experiences.

I. Ferrara mentioned she was a member of the program quality committee. She explained that they decided on terms of reference, mandate, organizing premises, built metrics to try and identify bodies needed to consult, data they needed to gather and finally recommendations. She noted they consulted with different bodies: The RO and Senate Committee on Academic Standards and

Pedagogy. She noted the Co-Chairs prepared the report and she was very happy with the process.

D. Leyton-Brown spoke about his participation in the working group on student advising which emerged in the context of the university academic plan priorities of enhancing student experience. They identified that improvements need to be made, and advising needed to be defined. They defined two types of advising: 1) programs and degree requirement advising and 2) student life advising. The working group focused on the technical advising piece. They devoted their attention to try and achieve whatever technological advancements there may be across different faculties and advising officers, coordinating of information storage so it is more readily available to students. The working group recommended operational improvements in technical advising. Other major issues emerged in the deliberations – addressing the culture of advising and beyond advising the culture of faculty and others. He noted that if the culture of advising is enhanced, regardless of technical operational aspects, then advising will be enhanced.

11. Other Business

There is no other business.

The meeting adjourned.

B. Spotton Visano, Chair of Council

B. Tuer, Secretary of Council