PRESENT:

Members (ex officio): Brian Cantwell Smith, Judith Snow

Teaching Staff: Ethel Auster, Clare Beghtol, Nadia Caidi, Joan Cherry, Chun Wei Choo, Andrew Clement, Patricia Fleming, Lynne Howarth, Paulette Rothbauer, Eric Yu

Library Professional Staff: Joe Cox (Chair), Marte Misiek, Nalini Singh

Associated Instructor: Vicki Whitmell

Administrative Staff: Susan Brown, Pam Hawes

Doctoral Students: Luanne Freund

MIST Students: Passant Elalfy, Dalton Campbell, Stan Orlov, Edward White, Patricia Lawton, Liana Giovando

Alumni Association: Helen Katz, Karen A. Wierucki

The Professions-at-Large: Kim Silk

U of T Faculty Member: —

Invited Guest: Fransess Halpenny

Recorder: Dace Veinberga

Assessor: Rebecca Jones

Observers: Justyna Berzowski, Krista Boa, Jean Dryden, Twyla Gibson
ABSENT:
The President of the University of Toronto; Chief Librarian of the University; Dean, School of Graduate Studies; Barbara Craig, Juris Dilevko, Wendy Duff, Keith Thomas; Jennifer Trant; Sapna Mahboobani; Mary Ann Mavrinac; Dave Davis.
MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 4:10 p.m., a quorum having been established.

1. **Introduction**

   Joe Cox welcomed all to the last Faculty Council meeting of the academic year.

   The agenda was accepted without change.

2. **Minutes of the Meeting of February 8, 2004**

   The minutes of the February 8, 2004 meeting were accepted without change.

3. **Business Arising from the Minutes**

   None.

4. **Report from the Dean**

   Brian Cantwell Smith announced the University’s decision to end mandatory retirement.

   Patricia Fleming’s retirement was announced, as well as the decision to honour her with the establishment of the *Patricia Lockhart Fleming Fellowship in Book History*. This yearly fellowship is a collaborative effort with the Book History and Print Culture Program and Massey College that will allow a scholar in the area of Book History to come to University of Toronto to give a public lecture and spend a brief amount of time at U of T to engage in Book History endeavours.

   Brian introduced Prof. Frances Halpenny. She spoke, on behalf of everyone at FIS, about Patricia Fleming and her contribution to FIS, both as a teacher and through numerous scholarly accomplishments. Of particular mention was Patricia’s long-time involvement with the Bibliographical Society of Canada, SHARP, the Toronto Centre for the Book, and the Book History and Print Culture Program. In many cases she played a founding role in these organizations. Her vast contribution to scholarship included her major supplement to Tremaine’s *Bibliography of Canadian Imprints 1751-1800* that she co-wrote with Sandra Alston, as well as her monumental work on the three-volume SSHRC-funded *History of the Book in Canada* project.

   Brian commended everyone on the success of Research Day and announced that Jutta Treviranus joined the Faculty as Senior Research Associate on April 1st, 2005 (the same day as Research Day) and that the Adaptive Technology Resource Centre (ATRC) would be joining FIS as of May 1st, 2005.

   Brian then announced that Judy Dunn would be joining FIS as Assistant Dean, after spending many years at the School of Library and Information Science at Dalhousie.
Brian mentioned that Judy Donnelly would be working in part for the Faculty over the next few months, to help with a variety of things, including rewriting the FIS Constitution.

Brian mentioned that FIS has yet to hear anything about the AIF proposal, but that we are likely to hear something within the next four weeks.

It was noted that the Museum Studies program is under review and that FIS has submitted a statement of interest to work collaboratively as described in the FIS academic plan.

Additionally, a review of Graduate Studies was noted to be underway.

Brian explained that the Standing Committee on Interdivisional Collaboration and Research has been working to establish the number of centres, institutes, and collaborative programs that the University is aware of, in order to bring some coherence and intelligibility to the future of interdisciplinary research at the University.

Brian stated that there was no word on who the new President of the University would be.

5. Reports

  a) Executive Committee
     No report.

  b) Standing Committees

     i) Academic Appeals
        No report.

     ii) Awards
        No report.

     iii) Degree
        No report.

     iv) Doctoral Studies
        No report.

     v) Inforum and Information Technology
        Chun Wei Choo thanked students for their participation in the Inforum Survey. He indicated that the policy for wireless computing at FIS has been under review and that various University policy documents regarding the proper use of IT have been reviewed and have provided a useful framework for FIS. Chun Wei then discussed the promotion of wireless technology at FIS and indicated that Ab Gehani and Tony Lemmens have offered to help configure wireless cards. The Inforum has acquired
electrical extension cords that are now available in a variety of places throughout the building. Wireless zone signs have also been put up in several places in the building to remind people that FIS is wireless.

Brian commented that ATRC’s integration into FIS would impact computing at FIS. He indicated that it would be fall before it would be known how bringing such a level of technical expertise into the wider FIS community would affect the whole systems configuration.

vi) Master’s Studies
Clare Beghtol reported that there were two 2199 courses (Special Topics in Information Studies) that needed the approval of Council.

One was Special Topics in Information Studies -- Legal Issues, which was prepared by Jean Dryden and Krista Boa to be offered in the Spring 2006 term.

Moved by Clare Beghtol; seconded by Patricia Fleming.
Carried.

The other was Special Topics in Information Studies -- Community Informatics, to be taught by Michael Gurstein during the Summer 2005 term.

Some concern was raised over the two-week non-consecutive structure of Michael Gurstein’s Community Informatics class. Andrew Clement explained that Michael Gurstein is a major figure in the field of community informatics and because he splits his time between Vancouver and New York, this type of schedule is the only one feasible for him. When asked if there has been any discussion with students about their availability to attend classes in this concentrated fashion, Andrew Clement replied that he thought this type of format would be very attractive to some students, but admitted that it was an experiment. He added that Michael Gurstein has taught similar courses with similar structures in France and Australia that have been successful.

Moved by Clare Beghtol; seconded by Lynne Howarth.
Carried.

c) Ad hoc Committee of Council

i) Life and Times
Nadia Caidi reported that the Committee had been busy with a number of projects, including the lobby redesign, Research Day, posting policies, and visiting scholars. Research Day was a success with about 10 panels, over 30 speakers, and a dozen posters that presented a range of themes and topics.
d) Other Reports

i) Faculty Search Committee
Brian noted that the committee had been involved in closely examining files and interviewing candidates. He indicated that there are a few hundred applicants clustered into areas. He emphasized that the idea is to address areas of need for the Faculty, but to not let a commitment to area interfere with interest in candidates of general excellence. Brian invited everyone who attended any of the talks to submit feedback.

ii) Admissions Committee
Eric Yu reported that there had been 180 applicants thus far, with 118 offers of admission having been made. Of these offers, 93 have said they will come. On the PhD side, 7 offers have been made and 6 have accepted. Eric commented that the graduating class is large, so FIS would need a large incoming class.

Brian thanked Eric and the committee for its work and announced that FIS had met its targets with respect to student admissions and enrolment to receive the retroactive ATOPS (Access Through Opportunities Program) grant.

Jean Dryden asked if there were a maximum number of students that were going to be admitted. She expressed concern that admitting a similar number of students to replace the graduating class would continue to be too much of a strain on FIS resources. Eric explained that the actual number of students is a target given by Simcoe Hall and is related to the University’s and Faculty’s budget.

Luanne Freund asked if the faculty search had taken into account the need that tenured faculty supervise doctoral students. Clare Beghtol and Joan Cherry both responded that faculty members do not necessarily need to be tenured to supervise doctoral students, but they do need to be members of the graduate faculty of the School of Graduate Studies.

Paulette Rothbauer requested that the admissions committee send out a list of the PhD students that have been accepted.

iii) Digital Office Committee
Brian discussed Jutta Treviranus’ involvement in the development of Sakai, which is an open-source course management project developed by approximately 66 universities and that FIS is now involved in it in collaboration with KMDI. Brian discussed using Sakai, in conjunction with ATRC and KMDI, as a test-bed for future development.

iv) Registrar
No report. 

v) Director of Graduate Studies
No report.

vi) Professional Learning Centre
Rebecca Jones reported that she has been conducting an environmental scan to see where continuing studies needs to focus its attention over the next while. She also discussed the 8Rs Research Team Report *The Future of Human Resources in Canadian Libraries*, recently published by the Canadian Library Association.

Brian thanked Rebecca and explained how, when completing a curricular review next year, he would also like to focus on how PLC or continuing education offerings could be an integral part of the FIS overall curricular offerings.

vii) Academic Board
Joe was congratulated for being elected as the librarian representative.

6. **FIS Doctoral Students Association**
Leslie McGrath was congratulated for her recent successful PhD defence. Luanne indicated that the Association is working on updating the constitution that was created many years ago. She also expressed the doctoral students’ appreciation of Research Day and their desire for this to become a regular event.

7. **FIS Student Council**
Joe congratulated Stan Orlov on being elected the new FISSC president. Stan thanked the previous FISSC president, Edward White, for his hard work over the past year and reported that things are developing well. He indicated that the agenda for the summer was to rewrite the FISSC Constitution and to prepare for Orientation Week.

8. **Question Period**
No questions.

9. **Other Business**
Brian brought up the possibility of having classes on Friday mornings. Stan added that the more choices students are given, the better. Patricia Lawton suggested that Friday morning classes could be useful if it meant more choice of classes or sections of classes. Pam Hawes suggested that, in terms of booking rooms for classes, it would be easier to keep students in the FIS building if there were more days and time periods. Ethel Auster opposed Friday morning classes and indicated that Fridays are days for faculty business such as meetings and committees. Paulette suggested that Friday could be a day when courses taught by adjuncts could be offered. Brian added that another issue on the table was PLC’s claim on classrooms and added that he would like to work with Rebecca to cast PLC in a way that would be more integrated with other FIS program offerings.
Marte Misiek gave a brief Inforum report. She indicated that the Inforum hosted two successful events during the year, these being the History of the Book in Canada launch for Volume One of the series, and the Connecting @ FIS event that is part of the practicum course FIS2158. Marte also mentioned that the Inforum submitted a proposal for a design studio course project in the fall or winter terms. The Inforum also participated in a KMDI 1001 practicum entitled “Improving the Computing Resources Section of the FIS Inforum Website”. Marte thanked students for purchasing two comfy chairs for the Inforum with money from the Student Tech Fund.

10. **Announcements**

Karen Wierucki announced that the Alumni Association’s Spring Reunion is going to be held at FIS on June 9th from 7 until 9:30 pm. She added that the event will include tours of the Inforum, a selection of hors d’oeuvres, a cash bar, and remarks from the Dean and Assistant Dean.

Brian invited everyone to the end-of-term tea.

He also congratulated Vicki Whitmell on her new book, and Ethel Auster and Stephen Abram for having articles in this book.

He also congratulated Clare Beghtol, Chun Wei Choo, and Paulette Rothbauer for individually receiving SSHRC grants.

10. **Adjournment**

Moved by Pam Hawes that Council adjourn at 6:00 pm.

The next meeting of Faculty Council is scheduled for Tuesday, October 11, from 4:10 to 6:00 p.m. in Room 728.