FACULTY COUNCIL
Special Meeting
Monday, May 27, 2013
9:07 – 9:57 am
Room 538, Claude Bissell Building

PRESENT:
Members (ex officio): Seamus Ross

Teaching Staff: Matthew Brower, Nadia Caidi, Mark Chignell, Alan Galey, Jenna Hartel, Patrick Keilty, Cara Krmpotich, Kelly Lyons, Heather MacNeil, Mike McCaffrey, Wendy Newman, Eric Yu

Professional Librarians: Kathleen Scheaffer, Elisa Sze

Senior Administrative Officers: Susan Brown, Andrew Drummond (in the Chair)

Associated Instructor or Sessional Lecturer:

Administrative Staff: Kathy Shyjak

Students:

Doctoral:

Masters (MI): Octavio Escalante Menchaca, Laura Chuang, Kate Restivo, Jessica Gallinger

Masters (MMSt):

Alumni/Alumnae:

External Members:

Assessors: Eva Piorkowski

Observers: Tony Lemmens, Percy Lo, Elizabeth McIlroy, Nadia Moro, Anna Oh, Isidora Petrovic

Recorder: Areti Vourinaris

REGRETS:

The President of the University of Toronto, Vice-President and Provost, Chief Librarian of the University, Dean of the School of Graduate Studies, Periklis Andritsos, Robyn Bosnyak, Chun Wei Choo, Andrew Clement, Katrina Cohen-Palacios, Keren Dali, Costis Dallas, Gillian Eguaras, Sarah Anne de Groot, Juris Dilevko, Wendy Duff, Fiorella Foscarini, Sara Grimes, Lynne Howarth, Jenna Jacobson, Alexandra Kwan, Susan Maltby, Rhonda McEwen, Irina Mihalache, Kim Pham, David Phillips, Matt Ratto, Adriana Rossini, Ramona Sansait, Aviv Shachak, Leslie Shade, Kathy Shyjak, Kimberly Silk, Nalini K. Singh, Brian Cantwell Smith, Laura Sorbara, Siobhan Stevenson, Ned Struthers, Melody Tacit, Mari Vihuri, Lauren Williams, Anthony Wensley
1) **Call to order.**

The meeting was called to order at 9:07 a.m., with quorum established. The Chair, Andrew Drummond, welcomed all members to the only special meeting of the Faculty of Information Council for 2012-13. The purpose of the meeting, called at the request of Dean Seamus Ross, was to vote on the endorsement of the *Task Force on Strategic Directions for Information Services - Final Report* to oversee and coordinate an action plan for the future shape and services of the Inforum and Information Services.

2) **Information Service Task Force – Michael Ridley**

The Chair recognized Mr. Michael Ridley, Chair of the Task Force on Information Services, who thanked the iSchool community for its valuable contributions and input. He also presented an overview of the report which was reflective of multiple voices and ideas through a consultative process which was both effective and a continuation of a transformational process.

Six transformational recommendations were highlighted from the report as follows:

1) The Inforum & Information Services: Enablers of Exploration, Experimentation, Incubation & Laboratories
2) Curriculum & Co-curriculum: Coordination, Alignment, & Relevance
3) Digital iSchool & IT Innovation: Presence, Cloud, On-Demand, Research Support & Toolkits
4) External Communities: Building Partnerships & Engagement
5) Efficient Operations: Standardizing & Streamlining Core Services
6) Synergy & Innovation: Merging Information Services & the iSchool Institute

**MOTION:** It was moved by Dean Seamus Ross that Faculty Council endorse the *Task Force on Strategic Directions for Information Services Final Report*

AND that the Information Services Committee be tasked with overseeing the implementation of the Task Force on Strategic Directions for Information Services Final Report

AND that the iField Institute name be a placeholder until the Information Services Committee can come up with another one

AND that Information Services Committee thank Michael Ridley and the members of the Information Services Task Force for their excessive hard work, and on the depth and scope of the report.

Seconded by Prof. Patrick Keilty.

There was considerable discussion.

During the discussion of the report, the following issues were raised:
- The proposed iField Institute as a new unit to broaden opportunities via integration and collaboration.
- It was noted that it would be up to the iField Institute to determine research foci and have faculty engage with research projects, collaborate, and make use of services – not just as a support service etc.
- The suggestions of a feasibility study and of an acoustic analysis of the Inforum.
- The need for dedicated, flexible, collaborative, and drop-in spaces.
- The need to align intent and outcomes of the iField Institute as part of a common vision.
- Concern about the leadership, staffing, technical expertise, and software required to manage and support these new spaces and that the report marked a shift away from LIS collections and cultural and social space of the Inforum.
- Support for the idea that labs/collaborative spaces were not incompatible with LIS and that there were broader social issues with which libraries were engaged and that not just LIS engaged in collections.
- That the practice of moving low-use materials to Downsview was a long-established one.
• The encouragement of a more structured environment where people would collaborate similar to the Harvard Research Lab.
• There was some discussion about the recommendation to phase out desktop support in computer labs and invest in laptops and BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) accommodations.
• The adoption of a strategic focus on cloud solutions and on-demand options to enable digital work environments.
• The recommendation of co-curricular initiatives and activities throughout the Faculty was not intended to obstruct or remove practical aspects of classes.

The motion was **PUT and CARRIED.** (There were two abstentions).

3) **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:57 a.m.