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BUSINESS FACULTY COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of Regular Meeting
Monday, March 23, 2026
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
MS Teams Online

Voting Members on Committee: 17 **Quorum: 9**

Voting Members:

Braaksma, Anita	Kwan, Ben (Chair)	Somji, Alia (Dean)
Charlton, Peter	Lantinova, Vera (Vice Chair)	Whittemore, Joel
Ebrahimi, Shora	Morkunas, Vida	Wong, Richard
Jarvis, Jeremy	Pannu, Mandeep	
Kietaibl, Anton	Ramnarine, Sasha	

Members present: 13 Simple Majority: 7

Non-Voting:

Al Modares, Alex	MacNeil, Joanne
Valle Anaya, Tiffany	Wong, Kamson
Gilbert, Lori-Ann	
Herrmann, Shari Ann	

Regrets:

Cook Bondy, Robin	Machado, Marcelo
Henwood, Nadia	Rai, Raveena
Khoshaien, Azadeh	Wanniarachchi, Kavinda

Guests:

Kleis, Landon	Warren, Valerie
Paschen, Jeannette	

Office Support:

Jeffrey, Alyssa

1. **Call to Order and Territorial Acknowledgement**

   The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

2. **Approval of Agenda**

   Anita moved the agenda be confirmed as circulated.

The motion carried.

3. Approval of Minutes, March 2, 2026

Anton moved the minutes be accepted as circulated.

The motion carried.

4. Chairs Report

The Chair reported that one member of Faculty Council has submitted a resignation due to Faculty Layoffs.

Ben chaired one section of Curriculum Committee while an election was underway for a new Chair. Ralph Ferens has been elected and accepted the Nomination as the new chair of Curriculum Committee.

5. Deans Report

The Dean reported that Faculty Layoffs took place last week and those that were potentially impacted were notified. Some people would have received memo indicating that one or more faculty have been impacted and if anyone is interested in mitigation strategy to contact HR.

Mitigation has to directly impact a faculty member in your department as it is not across the Melville School of Business.

Decisions are being made based on the collective agreement but due to this, it is grey in a lot of areas and strategies will have to be made in order to move forward.

30 Full time Employees received notice of potential layoff. With this, BCGEU staff were also affected. Over the last 12 months we have lost 10 BCGEU staff to attrition or through layoffs. We are now down to 13 staff within the Deans office. A University Communicator email is expected to go out this week to give details of how many people have been impacted or received potential layoff notice.

There is a growing demand for the Small Business Sector. They do not have the resources and capacity that the larger organizations do. As the MSoB presents itself as the academic hub and partner there could be a huge potential for us. These organizations travel to other Universities for development, this could raise our profile and our reputation.

We must demonstrate to the communities we serve that we are a valuable member in the marketplace. The more we engage with the community, our reputation will follow.

As the first round of the Pitch Competition took place, Alia would like to acknowledge the tremendous work that Nina, the judges and mentors that are helping the students. The next round is May 1st and there will be 8 groups moving forward. The MSoB has put some funding into using school buses from the high schools so we can bring them to the pitch event. Faculty are encouraged to attend.

Received approval for an Indigenous Entrepreneur.

6. **Faculty Council Subcommittee Reports (written updates)**

   6.1. Curriculum Committee
   6.2. Standing Committee on Governance Opportunity (Nominating Committee)
   6.3. Standing Committee on Business Education Framework (SCBEF)
   6.4. Standing Committee on Educational Quality (SCEQ)
   6.5. Research and Scholarship
   6.6. Academic Integrity Violation

   Standing rule: Written updates are circulated for awareness and are not discussed unless a council member requests discussion.

7. **New Business**

   7.1. Call for Election for Student Council Representative… ....Ben Kwan

   Moved by Sasha **The Motion Carried**

   7.2. * Course- level Decision: Prerequisite changes

   BUSI/ENTR 2110: Values, Rationality, and Power: Developing Wise Organizational Action

   MOTION: Motion to approve the prerequisite change for BUSI/ENTR 2110: Values, Rationality, and Power: Developing Wise Organizational Action

   The Motion Carried

   7.3. * Course- Level Decision: Prerequisite changes

   BUSI 2465: Negotiation Skills

   MOTION: Motion to approve the prerequisite change for BUSI 2465: Negotiation Skills

   The Motion Carried

   7.4. New Course Addition

   CBSY 1120: Work Smarter with Artificial Intelligence

   MOTION: Motion to approve the new course CBSY 1120: Work Smarter with Artificial Intelligence (with stated changes)

   The Motion Carried

   7.5. Program- level Decisions: Minor in Economics Modernization and upper-level courses structure revision

   MOTION: Motion to approve the Modernization of the Minor in Economics

   The Motion Carried

7.6. A Request to revise the current Standing Committee on Business Education Framework (SCBEF) mandate and membership as proposed or dissolve the current committee and strike a new committee with a new mandate.. Valerie Warren

The chair reported that the Business Education Framework Committee has been meeting since 2021. The Committee's primary work to date has been the development of a set of skills expected of all Business Students. This framework was previously approved by Faculty Council. The next phase of the Committee's work is to review the competencies identified last year and determine whether revisions are required. The Committee may also consider a clean-slate approach in evaluating how program credentials will achieve the desired outcomes.

The Chair further requested guidance from Faculty Council regarding the status of the Committee. Specifically, the Council is asked to determine whether the longstanding BEF Committee should be reconstituted with a new chair, or whether the current committee should continue with the addition of new members.

The Committee will proceed to identify and recommend any necessary changes to the curriculum. This includes determining which core courses are essential to ensure that graduates posses the knowledge and skills required upon completion of their studies.

The Committee will also re-evaluate the skills previously identified and consider whether a full redesign is warranted to meet the needs of future graduates. To support this work, the Chair proposed that an external facilitator be engaged to assist in guiding the discussion and planning process.

MOTION: That the mandate of the SCBEF be revised as presented, and that its membership be expanded to include representation from all Melville School of Business departments, including the Dean or designate

The Motion Carried

7.7. A request to approve the creation of the Standing Committee: Melville PLAR Application Guideline and Method Committee

The Committee is seeking support for the Melville PLAR Application Guideline and Method Committee. This proposal arises from the Melville PLAR Committee and Ralph Ferens. There is lack of consistency on how applications are evaluated with potential risk of subjectivity or apprehension of bias. The purpose of this committee is to have a proposed standing.

MOTION: that Faculty Council approve the creation of a standing committee titled the Melville PLAR Application Evaluation Guideline & Method Committee, with the mandate, structure, and composition as outline in the proposal presented

The Motion Carried

MOTION to extend the meeting by 10 minutes

The Motion Carried

8. Adjournment

Anita moved the meeting be adjourned.

The meeting adjourned at 3:07 p.m.