**SOCIAL SCIENCES FACULTY COUNCIL**

Friday, April 22, 2016

10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Bldg. 356, Room 209

**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 | ✓ |  |
| Catherine Schittecatte Chair, Global Studies | ✓ |  |
| Maureen Okun Chair, Liberal Studies | ✓ |  |
| Carolyn Swanson Chair, Philosophy | ✓ |  |
| David Livingstone Chair, Political Studies | ✓ |  |
| Deborah Matheson (one vote between the two) co-Chair, Psychology | ✓ |  |
| Darren Hannesson co-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 | ✓ |  |
| Teunesha Evertse (MCP) Student Representative |  |  |
| Student Representative |  |  |
|  | **14** | |
| **Quorum = 10** |
| Recorder |  |  |
| Deanna McNaught Assistant to the Dean | ✓ |  |
| **Guests:**  Shelley-Anne Gajda, Coordinator, Peer-Supported Learning  Laura Suski, soon-to-be Chair, Global Studies  Janeane MacGillivray, Faculty Assistant | | |

**Peer Supported Learning – Shelley-Anne Gajda**

Peer supported learning started as a pilot project in ACCT 100 in the Faculty of Management. Students who’ve been successful in the course are hired and trained to become leaders in the classroom. This is a collaborative, cooperative learning based program and helps student to connect with each other (i.e. International and domestic students). If you have any questions about this program, please contact Shelley-Anne.

**Approval of Agenda**

**MOTION:**  Hopwood/Riggan

That the agenda for this meeting be approved, tabling PHIL course change proposal.

**CARRIED**

**Approval of Minutes**

**MOTION:** Hopwood/Matheson

That the minutes from the April 8, 2016 Faculty Council be approved, as amended.

**CARRIED**

**GLST Program Changes – Catherine Schittecatte and Laura Suski**

The external program review for Global Studies evidenced that students are not getting a uniform experience of the degree and GLST has made some changes to program requirements to address this criticism. A first year GLST 100 interdisciplinary course will also be added. This course will not be required for majors and minors.

In order to secure the workload in Political Studies, and as approved at the department meeting, “GLST 391 will be taught by POLI EVERY YEAR. There will be no rotation. GLST 391 will have a home in POLI for as long as someone in POLI will agree to teach it”.

**MOTION:** Livingstone/Wilson

To approve the Global Studies program changes.

**CARRIED**

**Discussion around finding a standardised time for implementing a fall break for Social Sciences – David Hopwood**

Who has fall breaks and when are they? Should departments in Social Sciences have a fall break all together at the same time? Some departments feel the day after Thanksgiving is not enough and that it is too early in the semester. For others, this works well. Some departments don’t take a break (i.e. for Geography, the idea of a break was abandoned because of the interruption of their labs).

A unified break doesn’t allow an option for those who don’t want to break. As the fall semester is shorter than the spring, it isn’t always an option. The Institution doesn’t support a fall (week-

long) break, but a committee has been formed in Senate to revisit the one-day break and perhaps have it extended.

It is beneficial for departments to share their break dates with each other, to ensure that students aren’t confused and still attend those courses in session.

**Reports:**

**Chair’s Report**

John, David Livingstone, and Maureen Okun will be away for Liberal Studies Abroad, leaving May 3. John will be back in the office June 6.

Dave Witty will be presenting to Faculty Council, and all Faculty, on May 20. An invitation will be sent to all the Faculty, staff, and student reps.

The All-Faculty meeting will be Monday, August 22 for the entire day. Jeff Lewis will present a workshop on group work in courses. John will discuss how to structure evaluation instruments (i.e. multiple choice exams) to avoid 80% of As in a course.

Student evaluation guidelines: John will send out these draft guidelines before he leaves for Italy for your input at the August 22 All-Faculty meeting.

**Senate:**

The new grade appeal process still hasn’t come back to Senate.

Pam is not submitting the CRC proposal, as there is no one to submit it to.

Thank you to Laura Suski for standing and being elected as the Bargaining Coordinator for VIUFA.

**Motion to adjourn:** Okun/Matheson

Next meeting, Friday, May 20