FACULTY COUNCIL
Third Regular Meeting, 2006-07 Session
Tuesday, February 13, 2007
4:10 – 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

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

Teaching Staff: Joan Cherry, Barbara Craig, Wendy Duff, Steven Hockema, Lynne Howarth, Jens-Erik Mai, Wendy Newman, Paulette Rothbauer, Siobhan Stevenson, Lynne Teather, Nadine Wathen

Senior Research Associates: Jutta Treviranus

Professional Librarians: Joe Cox, Edward White

Senior Administrative Officers: Susan Brown, Judy Dunn

Associated Instructor or Sessional Lecturer: Vicki Whitmell

Administrative Staff:

Students:
Doctoral: Diane Dechief
Masters: Rachel Barton, Annetta Dunn, Alex Gates, Autumn Haag, Roxanna Henriquez, Christina Hwang, Stacey Piesner, Michelle Zadak

Alumni/Alumnae: Clare Lysnes

External Members:

University Member:

Assessors: Andrew Drummond, Eva Kupidura, Chris Halonen, Chantelle Lepine-Cercone, Amleet Mangat

Recorder: Bisa Lovric
REGRETS:
The President of the University of Toronto, Chief Librarian of the University, Clare Beghtol, Nadia Caidi, Wei Chun Choo, Andrew Clement, Juris Dilevko, Udoy Gupta, Geoffrey Little, Rafi Majeed, Mary Ann Mavrinac, Marte Misiek, Susan Pfeiffer, David Phillips, Jessica A. Posgate, Kimberly Silk, Nalini Singh, Eric Yu

MINUTES

1. Call to order and acceptance of Agenda
   The meeting was called to order at 4:10pm, with quorum established. Chair, Joe Cox, welcomed all present members to the third regular meeting, but the fourth actual meeting of the FIS Council. It was moved and seconded that the Agenda be accepted.

2. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 21, 2006
   Minutes of November 21st meeting were approved on a motion moved by Dean Brian Cantwell Smith and seconded by Prof. Barbara Craig.

   Minutes of the Special Meeting of November 14, 2006
   Not available at this time.

3. Business arising from minutes:
   There was no business arising from the minutes.

4. Dean’s report
   i. Constitution: The Dean conveyed that the Constitution approved by this body on November 21 last year passed through UofT Governance on January 18, 2007. The dean stated “we’ll have a celebration after this meeting with wine and cheese, insisting that we get through our business expeditiously”!

   ii. Faculty expansion: As mentioned at the last meeting, the Dean requested the Provost’s permission to increase the faculty complement. Providing we reach our graduate expansion goals and in accordance with other AIF agreements, we have permission to recruit five new faculty members this academic year.

   iii. Search process: We have one “committee of the whole”, plus 3.5 subcommittees: Open Area (Archives & Records Management, LIS, IS), Museum Studies, Health Informatics, and half a committee on Book History (with David Galbraith). Searches are on-going and interviews are being scheduled.

   iv. Elimination of streams: There have been streams in this Faculty for years. We were informed they are not in accordance with current SGS regulations. Prof. Mai will report on this issue in the Program Committee’s report.
v. Staff recruitment: Six positions open (three new, three replacement):
   1. Dean’s Office Assistant (to assist Vice-Dean and Assistant Dean), new
   2. Director of Information Technology, new
   3. Web Master, new
   4. Two library technicians (replacing Irene Cruz and Dacia Lanning)
   5. Associate Development & Communications Officer (replacing Sara Figuereido)

vi. Undergraduate programs: We’re getting ready to formulate additional plans for undergraduate teaching, in cooperation possibly with CCIT at UTM and Cognitive Science at UC.

vii. Coach House Institute: Of the five goals of the original McLuhan AIF, three have been completed. We’re calling it now the ‘Coach House Institute’. Andrew Drummond is helping out with setting things up. We’re going to have a series of lectures this year on the Digital University and End of Methodology. Next year: Future of Scholarly Publishing, plus conference on Future of Objectivity.

viii. Commend: Dean highly commended current FIS speaker series: Museum Studies Program: Definition of New Museum; and This Thursday@FIS.

ix. Other business: We are making substantial progress on digital future and IT strategy of the University as a whole, and substantial progress is needed. On the space front, a long-term project planning committee has been struck. Thanks to faculty members who agreed to participate. Internally, short-term space committee is set up, while the fifth floor, the west wing, is under renovation.

5. Council Committees’ Reports

a) Executive Committee – no report

b) Standing Committees of Council

   i. Admissions Committees (submitted by Judy Dunn)
   Comparison of number of applicants (MIS) as of Jan. 31:
   2005: 43
   2006: 65
   2007: 109
   Offers were sent to 45 MIS prospective students by e-mail.

   PhD, deadline passed:
   2005: 42
   2006: 40
2007: 46
Prof. Lynne Teather recounted that Museum Studies received 98 applications, 25 more than last year. Roughly 40 were offered positions, aiming to admit 19-20. Phenomenal quality of students. Prof. Wendy Duff added that 15-17 people were already contacted and going to get admitted.

The Dean urged admission committees not to hold back on offering outstanding students admission as there is a plan to divert money from other sources to MISst and MMSt students, and provide the top 10 applicants with tuition waivers and assistantships to next 10.

Judy Dunn reported on planning for another event for incoming students. Near end of June there will be a “meet and greet” for those who received an offer of admission. Thursday evening, with virtual meet and greet (iChat) for those who can’t come. A new poster is in the making.

ii. Awards Committee (Submitted by Judy Dunn for A. Rossini)

- **Nelson Mandela Internship Program (NMIP):** Six applications were received, four were short listed and forwarded to NMF’s Centre. Two interns will go to South Africa at a cost of $5,000 each.
- **Bursaries:** $32,000 was awarded to 38 students (average $840)
- **2007 Gordon Cressy Student Leadership Awards:** Five FIS students won this award: Fadi Al-Buhairan, Annette Dunn, Alex Gates, Amleet Mangat, and Craig Todd-Langille. Congratulations.

iii. Committee on Standing. (Submitted by Prof. Jens-Erik Mai, Chair)

The Committee on Standing recommends eliminating FIS policy to re-read "work submitted by a student which is academically unsatisfactory and which results in a failing grade for a course". The policy requires that when a student fails a course—that is, the student receives a FZ as the final grade—all work should be re-read by another member of the FIS faculty. The objective of the re-reading policy is to ensure “fairness in the evaluation of the work in question”.

While we agree that students have a right to fairness in evaluation of their work, it is not clear that requiring colleagues to re-read failed assignments contributes to this objective. Students have a right to fair evaluation of all assignments, including those that do not fail and the University has established policies and procedure which students can use to bring forward issues. The Committee on Standing reviews all grades assigned in the Faculty and if there are FZs in a specific course, it can investigate the matter before the grades are submitted to SGS/ROSI. The proposal is to eliminate this policy entirely and refer students to the SGS appeals process already available to them if they are dissatisfied. Essentially no change, except that failing grade work will not be reread by another member of the FIS faculty.
The issue was discussed by the Committee on Standing and at a faculty meeting. FIS is the only Faculty of the UofT that ever had this policy.

It was moved by Prof. Mai and seconded by Prof. Teather that FIS Council approve the proposal from the Committee on Standing to eliminate the FIS policy on “re-reading”.
CARRIED.

iv. **Information Technology Services Committee** (submitted by Jutta Treviranus)
We have a posting for an IT Director for FIS and are beginning the interview process and hope to recruit fairly soon. Lots of work on website is being done, with plans for overhaul. Currently requests for main page mockups are being solicited. A Webmaster position will be posted soon.

Work on an overall IT budget for FIS is continuing, led by Prof. Steve Hockema.

In terms of FIS/University IT, lots of activity is going on, including fairly amazing performance by our Dean. “Middle table” meeting too, looking for FIS to provide reflective practice, e-mail, calendaring, etc.

Sakai server is now hosted at FIS and is much more stable with additional functionality. Plans to have display monitors in the building are nearing completion, thanks largely to FIS Student Council and the Student Tech Fund.

The Dean thanked Student Tech Fund for the great support.

v. **Inforum Committee**
No report

vi. **Programs Committee** (submitted by Prof. Jens-Erik Mai, Chair)
Committee hasn’t formally met yet, but had some virtual meetings. Major project is curriculum review of MISt program. SGS doesn’t allow streams any longer, only areas of focus. We’re in the process of formulating new descriptions for old requirements of program courses. For the next council meeting, we’ll have proposals for new courses and special topics courses in summer session.
c) Special Committees

i. Life & Times (submitted by Judy Dunn)
   Research Day will be held on Mar. 30. Approximately 30 submissions have been received and a schedule will be posted soon.

   There have been 14 Dean’s teas, ten This Thursday@FIS events and three Museum Studies exhibition series are scheduled for the winter term. The End of term tea is scheduled for Wed, April 11, 2007.

6. Additional Reports

a) FIS Students

i. PhD (submitted by Diane Dechief)
   Ordered new chairs for student lounge.
   Having second DSA meeting this Friday, where PhDs students will discuss space issues.

ii. MIST (submitted by Annette Dunn)
   At Christmas, FISSC held a FIS auction. Thanks to many donations, both monetary and in objects, Student Council raised $532, which was donated to the Hospital for Sick Children.
   FISSC has a new website, thanks to MIST student Christina Hwang.
   First FIS Annual Job Fair is happening on Friday, March 16, for students looking for full-time, part-time or summer work.
   Another annual event, titled ‘Connecting at FIS’, is also coming up soon. Already have had a resume-writing clinic.
   Job shadowing is in the planning stage.
   Dodge ball event organized with MMSt students.

iii. MMSt (submitted by Chantelle Lepine-Cercone and Amleet Mangat)
   Reported on ‘Bottoms Up!’, an exhibition and lecture series on the history of drink in Canada. Curatorial focus: balanced presentation of alcohol/social history. History: exploring key events; health issues; industry/technology; design: interior, glass, etc.; and culture and media.

   Collections team worked hard to get objects, for instance a display of stubby bottles, a unique beer bottle shape to Canada.

   Design: three students working on design, also with help from students at George Brown College. The poster was passed around, as well as invitations in the shape of a drinks coaster. Decided to use double ring for logo, burgundy/gold like wine/beer. A timeline is also being designed.
There will be guided tours of the exhibition at Steam Whistle Brewing Gallery. In additions, there are self-guided walking tours through a significant portion of Toronto’s alcohol district.

Lecture Series: March 5, Christine Sismondo; March 12, Mark Kingwell; March 19, Nicholas Pashley.

Communications team responsible for fundraising and getting the word out. So far about $1,000 raised. The team is marketing to CBC, BT, The Toronto Star, etc. Advertising for program is ongoing. A display will be mounted in the Inforum.

Opening night: March 7, Steam Whistle Brewery. Everyone is invited. Please RSVP as on the coaster.

The Dean remarked that all this sounded fantastic, absolutely amazing. Overheard someone saying that this must be an amazing Faculty. Making us proud.

b) Alumni
   i. FIS
      FIS Alumni Association had a successful second annual alumni reunion on February 1 at the OLA SuperConference. It will also host the second annual "Alternative Careers" panel discussion on February 27. Students, alumni and friends are warmly invited. This is an excellent opportunity to hear from LIS grads who have taken "the road less traveled" after graduation.

   ii. MMSt
      Museum Studies alumni had a wine and cheese reception in fall, with great turnout. Working to help foster and grow an alumni group. Currently working on identifying a director of alums and trying to find where everyone is. Sending out messages of speaker series. Working on doing a survey of the alums. Their thoughts should also feed into curriculum review. Looking at three very dynamic soon-to-be alumni to work on this!

c) Adaptive Technology Resource Centre (submitted by Jutta Treviranus)
   ATRC has a number of projects all the time. More and more FIS students are involved, like Smart Campus in Your Pocket, for in-context mobile applications.
   We are involved in the process of developing legislation on inclusive information technology.
   Have received grants from Mozilla and IBM to work on accessibility within open source development.
   There’s a major multi-University/multi-company project beginning in March called FLUID (Flexible University Design).
Ongoing partnership with the Barenaked Ladies and Simple Plan. Looking at inclusive concerts, with plans to have a jam session with these and other bands.

On September 13 and 14, we are hosting International Open Forum on Inclusion. There will be speakers and participants from 36 nations. Hosted by FIS, partly will be held at FIS but mostly at MaRS.

d) Professional learning Centre (submitted by Eva Kupidura, Coordinator)

PLC signed a partnership with Click University, the online learning centre of the Special Libraries Association (SLA), and with Capital SmartLibrary, a consortium of libraries in Ottawa area. This gives us great promotion in Ottawa. The partners will provide space for teaching and learning and help promote PLC courses. PLC classes are currently scheduled at the University of Ottawa’s Morissett Library, and in Library and Archives Canada.

We had the first meeting of PLC Advisory Committee to advise us on future development.

e) Inforum (submitted by Edward White)

Staff changes: Irene Cruz retired and Dacia Lanning resigned. We’re hiring two full-time library technicians on 5 month contracts to start in mid-March.

Museum studies cataloguing project: Edward White is making great progress in cataloging museum studies monographs and journals.

Niloufar Soekhai from The Hague University in Netherlands, joined us as an international intern and will be here until June working on an e-reserves project.

First two Inforum internships will end in April. We will be offering 2-3 more in 2007/2008 to students who have completed one year at FIS, running from May to April.

A current display – Millennium in a Box – was put together by FIS student Robin Canham. It features the work of 35 Canadian book artists, and is a project of the Canadian Bookbinders and Book Artists Guild. Next, we’ll display the Museum Studies upcoming exhibition: Bottom’s Up: A Spirited History of Drink in Canada.

f) Development

No report

g) Academic Board

Academic Board: The Dean reported that the University has rethought the structure of EDUs. Some of things we’re involved with, e.g. McLuhan, KMDI, Coach House, fall under that framework. More substantial discussions
of issues of interdisciplinarity will be coming forth. FIS is viewed as a leader at U of T in interdisciplinarity.

7. **Question Period**
   Student: Do FIS students have the Dean’s promise of guaranteed entry to a course if it is offered in one’s last term and necessary for graduation?
   Dean: Yes
   Student: In a structure where everyone can apply to required courses, how does that work?
   Judy: We always put people in their graduating year into courses that they need to graduate.

8. **Other Business**
   Prof. Joan Cherry, Health Informatics Search Committee Chair reported that the Committee identified three applicants, with one already interviewed, and two more coming for a visit. They will all give public talks.

   Prof. Wendy Duff reported that the Museum Studies program is undergoing an OCGS review, which takes place every 7 years. We have to have a self-study – involving students, staff and faculty – finished by April 13. We met with SGS. Four lunches are scheduled for MMSt students to provide input. Prof. Mai will chair those meetings, with no MMSt faculty members present. We also need to identify external reviewers so if you have ideas, please let Prof. Duff have names.

   Archives & Museum Informatics has signed the contract to hold ICHIM (International Cultural Heritage Informatics Conference) at MaRS during FIS reading week in October 2007. They will have 10 places for volunteer student help to attend the conference free, which they will hold for FIS student volunteers first. David Bearman, of A&MI and a FIS PhD student, subsidized students who wanted membership by paying half the cost.

9. **Announcements**
   The Dean presented Joe Cox with a scroll for his role in ‘organizing, drafting, editing, revising, rethinking, erasing, modifying, scrapping, redrafting, re-modifying, re-adjusting, and reviewing beyond measure the Constitution of the Faculty Council’ and conferred upon him the title: Chief High Duke of the Hexagonal Chambers.
   Motion: by everyone, seconded by everyone, granted the title as above. Laughter and applause by everyone.

10. **Adjournment**
    A motion to adjourn was made by Judy Dunn, and carried.
    Meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm, and continued with wine & cheese party.