



Faculty Council of the Temerty Faculty of Medicine
Minutes of the October 18, 2021 meeting
4:00 p.m.
Via Zoom Videoconference

Members Present: Luc De Nil (Speaker), Todd Coomber, Arthur Mortha, Pascal van Lieshout, Veronica Wadey, Brenda Mori, Kyle Kirkham, Nick Reed, Beverley Orser, Douglas Templeton, Meg Connell, Paul Cantarutti, Mario Ostrowski, Lisa Robinson, Rita Kandel, Karl Zabjek, Paolo Campisi, Lynn Wilson, Modupe Tunde-Byass, Dev Chopra, Sarah Crome, Peeter Poldre, Suzan Schneeweiss, Juan-Carlos Zúñiga-Pflücker, Jack Barkin, Patricia Houston, Wusun Paek, Anne Agur, Kamil Uludag, Vincent Tang, Catherine Coolens, Andrew Wilde, Angus McQuibban, Erin Styles, Evgueni Ivakine, Bojana Djordjevic, Sara Mirali, Marcus Law, Danny Enepekides, Sean Kidd, Arthur Mortha, Alexander Dhaliwal, Sarah Rauth, Ewa Szumacher

1 Call to Order

2 Minutes of the previous meeting of Faculty Council – April 23, 2021

The minutes of the meeting of April 23, 2021 had been previously circulated. They were approved on a motion from N. Reed and seconded by B. Mori. There was no business arising.

3 Report from the Speaker

Dr. Luc De Nil introduced himself as the new Speaker of Faculty Council after having served as Deputy Speaker for the last several years and having served as Speaker in the past. Dr. De Nil introduced Dr. Paolo Campisi as the incoming Deputy Speaker. Dr. De Nil also thanked Dr. Boris Steipe for his service as Speaker from 2019 – 2021. Dr. Steipe was a Biochemistry representative on Council from 2013 to 2019 and has been, at various times, a member of the Research Committee, the UME Board of Examiners, the Faculty Council Executive Committee, and the Appeals Committee. Dr. De Nil wished Dr. Steipe all the best in his coming retirement.

Dr. De Nil initiated a straw poll to inquire attendees' preference to continue meeting online meetings or transition back to in person meetings once the University has re-opened to the point that the Faculty Council can be accommodated on campus. Dr. De Nil noted that attendance has approximately doubled since the move to virtual meetings. Everyone present was invited to cast a vote with 29 of 42 preferring to remain virtual. No votes were cast in favour of moving back to in person meetings. Dr. De Nil indicated that meetings would remain online at least for the remainder of the current academic year.

4 Reports from the Dean's Office

Dean Houston indicated that the last time Faculty Council met was during the third wave of the COVID-19 pandemic now there is an ongoing fourth wave which is having much less impact because of the very high vaccination rates. Dr. Houston thanked the members for all the work they have done to take care of patients and thanks Dr. Lynn Wilson for her work in creating the St. George campus vaccination clinic.

Dean Houston indicated that Dr. Justin Nodwell, Vice Dean, Research and Health Sciences Education provides oversight to both the Faculty's research enterprise, and to graduate education and undergraduate life sciences education. This is a large portfolio and Dr. Nodwell will be creating a new Associate Dean for

undergraduate education and that search will be underway shortly. Dr. Nodwell will provide a detailed update with regard to his portfolio at the next meeting of Faculty Council.

Dean Houston noted that Dr. Lisa Robinson, Vice Dean, Strategy and Operations, will be presenting the Faculty Council Forum later in the meeting on the strategic plan refresh.

In her role as Vice Dean, Medical Education, Dean Houston noted that there are five Associate Deans reporting to her. Dr. Marcus Law was appointed Associate Dean for the MD Program and began this role on July 1. Dr. Meredith Giuliani has been announced as the new Associate Dean for PGME beginning January 1, 2022. The Associate Dean, Health Professions Student Affairs, Dr. Tony Pignatiello, will be transiting to the Associate Dean, Learner Affairs and this new office, which currently supports the MD, MRS, and PA programs, will also provide support to PGME. Dr. Suzan Schneeweiss is in her second term as the Associate Dean, Continuing Professional Development. Finally, Dr. Allison Freeland, Associate Dean, will now be reporting to the Vice Dean, Medical Education rather than directly to the Dean.

The MSB West Wing redevelopment is in early planning stages and the Faculty will be using an integrated design/build strategy. This is the first time that the University will use this type of integrated approach. The redevelopment's location across from Convocation Hall and Simcoe Hall will allow for a gathering space for use at convocation. It will also address important space needs for the Faculty of Medicine for ongoing growth in research and institutional infrastructure. A new Containment Level 3 lab will be built in the basement of MSB which will serve the university and hospital partner institutions.

Both the MD and PGME program accreditations occurred in the same year with both sets of accreditors visiting the campus in the fall of 2020. The MD program had two visits in November and December. The result was full accreditation eight years with the Faculty having met 90 out of 96 elements and being in compliance with 11 out of 12 standards. A follow up report, due in August of 2023, will make sure that the Faculty is taking steps to address the areas where further attention is required.

The PGME accreditation resulted in 58 programs that were fully accredited with an eight-year term, with no follow up required. There are 14 programs that need a follow up written report submitted by November 2023 and will receive a subsequent visit. Finally, three programs will also have another visit because they received a notice of intent to withdraw accreditation. This doesn't mean they're going to lose their accreditation but it does mean there are more areas where focus is required.

The three committee areas for improvement are: enhancements to learner assessment systems to ensure they are aligned with and support competency-based approaches and learning objectives; the provision of timely feedback to and supports for clinical teachers; and pathways and process to address learner mistreatment that are consistently implemented and operationalized across programs and sites.

Finally, Dean Houston noted that the Times Higher Education rankings have been released with U of T moving from 6th to 5th in the world in the category of clinical and health education.

Dr. Lynn Wilson, Vice Dean, Clinical and Faculty Affairs, has been Chairing the Fall 2021 Restart Committee. The Committee continues to engage with tables at University Centre, developed principles and guidelines for the Faculty as needed, and ensured relevant information and guidelines are provided to departments and units. The Committee provides oversight, and guidance as needed, to fall planning undertaken by departments and units, address matters relating to resourcing, responds to questions, and supports the Acting Dean in providing periodic communication to students, faculty, and staff.

The Committee is reviewing ongoing updates to university's 12-step reopening plan and will apply and communicate where required items such as mask mandates, the rapid antigen testing program, ventilation, and vaccination. The Committee has reviewed HR & Equity's alternative work arrangements guidelines and has addressed equity and diversity issues. 76% of staff responded to the June 2021 staff survey. At least half

of the respondents felt they could do most or all of their job remotely. In addition, there is a great deal of anxiety around crowding on public transit and in campus buildings. Most staff are continuing with current work arrangements during the fall. Those who provide student services are on campus as needed. Flexibility is important for staff and alternative work arrangement requests are due by the end of December.

5 Items for Approval

5.1 Education Committee

THAT the Major Program Modification to the MSc and PhD Programs in Rehabilitation Sciences be approved as submitted.

THAT the proposal to close the MSc and PhD programs in Speech-Language Pathology be approved as submitted.

The motions were addressed together. Moved: B. Mori, Seconded: L. Wilson

Dr. Kristin Musselman indicated that the proposed changes would create a new field within the existing MSc and PhD in Rehabilitation Sciences called "Speech-Language Pathology"; this will replace the existing standalone graduate programs in Speech-Language Pathology. The program will undergo a revision of objectives and learning outcomes as a result of a recent curricular review of the programs in the Rehabilitation Sciences and their Transfer and Direct-entry options.

The modifications to courses in the existing MSc Program are changing course title and updating course objectives for REH 1100H Theory and Research in Rehabilitation Science (0.5 FCE); changing the content from a focus on research presentations to professional development in REH 2001Y, thereby decreasing course weight to 0.5 FCE; and reducing total MSc program FCE from 2.5 to 2.0 due to these changes.

The modifications to courses in the existing PhD program are: reducing the FCE from 1.0 to 0.5 for REH 3001Y and changing the content from a focus on research presentations to professional development, thereby decreasing course weight to 0.5 FCE; removing REH 3100H, Advanced Rehabilitation Research Issues (0.5 FCE) as a program requirement and replacing it with an elective; decreasing the PhD program FCE from 2.0 to 1.5 FCE; and changing the requirements for the direct-entry and transfer PhD options to reflect the above noted changes.

These proposed changes are driven by the need to streamline programming, enhance student educational experience, and increase flexibility in program delivery in the graduate programs in Rehabilitation Sciences. The opening of Speech-Language Pathology as a field (as opposed to a separate program, as exists currently) will align well with the other Rehabilitation Sciences disciplines, such as Occupational Science, Movement Science, etc., of which Speech-Language Pathology is a related field. This as a purely structural adjustment, that will not result in changes to the training received by students in the research areas related to Speech-Language Pathology, nor will the proposed changes negatively impact student experiences as a whole and their ability to find employment after graduation.

The updates to the PhD & MSc in Rehabilitation Sciences will result in improved student experience across all Rehabilitation fields within the Rehabilitation Sciences Institute and promote cohesion among the student body.

The motions passed.

6 Standing Committee Annual Reports

6.1 Medical Radiation Sciences Board of Examiners

Dr. Sarah Rauth reminded Council that the role of the Medical Radiation Sciences Board of Examiners is to review cases of students in academic difficulty and determines the appropriate course of action, which may include promotion, remediation, failure, suspension and dismissal.

The MRS Board of Examiners moved from a four-meeting schedule to a six-meeting schedule this year. The extra meetings were added in the Fall and Winter semesters to address any issues that cannot wait for the end of the semester. Such a meeting was already scheduled in the middle of the Summer semester. As with the Summer meeting, these meetings will be cancelled when not necessary and were not needed this year. In 2020, the BOE only met twice with the Spring meeting being cancelled as there were no cases to discuss following the COVID-19 shutdown. The BOE only met twice this year as well, but this was due to strong academic performance rather than a program shutdown.

The BOE reviewed the progress of six students. All six were placed on Remediation for course failure with one of these students failing two courses. All of these students were placed on leaves of absence until the next course offering. The MRS Program and students should be proud of their performance this year as it has, from the BOE perspective, been the most successful in recent memory.

7 Faculty Council Forum

Dr. Lisa Robinson and Mr. Liam Mitchell presented the Faculty Council Forum on the refresh of the Faculty's strategic plan.

8 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned.