



FACULTY COUNCIL
Tuesday, February 18, 2025
Microsoft Teams Meeting (Online)
4:15 PM – 6:15 PM

Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Jeff Dyck; *Assoc. Dean*
Erika Eliason; *Assoc. Dean*
Leila Biu; *Recording*
Allyson Rozell; *Chair*
Mike Coombes; *Vice-Chair*
Alex Lyon
Casey McConill
Christina Iggulden
David Sud
Dominic Bernard
Ellen Pond
Fergal Callaghan
Jane Shin
Kelsie Doering
Melissa Drury
Michelle Ikoma
Muskandeep Kaur
Nadia Henwood
Russ Lyons
Samaneh Ghanzafari Hashemi
Suellen Zhou
Tyron Tsui
Xavier Ardez
Fiona Whittington-Walsh; *Guest*
Nick Inglis; *Guest*

Regrets:

Amy Jeon; *Dean*
Alan Davis
Catherine Chow
Mary Hosseinyazdi
Nicole Tunbridge
Sepideh Tahriri Abadi

1. Approval of the Agenda of February 18, 2025

*It was **moved** (Mike Coombes), **seconded** (Tyron Tsui), **and carried THAT** the agenda be approved as distributed.*

2. Approval of the Faculty Council Minutes of January 21, 2025

*It was **moved** (Mike Coombes), **seconded** (David Sud), **and carried THAT** the agenda be approved as distributed.*

3. Business Arising:

- No business arising.

4. Chair's Report:

- Correction to minutes for 19Nov: 6.4. Senate Standing Committee on Curriculum (SSCC): Approved the change from MATH to STAT for some courses. Should become: 6.4. Senate Standing Committee on Curriculum (SSCC): No report.

5. Dean's Report:

- Thank you for promoting the Valentine's candy contest. Candy and swag were distributed accordingly.
- Convocation is on Thursday, February 26. Please come and celebrate the students' achievements.
- There will be another townhall meeting on March 4, from 1:30 to 2:30 pm. We encourage people to attend the meeting as it is a fulsome source of information from KPU leadership about enrolment, financial budget, and the direct and indirect implications of the IRCC changes.

6. Senate Reports:

- The list of revised course outlines that was approved included revisions to BIOL 4245. They also voted in favour of the new Master's in Supply Chain Management
- The Senate also voted in favour of eliminating Policy AR18, which is a policy on final examinations and overloads. It will be subsumed by Policy AR17 on academic schedules and course timetables.
- The Senate also voted on approval of revisions to the Bachelor of Arts Double Minor, which will take place in September.
- There was a notice of Spring election to the board and Senate. This includes an election for faculty senator to represent Science starting September 25. Nominations are open until February 28.

6.1. Senate Standing Committee on Program Review (SSCPR):

- Biology's second annual follow-up report was approved. That brings the end of the program review cycle for Biology.

6.2. Senate Standing Committee on University Budget (SSCUB):

- Presentation by Dr. Lori McElroy (AVP Planning & Accountability)
 - We expect 30,377 fewer seats to be filled by international students. At approximately \$725 per credit (current rate) and assuming 3 credits per course,

that amounts to $30,377 \times \$725 \times 3 = \70.8M (approximate), which is about \$50M less than what was in the FY25 base budget (and about \$50M less than the FY24 actual revenue).

- Presentation by Carole LaPlante (interim Director, Financial Services)
 - The large drop in revenue from international tuition fees will be somewhat cushioned by the ability to draw on surpluses from previous years, including the sale of land at the Cloverdale campus. These are called “deferred contributions” that we can draw on for specific purposes pre-approved by the government. \$25.8M of these funds will be used in FY2026.
 - Despite that, the budget includes a \$3.8M decrease in the faculty salary budget. It also includes a \$1.6M increase in BCGEU salaries and a \$2.6M increase in Administration salaries. The increase in admin salary budget is due mostly to these one-time-only amounts included in the \$5.68M, which will support recruitment & retention.
 - There is still a further \$8M “budget reduction target” and exactly where those reductions are made will be determined in the next two months. \$5M of the “budget reduction target” is for salaries, and will mostly affect Admin and GEU salaries. Therefore, the increases in admin and GEU will be lower when these targets are applied. The other \$3M of the budget reduction target will come from non-salary expenses.
- After the presentations, there was a discussion of what the future holds for KPU, beyond the next fiscal year. Lori McElroy said that we have to assume that the international enrolments won’t rebound to previous levels, and that the reduction could be permanent.
- The president talked about how there will have to be a serious rethinking of what KPU is about over the next two years. It could well end up in a smaller institution with a stronger focus on its polytechnic mandate.

6.3. Senate Standing Committee on Academic Planning and Priorities (SSCAPP):

- Budget was the big item for the joint meeting; SSCAPP also approved an institutional recognition request from Focus College.

6.4. Senate Standing Committee on Curriculum (SSCC):

- No report

6.5. Senate Standing Committee on Research (SSCR):

- The Research Advancement Strategy has completed its yearlong revision under Danny Bernstein’s leadership and is now being sent to Senate for consideration.

6.6. Senate Standing Committee on Teaching and Learning (SSCTL):

- SSCTL met on February 6. The committee received reports from:
 - Teaching & Learning, who are still looking for faculty volunteers to beta test the full Simple Syllabus system (email tlcommons@kpu.ca if interested.)
 - The Learning Centres, who have run lots of Academic Skills Workshops which have been well-received by students. Encourage your students to sign up!

- The committee also discussed and gave feedback on a proposal for a professional development pathway for faculty coming from the Teaching and Learning Commons. Tracks would include: 1) Designing Learning; 2) Supporting Digital Learning; 3) Inclusive Learning Environments; 4) High Impact Practices.

7. Committee Reports

7.1. Curriculum Committee:

Course Revision

- [BIOL 1160: Anatomy and Physiology I](#) (Nick Inglis/Michael Kiraly)
- [BIOL 1260: Anatomy and Physiology II](#) (Nick Inglis/Michael Kiraly)

New Course

- [BIOL 1170: Human Anatomy and Physiology I](#) (Nick Inglis/Michael Kiraly)
- [BIOL 1270: Human Anatomy and Physiology II](#) (Nick Inglis/Michael Kiraly)

MOTION: THAT the Faculty Council approves the course revisions and new courses in Biology.
Seconded: Mike Coombes, **Carried.**

7.2. Academic Planning and Priorities:

- No report.

7.3. Research:

- No report.

7.4. Nominations and Governance:

- A reminder that there is a Senate seat opening up as Fergal finishes his term. Nominations are due by February 28.

8. Guest:

Transforming Post-Secondary Education for Students with Disability – Fiona Whittington-Walsh

- Inclusion All Citizens Pathway (IACP)
 - Offers one of the first fully inclusive for credit post-secondary educational opportunities for people with intellectual or developmental disabilities
 - It is an inclusive pathway into post-secondary education and it demonstrates a commitment to the legal and moral responsibility to remove barriers for students with disabilities
- Lead Advisor on Disability, Accessibility, and Inclusion
 - Support the university with the disability, accessibility, and inclusion initiatives
 - Co-chairing the university's accessibility committee
 - Supporting policy revisions/creations
 - Supporting instructors with transforming their teaching to be able to teach to a wide range of learners, including students with disabilities, and it is about building supports right into our pedagogy

- The Medical Model
 - Only 5% of adults with disability are attending post-secondary in Canada
 - Disable students are often seen as a small subpopulation of students who require special services and accommodations
 - Research has demonstrated that this type of thinking puts students in a vulnerable position to have to disclose a perceived deficit, which further facilitates students themselves as a deficit
 - Many students do not disclose or seek these services due to its medical model foundation, as well as, a lack of understanding of the disability support process
 - This causes passivity where students are not encouraged to advocate for the supports and accommodations that they require, or to be able to express or even understand how it is that they learn. Faculty are often left out of this process. They only receiving notification of an approved accommodation for a specific student who has somehow satisfied diagnostic requirements.
- The Research
 - In 2021, a survey to document the experiences of post-secondary students with disabilities was created from funding from a three-year Irving K Barber Grant and a grant from the Social Justice Committee of the Kwantlen Student Association.
- Experts
 - The survey was created in collaboration with multiple experts to make sure the survey questions were in plain language, accessible, and actually useful.
 - We also collaborated with disabled students, the National Education Association for Disabled Students, Indigenous Disability Canada, Self-Advocate Leaders in BC, representative from post-secondary accommodation services, Dr. Jennifer Hardwick, and Dr. Cherlynn Bassani, a survey design expert.
 - Research ethics was approved through the Provincial Research Ethics Platform because the research was occurring on numerous BC institutions.
- Survey
 - Yes/No/NA questions, and students also had the ability to write in their responses
 - We believed that it is very important to understand who the students are, let students explain who they are, and describe their experiences in their own terms and in their own way.
 - Fall 2021 to Spring 2022.
 - The survey ran from Fall 2021 to Spring 2022 and it was sent out to all post-secondary institutes in BC through their student unions
 - There were weekly reminders to the student unions and wrote the emails to the students to be sent out.
 - There were 141 responses from 11 institutions.
- Dissemination of Research
 - Simon Driver, an instructor in the EACS program, asked if the research can be disseminated using theatre.
 - Two education plans were changed to allow Fiona to teach a policy studies class in the Fall of 2023, POST 1200: Inclusive Communities and Sustainable Futures. This course was a part of the IACP.
- Theatre as Pedagogy, Theatre as Research
 - This will allow the Policy Studies students to study the accommodation policies at various post-secondary institutes in BC while simultaneously exploring the lived

experiences of disabled students with those very policies and doing it all through theatre.

- Simon Driver joined the second-half of each class. It started off with exploring theatre exercises and games. After week 3, some quotes from the survey results were introduced to the students, and those quotes were turned into vignettes.
- Introducing the lived experiences of those very policies the class was studying was critical to their understanding and their unfolding knowledge.
- Vicki Haynes, an Indigenous studies instructor and also an Indigenous performer, joined the class and guided the class with performance expertise and self-care.
- The vignettes were performed live at an Indigenous Disability Awareness Month event in November 2023 in the KPU Surrey campus.
- Barriers and systemic ableism, along with its impacts on disabled student experiences, were identified.
- Transforming Post-Secondary Education for Students with Disabilities
 - We heard them
 - We are listening
 - We have not forgotten them
 - Their stories are imprinted on us
 - “the way the handprints of the potter cling to the clay vessel” (Benjamin, 1963)

Meeting adjourned by Chair at 5:10 PM

Date of next Faculty Council: March 18, 2025