**SOCIAL SCIENCES FACULTY COUNCIL**

Friday, April 7, 2017

10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Bldg. 250, Room 308

**Minutes of the Meeting**

**Attendance:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Voting Members | Present | Regrets |
| John Black Dean and Chair | ✓ |  |
| Pam Shaw Vice-Chair/Director, Community Planning |  | ✓ |
| Colleen McVeigh Chair, Anthropology | ✓ |  |
| Beth McLin Chair, Criminology | ✓ |  |
| Hannah Wilson Chair, Geography | ✓ |  |
| Laura Suski Chair, Global Studies | ✓ |  |
| Maureen Okun Chair, Liberal Studies | ✓ |  |
| Carolyn Swanson Chair, Philosophy | ✓ |  |
| Alex Netherton Chair, Political Studies | ✓ |  |
| Deborah Matheson Chair, Psychology | ✓ |  |
| Sylvie Lafrenière Chair, Sociology | ✓ |  |
| Robert Riggan (one vote between the two advisors) B.A. Advisor | ✓ |  |
| Lynda Patterson B.A. Advisor | ✓ |  |
| Darren Hannesson Member at Large |  | ✓ |
| Dave Hopwood Member at Large | ✓ |  |
| Deanna McNaught Member at Large |  | ✓ |
| Tasha Scott Member at Large | ✓ |  |
| Jeff Nicol Member at Large |  | ✓ |
| Amanda Inglis (CRIM) Student Representative |  | ✓ |
| Imtiaz Taj (PSYC) Student Representative |  | ✓ |
|  | **15** |
| **Quorum = 10**  |
| Recorder |  |  |
| Tasha Scott Faculty Secretary | ✓ |  |
| Guests:Jerry Hinbest, Sociology Professor |

**Approval of Agenda**

**MOTION:**  McLin/Lafrenière

That the agenda for this meeting be approved.

 **CARRIED**

**Approval of Minutes**

**MOTION:** Hopwood/Swanson

That the minutes from the March 24, 2017 Faculty Council be approved.

 **CARRIED**

**HRA Renewals**

**MOTION:** Wilson/Lafrenière

To approve the Honorary Research Associate renewals, as vetted at the department level, for:

Brad Maguire, GEOG/GIS

Inge Bolin, ANTH

**CARRIED**

**Honours Program Proposal Sociology**

**MOTION**: Hopwood/ Lafrenière

To approve the Honours Program Proposal Sociology as amended.

Discussion:

Questions were raised about the following matters:

1. Suggestion of a cap of 10 people doing a senior project due to limited faculty or availability. It was suggested to limit admission to the Honours program to 10 people: this can be changed in the future if needed.
2. Suggestion that it be only independent research for the senior project, excluding team-based research. Sociology department has agreed it should be an independent research project.
3. It was suggested that a review of the residence requirement be specified as to which credits would be required to be taken at VIU in order to obtain the Honours degree.
4. Member raised the question whether a graduate with a Major in Sociology can return and top up their degree for the Honours designation. It is not possible under current regulations. Suggestion: something to discuss in the future.

 **CARRIED**

**Chair’s Report**

All Faculty Meeting to be held on Thursday April 27, 2017. (At this meeting there will be elections for the positions of Vice-Chair of the Faculty and for four of the five at-large members of Faculty Council: the terms of the incumbents end on April 30, 2017. Deanna’s term as an at-large member does not end until April 30, 2018.)

Dean John Black’s retirement party to be held on Friday April 21, 2017.

**Senate Report**

Voting on Fall Break was defeated, and the proposal is going back to the Education Standards Committee for review. Fall 2017 break has been set for Thanksgiving plus one day (October)

President Ralph Nilson requests faculty members for a working group on academic appeals.

Senate had a presentation on the Campus Master Plan Update, covering the next 40 years. Institution to have more residences, more green space, nicer entranceway proposed from Third Street although less parking on campus.

**Planning and Priorities Committee – Lafrenière**

Institutional priorities were approved at last meeting.

**Governance Practices Committee - McLin**

Teaching behaviours/Code of Ethics was rescinded

**International Education Advisory Committee - Suski**

Reported 18 percent drop from previous years of International Students attending VIU.

Institution is considering multiple intakes instead of one per year.

Jennifer Sills in International Education is moving towards detailed proposal for Field Schools (eg. Risk Management. Student to Professor: What is the appropriate ratio?). She is looking for interest from Faculty that may be interested in having input on this process.

**Other Business**

Student Representatives elections are underway but not complete. Please encourage any students that might be interested. The terms of the current representatives expire July 31, 2017.

**Motion to adjourn:** Hopwood/Lafrenière

 **CARRIED**

Next meeting April 21, 2017