**SOCIAL SCIENCES FACULTY COUNCIL**

Friday, May 4, 2018

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Bldg. 250, Room 308

**Minutes of the Meeting**

**Attendance:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Voting Members | | | Present | Absent |
| Elizabeth Brimacombe Dean and Chair | | | √ |  |
| Tony Robertson *(for Deborah Matheson)* Professor Psychology | | | √ |  |
| Marie Hopwood *(for Dave Hopwood)* Professor, Anthropology | | | √ |  |
| Michael Down *(for Beth McLin)* Professor, Criminology | | | √ |  |
| Alan Gilchrist *(for Dave Cake)* Professor, Geography | | | √ |  |
| Laura Suski Chair, Global Studies | | | √ |  |
| Maureen Okun Co - Chair, Liberal Studies | | |  | √ |
| David Livingstone Co - Chair, Liberal Studies | | |  | √ |
| Carolyn Swanson Chair, Philosophy | | | √ |  |
| Alex Netherton Chair, Political Studies | | |  | √ |
| Sylvie Lafrenière Chair, Sociology | | | √ |  |
| Pam Shaw Director, MCP | | |  | √ |
| Robert Riggan (one vote between the two advisors) B.A. Advisor | | | √ |  |
| Lynda Patterson B.A. Advisor | | |  | √ |
| Linda Derksen Professor, Sociology | | | √ |  |
| Michele Patterson Professor, Geography | | | √ |  |
| Tasha Scott Member at Large | | |  | √ |
| Jeff Nicol Professor Psychology | | | √ |  |
| Amanda Inglis (CRIM) Student Representative | | |  | √ |
| Imtiaz Taj (PSYC) Student Representative | | |  | √ |
|  | | | **12** | |
| **Quorum = 10** | | |
| Recorder: Tara Cook, Faculty Secretary | | |  |  |
|  |  |

1. **Call to Order** *(Linda D / Dave Cake)*

The Social Sciences Faculty Council meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m.

1. **Approval of Agenda** *(Sylvie Lafrenière / Michele Patterson)*

The motion that the Agenda be approved as presented. **CARRIED**

1. **Approval of Minutes** *(Michele Patterson / Linda Derksen)*

The motion that the Agenda be approved as presented. **CARRIED**

1. **GLST 493 New Course Proposal** *(Laura Suski)*

A proposed new Directed Studies course option with subject area related to globalization was shared. The Global Studies Program currently has a senior project course but no Directed Studies course option. Preliminary discussion focused on the parameters surrounding Directed Studies (e.g., class size, content, registration process, opportunity to take multiple Directed studies courses on different topics). Agreement was reached regarding friendly amendments to be included in the course syllabus.

**Motion:** Syllabus *(Linda Derksen / Jeff Nicol)*

The motion to approve the GLST 493 Syllabus as amended. **CARRIED**

1. **GLST Change of the GLST Program Language Requirement** *(Laura Suski)*

Global Studies faculty are in favour of reducing credits required to meet the language requirement (from 12 credits to 6 credits). Discussions focused on the pros and cons of having the 12 credits reduced to 6 credit, historical context of this requirement, language requirements in other Canadian programs and availability of language courses at VIU.

**Motion:** GLST required credits to meet Second Language requirement *(Linda Derksen/ Sylvie Lafrenière)*

The motion to approve the following change to the GLST 493 second language requirement: reduction of required credit hours, from 12 credits to 6 credits.  **CARRIED**

1. **GLST Change in options to fulfil the Second Language Requirement** *(Laura Suski)*

The proposed change is to allow a computer language as an option to fulfill the second language elective requirement in the GLST program. Discussion focused on a range of topics including what constitutes a language (spoken language versus programming language); what programming language is offered at VIU, student interest in C++; the merit and value of C++ as an employable skill; Chomsky’s Theory; programming languages in other countries, programming languages and culture. A variety of ideas and perspectives came to light.

**Motion:** GLST Second Language elective Computing Science C++

*(Linda Derksen / Alan Gilchrist)*

The motion to approve the addition of C++ as a GLST Second Language elective Major in GLST for 6 credits for 112, 115, 160, and 161. **CARRIED**

1. **Education Standards – BC Family Day 2019** *(Alan Gilchrist)*

Alan Gilchrist from the Education Standards Committee was seeking input from our Faculty Council concerning implications of the date change for BC Family Day. Starting in 2019, B.C. Family Day will be February 19th (formerly 2nd Monday in February). This shift of BC Family Day has consequences for course delivery in classes scheduled to meet on Mondays. The shift will result in class cancellations on two consecutive Mondays (the Monday of study week and the Monday that is the Family Day holiday). Discussion focused on implications for course delivery/flow and support for student learning and the possibility of Study Days shifting to the third week of February (to eliminate class cancellations on two consecutive Mondays). Some support was expressed for pursuing the idea of shifting the timing of VIU spring semester Study Days.

1. **Senate Report** *(Sylvie Lafrenière)*

There is exploration for First Nations students with cross boarder territories (i.e. U.S.) who live outside the country to not pay domestic tuition.

The English language requirements are being raised to match Canadian Standards with the IELTS and TOEFL scores. The accepted minimum IELTS score will be 6.5 and 7.0 with TOEFL increased effective September 2019.

The Fisheries and Aquaculture program intake will be suspended in Fall 2019. They are setting up a new Dual program for 2020.

1. **Chair’s Report** *(Elizabeth Brimacombe)*

A verbal overview was presented of the Graduate Attribute report that will be sent around for comments and feedback before going to the Senate’s June meeting. Linda Derksen (as a member of the CIEL Teaching Council) shared some context regarding activity surrounding the Attributes at VIU. Key messages from Linda: Current activity focuses on raising awareness of the Attributes and facilitating a campus-wide focus on what the Graduate Attributes look like in each Faculty.

Carolyn Swanson successfully completed the Boston Marathon!

Sylvie Lafrenière, Professor, Chair, Sociology; Beth Mclin, Chair, Criminology; Robert Willis, Professor, Management received the *Provost Awards for Excellence in Teaching Design and Practice* for their work with CBAIR. There will be a celebratory dinner for this group (hosted by the Provost’s Office) and a presentation at Convocation.

1. **Department Updates**

No pressing news to report at today’s meeting.

1. **Adjournment** *(Dave Cake/David Hopwood)*

**Motion:** *(Sylvie Lafrenière)*

That the Social Sciences Faculty Council meeting be adjourned at 11:30 a.m. **CARRIED**

**Next Meeting:**

Friday, May 18, 2018 is the next Social Sciences Faculty Council meeting.