

MINUTES COLLEGE OF ARTS COUNCIL

March 25, 2022

4:00 pm | Abbotsford campus, Room A269

1. WELCOME from the CHAIR

S. Murray opened the meeting with a territorial acknowledgement

2. FOR APPROVAL

2.1. Adopt the College of Arts Council Agenda for March 25th, 2022

THAT CAC adopt the agenda for 25 March 2022 as presented.

M. Batu / E. Osterberg

CARRIED

2.2. Approve the College of Arts Council minutes of February 18th, 2022

THAT CAC adopt the minutes for 18 February 2022 as presented.

M. Batu / A. Cameron

CARRIED

3. CHAIR & VICE-CHAIR'S REPORT

Sylvie thanked Keziah Wallis, Stephania Pizzarini, Keith Carlson, and Lolehawk Buker for the panel discussion on Indigenization that took place at the last council meeting.

The panel was recorded and uploaded to the Arts YouTube channel:

<https://youtu.be/aRkILB6x8rl>.

On campus activities are slowly resuming. We have continued to host council meetings remotely to accommodate this large group, but we will revisit the idea of returning to face-to-face or a hybrid model for meetings beginning in Fall. It has been great seeing colleagues and students again on campus and council is encouraged to continue to migrate our activities back to campus.

Live events are resuming in-person again. "Pericles", the first live theatre production runs to April 2nd and it will be streamed online.

GDD is collaborating with SoCA for their end of year show on April 8th.

Student research day will take place in the SUB on March 31st.

Convocation is back in-person, June 14th and 15th.

The UFV School of Creative Arts and The Reach Gallery Museum are thrilled to announce a talk with artists Simranpreet Anand, Conner Singh VanDerBeek, and curator Sajdeep Soomal, on Tuesday, March 29, 1:00-2:00 pm via Zoom. Everyone is welcome to join. Register on Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/artist-talk-with-simranpreet-connor-tickets-269988772687>

Sylvie thanked the group for the ongoing work within Arts departments. Program reviews have been moving along and the Dean's office acknowledges how much work goes into these.

March 21st was the International Day for Racial Discrimination. RAN held a panel to review and discuss where we are as an institution; Sylvie thanked everyone that organized and participated in this event.

COA has been creating a website for our Anti-Racism commitment Team and reminded everyone of the accountability framework, and to share your stories.

RAN published their Action 2021 review report. We can all read, reflect, and consider actions we can take now towards "envisioning, promoting, and building a racially equitable, diverse, and inclusive university." <https://www.ufv.ca/media/assets/race-antiracism-network-ran/RAN-REPORT-REVIEW-2021-SUMMARY-AND-RECOMMENDATIONS--final-Feb-24-2021.pdf>

Members of our communities have been victims of hate speech through email and in classrooms. We need to be aware of this and support them and come up with a set of guidelines to deal with this.

Our next meeting is in May due to the long weekend in April.

The Arts Studies department will host the Bachelor of Integrated Studies and the General Studies diploma moving forward. The Integrated and General Studies program committee terms of reference are being revised and a call for members will come out shortly.

4. SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

No reports offered

5. FOR DISCUSSION

5.1. Russell Campbell - Workshop on Adjusted Learning Techniques

R. Campbell presented on his approach to Classroom Volunteer-Led Communities.

5.2. Supporting International Students (Guest: Satwinder Bains)

Two readings below related to this International discussion

[The Shadowy Business of International Education In India and Canada's International Student Recruitment](#)

Sylvie introduced the discussion item and Satwinder Bains, Director of SASI, and faculty member of SCMS.

The first discussion goal is to gain a greater understanding of the system in which international education is operating. The second is to recognize that we have the responsibility to act as moral, ethical agents in this system.

Break outs discussed the strengths international students bring, and how faculty can support and build on those strengths. How classroom practices intersect with the complex environment outside the classroom and what wrap-around or other supports UFV should provide international students.

Small Group Feedback:

Classroom suggestions

- Particularly want to make sure that materials and course content is accessible to international students. Consider ways we could change our practices: e.g., course content and topics, assessment types. Are the international students getting value from the class?
- Offer supplemental written materials or close-captioned video material
- Faculty need support to help equitably. Need to understand cultural backgrounds and student preparedness.
- Workshop/training should be offered to faculty on how to provide equitable allowances (rather than “fair” policies) and supports to students who have differing needs
- Practice more kindness in how we read student writing.
- Offer feedback on patterns, but do not necessarily grade everything that comes in.
- Have strong rubrics to help students understand grading criteria.
- Motivate them academically towards critical thinking.
- Change the standards or take a more individualized approach.
- A writing center with writing across the disciplines would set students up to be successful.
- Offer equitable allowances with assignment deadlines or offer the option to retry assignments set early in the semester.
- PASS system referrals
- Instructor liaison's that would be the initial link for students, as they get their bearings.
- Peer tutoring specifically for international students, perhaps incentivize it as students are more comfortable approaching their peers than the instructor.

Students experience loneliness and isolation, especially at the beginning of the semester.

- Spend some time with students and being aware of their mental state
- Create opportunities for students to socialize with one another (games, etc.) in the classroom
- The library supports underprepared students
 - Drop-in sessions
 - Librarian hours at the international student center
- The flat fee for international students is problematic as manageable course loads impact student success. Strong recommendation to use a credit-by-credit fee system which would be useful for students who may need to drop classes and are unable to keep up with their initial (required) course loads.

- Supports need to be in place before they arrive on campus.
- Add to and expand resources to share in advance
- Off campus life impacts on campus life – better housing support or residence and better student handbooks, video orientations pre-arrival.
- Several points could be addressed through videos and contacts, possibly online meeting with groups so that some shock and expectations are clearly shared, and students get a sense of welcome.

Further Reading:

<https://thevarsity.ca/2022/03/25/international-student-tuition-investigation-whatever-it-takes/>

- Article in the CBC about how some students are being blackmailed by “paper writing” mills after they purchase one essay.

<https://www.cbc.ca/listen/live-radio/1-14-day-6/clip/15901629-why-canada-vulnerable-dollar15-billion-global-academic-cheating>

6. FOR INFORMATION

6.1. The following items were approved at the College of Arts Curriculum Committee:

Note: Supporting documents can be found at:

<http://ufv.ca/arts/committees/college-of-arts-curriculum-committee/meeting-information/>

**No items, February meeting was cancelled*

**6.2. Senate Faculty Positions - 1 Humanities Faculty; 1 Social Science Faculty
For more information or to apply visit here:**

<https://www.ufv.ca/secretariat/get-involved/board--senate- vacancies/>

6.3. Student Speaker | Convocation 2022 - Nominations are to be submitted to the Provosts office by noon on April 14th [here](#)

6.4. March 31st - Student Research Day | Evered hall | 11:00-4:00 pm

6.5. April 14th - Classes End for Winter Semester

6.6. April 15th - Good Friday | UFV Closed

6.7. April 18th - Easter Monday | UFV Closed