FACULTY COUNCIL
Second Regular Meeting, 2007-08 Session
Tuesday, December 4th, 2007
4:17 – 6:12 p.m.

PRESENT:

Members (ex officio): Brian Cantwell Smith

Teaching Staff: Joan Cherry, Wendy Duff, Cheryl Meszaros, Jens-Erik Mai, David Phillips, Lynne Teather, Lynne Howarth, Stephen Hockema, Wendy Newman, Andrew Clement, Eric Yu

Senior Research Associates:

Professional Librarians: Joe Cox, Marte Misiek, Edward White, Kathleen Schaeffer (for Nalini Singh)

Senior Administrative Officers: Susan Brown, Judy Dunn, Rob Harvie

Associated Instructor or Sessional Lecturer:

Administrative Staff: Kathy Shyjak

Students:

Doctoral:

Masters: Emily Beliveau, Jamon Camisso, Katherine Clubine, Rachel Hazlett, Willow Fuchs, Christina Hwang, Jessica Nowlan, Nathaniel Stone, Bill Mann

Alumni/Alumnae: Bob Henderson, Kimberly Silk

External Members: Mary Ann Mavrinac

University Member:

Assessors: Andrew Drummond, Eva Kupidura
MINUTES

1. Call to order and acceptance of Agenda
The meeting was called to order at 4:17pm, with quorum established. Chair, Joe Cox, welcomed all present members to the second regular meeting of the FIS Council. It was moved that the Agenda be accepted. Motion carried.

Change to Minutes, item #7: Question Period. Willow Fuchs, not Nathaniel Stone, requested that the summer 2008 timetable be accessible sooner rather than later.

Motion to accept minutes was made and carried.

3. Business arising from minutes:

   • Prof. Wendy Duff is now a member of the Executive Committee but not a member of the Programs Committee.
   • Summer timetable 2008 has been posted on the FIS website

4. Dean’s report

   (i) Wendy Duff is stepping down as the Director of the Museum Studies program as of December 31st 2007. The Dean thanked Wendy for her service in this capacity and announced that she will be involved with the establishment of a Centre for Digital Curation.

   (ii) There will be a re-assignment of tasks in the Museum Studies program. Jens-Erik Mai will chair the MSP Programs Committee and the Dean will chair the MSP Search Committee.

   (iii) There is still a way to go to instill energy into the FIS East space. There is an issue with the noise emanating from the Music Faculty’s practice space and this is being addressed. The Dean reiterated that everyone should try...
to make use of the space there and announced that the End of Term Tea will be held at FIS East on December 12, 2007.

(iv) The motion to change the name of the Faculty to the Faculty of Information has not yet been brought forward.

(v) The McLuhan program proposal is complete and should be launched late next year (2008)

(vi) The Dean sent best wishes out to the number of FIS people that are away on leave as a result of illness.

(vii) The Provost and Vice-President has declared that FIS is in good financial health. The Dean reported that allowing FIS to hire 4 more faculty members in 2008 signals an endorsement of FIS from Simcoe Hall.

(viii) A recent meeting of Principals, Deans and Directors centered on discussions of “University Colleges” – four year colleges as opposed to year colleges. U of T President David Naylor is having discussions with his peers at York and Ryerson on this. The President also stressed that U of T must step up its initiative in Digital Media – Ryerson and York are already doing much in this area. The President expects the next Dean of FIS to pay heed to this initiative.

(ix) UTM has a new Vice-President and Principal, Gage Averil, who is looking at CCIT. The Dean asked if FIS needs to think again about offering its own undergraduate programs.

Andrew Clement commented on the President’s focus and said that FIS has a growing role to play in the realm of Digital Media. KMDI is also undergoing a review at this time

5. Council Committees’ Reports

a) Executive Committee

No report

b) Standing Committees of Council

i. Admissions Committees (submitted by Judy Dunn)

Nearing the end of development of a ‘System for Admissions Management’ (SAM). Currently marketing this system to other single
department Faculties at U of T. A demo is scheduled to take place on December 5, 2007.

There are currently 39 paid MIST students, nine paid MMSt students and two paid PhD students.

ii. **Awards Committee**

No report

iii. **Committee on Standing.**

No report

iv. **Information Technology Services Committee** (presented by Rob Harvie)

Plotter will be “open for business” in the new term. There will be training for staff and students.

Students have requested that Room 119 be turned into a “lab” – ITS is working with the students on this proposal.

v. **Inforum Committee:**

No report

vi. **Programs Committee** (submitted by Prof. Jens-Erik Mai, Chair)

Four new courses were brought for Council approval:

1. **“Interpretation and Meaning-Making in Cultural Institutions”**

   Jens Erik Mai moved to accept the course.
   Judy Dunn seconded the motion.

Discussion:
Andrew Clement had a question about the “fit” of the course given the ongoing curriculum review. It was explained the review should not deter approval of new courses as FIS is looking to expand its suite of offerings. To the issues of overlap of content, it was agreed that access to all FIS syllabi was important for the faculty.

There should be 13 classes in the course – not 12
Vote:
Carried, with one opposed and one abstention.

2. “Issues in Cultural Policy and Contemporary Culture”

Jens Erik Mai moved to accept the course.
David Phillips seconded the motion.

Discussion:
Wendy Newman was concerned about the course’s title and the rationale for the omission of Libraries. The Dean said that while the focus is on Museum Studies, some FIS students may be interested in the course and it will be open to all.

Vote:
Carried, with three abstentions.

3. “Surveillance and Identity”

Jens Erik moved to accept the course.
Judy Dunn seconded the motion.

Vote:
Carried.

4. “Services Science”

Jens Erik Mai moved to accept the course as a Special Topic course.
Siobhan Stevenson seconded the motion.

Discussion:
Wendy Duff asked if this course will have a pre-requisite. Can persons with more rather than less systems analysis experience benefit from this course? No prerequisite.

‘Two hour’ classes to be changed to ‘three hours’.

A student asked about having a more formalized syllabus. The Dean spoke about giving new faculty some leeway in terms of presenting and delivering their courses and not to “box” them in too much.

Jens-Erik will ask Kelly Lyons to provide a revised SGS form with a course description.

Vote:
Carried, with four abstentions.
c) Special Committees

i. Life & Times (submitted by Judy Dunn)

Extremely successful tea attendance last year but the research talks were not well attended. Faculty and students are not attending these talks as attendance at the last three talks were 15, 15 and 13 people respectively, primarily staff. Judy announced that plans were in place to attract more people next term.

6. Additional Reports

a) FIS Students

i. PhD

No report from PhD students but Prof. David Phillips noted that there are new SGS rules for setting up oral examination committees. Committees will consist of five members – one external member and four must be members of the SGS Graduate Faculty.

ii. MIST (submitted by Christina Hwang)

Professional Development Workshops scheduled for Jan- Feb 2008.
FIS Job Fair will be Feb 20, 2008.
Festive Party – New York Coffee House theme – all are invited.
Students canvassing a proposal to change room 119 into a creative suite with scanner, video, Digital Media, etc., in order to expand creative capacities.
New website launched and spearheaded by Jamon Camisso.
In the past month the students were able to have an open dialogue with the Vice Dean about concerns and other academic issues – much appreciated.
The Student Council expressed appreciation for the summer timetable being up so early.

iii. MMSt (presented by Nick Gamble)

End of term part next week – faculty invited.
Graduating class will be presenting an exhibition brief on Dec 7.

b) Alumni

i. FIS (Presented by Bob Henderson)
Alumni survey taking place to determine how the Association can better serve the alumni population.
Conference grants to students will be re-issued next month.
A few lectures set up for 2008.
Groups for the Alumni have been set up on Facebook.

ii. MMSt (Presented by Lynne Teather)

Alumni want to formalize the association.
Networking for integration into internships – creation of workshops, etc.
Setting up a “speed networking” session.
Alumni survey to be done.

c) Adaptive Technology Resource Centre

No Report

d) Communication and Development (presented by Kathleen O’Brien)

Students are now using the plasma screens.
Faculty research being highlighted on FIS and the iSchool website of which FIS is the only Canadian school.
Wendy Duff noted that the Nelson Mandela Scholarships may not be available to students in summer 2009.

e) Inforum (presented by Edward White)

Kathleen Schaeffer was introduced to the meeting as the replacement for Nalini Singh while the latter is on medical leave.
Room 507 is now open to students as a quiet study area.

f) Professional Learning Centre (submitted by Eva Kupidura, Coordinator)

Web based ‘Advocacy and Library Issues’ course now being offered.
‘Financial Management for Information Managers’ commencing.
‘Social Networking Tools’ is a runaway success.
Looking to offer more one-day, hands-on, web-based courses.
Reminder to students that they receive a 60% discount on PLC courses.

g) Academic Board

No report.

7. Question Period: None
8. **Other Business:**

Mary Ann Mavrinac announced that the new Library at the University of Toronto at Mississauga had recently won a design excellence award – “Urban Design People’s Choice Award”.

The Dean announced that the iConference is taking place from February 28 – March 1, 2008, at UCLA.

Andrew Clement distributed the “Pipwatch” brochure.

Eric Yu announced that an information session will be held on Dec 11 to discuss the elective courses in Information Systems – new and old. Kelly Lyons is expected to be there.

The Dean wished all Happy Holidays.

Motion to adjourn by Edward White. Carried

Meeting adjourned at 6:12 pm.