



OISE COUNCIL

April 27, 2022

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF OISE COUNCIL, held on April 27, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. via Zoom

Present:

Prof. Katharine Janzen (Chair), Prof. Normand Labrie (Interim Dean), Rushain Abbasi, David Allens, Sezen Atacan, Vesna Bajic, Prof. Abigail Bakan, Diana Barrero, Prof. Nina Bascia, Asmita Bhutani Vij, Prof. Clare Brett, Missy Chareka, Prof. Charles Chen, Jennifer Cho, Prof. Daniel Corral, Dr. Valerie Damasco, Julia Duncan, Prof. Rubén Gaztambide-Fernández, Dr. Sheldon Grabke, Justin Holloway, Helen Huang, Dr. Hilary Inwood, Prof. Kaja Jasinska, Alison Jefferson, Perry King, Prof. Carly Manion, Varun Malik, Dr. Kenneth McNeilly, Prof. David Montemurro, Prof. Michele Peterson-Badali, Prof. Angela Pyle, Jeananne Robertson, Prof. Creso Sá, Dr. Gurpreet Sahmbi, Huda Salha, Prof. Sarfaroz Niyozov, Said Sidani, Dr. Jesse Sims, Henry Ssali, Ian Liujia Tian, Prof. Njoki Wane, Dr. Lesley Wilton, Desmond Wong, Prof. Earl Woodruff, Zian Zhang, Yun Zhan, Prof. Terezia Zoric

Secretariat:

Biljana Cuckovic (Secretary of OISE Council), Lisa Smith, Jennifer Tucker, Doug Ullrich

Guests:

Lynne Alexandrova, Ateeqa Arain, Tess Barclay, Ai-ri Brown, Lara Cartmale, Dr. Adleen Crapo, Mindy Harris, Sim Kapoor, Tzazna Miranda Leal, Jessica Lovett, Prof. Amal Madibbo, Denise Makovac, Henrjeta Mece, Dr. Angela Nardozi, Leah Scherk, Dr. Erin Sperling, Dr. Jeff Stickney

Regrets:

Prof. Kathy Broad (Vice-Chair), Maha Babeker, Prof. Joshua Barker (Dean, School of Graduate Studies), Prof. Megan Boler, Prof. Jennifer Brant, Samantha Burns, Prof. Anne Marie Chudleigh, Prof. Yiola Cleovoulou, Alison D’Cruz, Prof. Diane Farmer, Dr. Monique Flaccavento, Prof. Meric Gertler (President), Prof. Kang Lee, Prof. Emmanuelle Le Pichon-Vorstman, Prof. Rhonda Martinussen, Prof. Douglas McDougall, Prof. Roy Moodley, Dr. Elisabeth Rees-Johnstone, Prof. Cheryl Regehr (Vice-President and Provost), Matt Stodolak, Prof. Miglena Todorova

Acknowledgement of Traditional Land

The Chair, Professor Katharine Janzen, commenced the meeting by reading the land acknowledgement.

1. Opening Remarks

The Chair welcomed members and guests to the fourth and final meeting of OISE Council in 2021-2022, and provided an overview of the participation guidelines for virtual meetings.

2. Review and Approval of Agenda

The Agenda for the meeting was approved.

3. Review and Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

- Revised Minutes of the December 15, 2021 meeting of OISE Council were approved.
- Minutes of the February 23, 2022 meeting of OISE Council were approved.

4. Chair's Report

The Chair reported that at the April 18, 2022 meeting, the Executive Committee discussed the timing of a potential townhall on student funding and determined that it cannot take place while the bargaining process was underway between the University and the CUPE 3907 union representing Graduate Assistants. The Executive will discuss the timing of the townhall after the completion of the bargaining process. The Chair informed members that the schedule of governance meetings for OISE Council and its standing committees for the 2022-2023 academic year will be finalized, and published on the governance website, by July 1, 2022. She then thanked members of Council for their participation and contributions to the governance process at OISE during the 2021-2022 academic year.

5. Dean's Report

The Interim Dean, Professor Normand Labrie, began his report by announcing the appointment of Professor Erica Walker, an award-winning researcher and professor of mathematics education at Columbia University's Teachers College, as dean of OISE effective January 1, 2023. Professor Labrie also announced academic leadership changes effective July 1, 2022. Professor Sarfaro Niyozov will serve as Interim Associate Dean, Programs for the Fall term of 2022. Simultaneously, there will be a search for a new Associate Dean, Programs for the Winter term of 2023. Professor Michele Peterson-Badali's term as Associate Dean, Research, International and Innovation was extended for an additional year, and she will continue to serve in the role during 2022-2023. While the search for a new Chair of the Department of Curriculum, Teaching and Learning (CTL) continues, Professor Doug McDougall will serve as Interim Chair of CTL during 2022-2023. On July 1, 2022, Professor Creso Sá will commence his term as Chair of the Department of Leadership, Higher and Adult Education. A new Director of the Dr. Eric Jackman Institute of Child Study will be announced following the completion of the search.

Related to research, Professor Labrie reported that six out of eight applications for the SSHRC Insight Grants were successful indicating a 75 percent success rate for OISE compared to 52 percent national average. According to the QS university rankings for 2022, the University of Toronto and OISE ranked fourth in the world in the subject of education after the University College London, the University of Cambridge, and the University of Oxford, positioning OISE strongly amongst the leading institutions in the world.

Regarding faculty renewal, the Dean informed members that searches were underway for nine faculty positions, and acknowledged faculty and students serving on the search committees, and staff who support the searches. For the coming year, OISE will be searching for five new faculty members of which three will be retirement replacements, and two will be newly created positions.

In March 2022, the Association of Canadian Deans of Education launched a new Accord on Education for Sustainable Future signalling the importance of sustainability education. OISE is an exemplary actor in this field with its Sustainability and Climate Action Network (SCAN), and its Climate Action Plan completed in 2021. The Natural Curiosity project on developing an awareness of Indigenous perspectives in environmental inquiry will be the first initiative to receive funding from OISE's newly created Sustainability Fund. Also in March 2022, OISE's SCAN initiative received a Sustainable Action Award from the University's Sustainability Office, which highlights OISE as a campus leader in sustainability and climate action work.

Turning to advancement, the Dean noted that, owing to the excellent work of Director of Advancement, Sim Kapoor, and her team, OISE surpassed its fundraising goal of six hundred thousand dollars by raising nearly one million dollars this year, which will enhance the Institute's efforts to support student financial needs through scholarships and bursaries.

OISE's annual Excellence Awards Celebration held virtually on April 12, 2022, was a huge success with close to 150 participants. The winners of OISE's teaching awards, staff awards, and long service awards were acknowledged along with the OISE faculty members recipients of the university awards.

Related to the academic continuity planning, the Dean advised members that classes in May and June of 2022 will be held predominantly online to allow OISE's teacher candidates who obtained a temporary teaching certificate to teach during the summer term. The Department of CTL surveyed its teacher candidates regarding their preferences for the delivery of courses in July and August, and thirty percent expressed interest in in-person courses while seventy percent preferred online courses. The Department will accommodate both groups of students by offering some in-person courses in the summer along with an ample offer of online courses. For the Fall term of 2022, there will be a more progressive return to in-person activities and more courses will be offered in-person; however, OISE is planning for a substantial offer of online courses throughout the academic year of 2022-2023.

In closing, the Dean thanked members for their contributions, and acknowledged the exceptional work of Professor Katharine Janzen who was completing her two-year term as Chair of OISE Council.

A number of CUPE 3902 members were in attendance to discuss OISE's preparedness for a gradual return to in-person teaching in the fall term. A question was raised by a guest in attendance regarding when the information on ventilation and air quality safety of the building will be made available. The Dean responded that the responsibility for ventilation and air quality of the OISE building rests with the University of Toronto Facilities and Services that employs engineers and other experts to test the air quality and maintain the ventilation system. He added that he trusts that all appropriate measures are being taken to ensure that air quality standards in the building are met. Additionally, the Office of the CAO works closely with the University Facilities and Services, and has gathered a series of questions from the community regarding these issues. Based on these, the Frequently Asked Questions page will be developed, and will soon be posted on OISE's Covid-19 response information website.

Professor Terezia Zoric commented that at the coming meeting of OISE's Joint Health and Safety Committee (JHSC), which will be held on May 12, 2022, an occupational health and safety expert from the Dalla Lana School of Public Health, as well as an indoor air quality expert will join the Committee members to discuss issues around safety of the OISE building. She added that, following the JHSC meeting, it would be valuable to organize a community meeting to discuss these issues. The Dean agreed that health and safety issues are important to the whole community, and that timing of such a meeting, as well as format, would need to be considered especially since most members of the OISE community are taking holidays during the summer months. A student member of Council—also a member of the JHSC, reported that the Committee has been requesting information on the OISE building ventilation system and air quality from the University management since the beginning of the pandemic; however, only a single report was received to date. It was noted that more transparency and better access to the OISE building air quality and ventilation data is needed, and this information should be distributed more broadly. It was further suggested that, in preparation for the fall term of 2022, the JHSC should be a standing committee of OISE Council to report back on its work, findings, deliberations and recommendations. The Dean responded that OISE does not produce air quality reports and that the University is responsible for that. He reiterated that the CAO Office works closely with the University Facilities and Services on these

issues, and that the development of the OISE-specific FAQs regarding air quality will provide the community with relevant and timely information regarding the building safety. The Dean noted that, while the *Occupational Health and Safety Act* requires that organizations have a JHSC, these committees are normally not part of a formal governance structure. OISE's academic governance structure is stipulated in the Constitution and there are no plans to initiate a review of the Constitution at this time. Another student member echoed previous comments and supported the idea of a community-wide meeting. Related to the announced discontinuation of the University mask mandate effective July 2022, a concern was expressed that this issue has been racialized and may negatively impact Asian students. Given that a number of in-person classes are scheduled for July, another concern was expressed regarding lifting of the mask mandate highlighting that instructors are unsure who to contact in case of any issues, especially as many administrators and staff will be taking holidays in July and August. It was also stressed that the OISE building elevators tend to be overcrowded during peak times, which is another safety concern for return to in-person classes in the fall term.

Helen Huang, CAO, described the latest building entry protocol according to which the subway entrance will remain closed until September to limit access to individuals who are not members of the OISE community. She added that, while UCheck is no longer required, the OISE building protocol asks community members to continue to monitor their health and not to visit campus if feeling unwell. Additionally, the link to Ontario's COVID-19 self-assessment tool is available online to aid members in screening. In terms of events, it was noted that only those that are internal to OISE are allowed, and that room capacity limits continue to be at fifty percent in May and June. It was highlighted that OISE's approach to reopening continues to be very cautious compared to other divisions at the University. The Dean added that classrooms accessible by stairs have been booked for in-person classes; and that additional classrooms that will not necessarily be used have also been reserved to prevent external bookings, alleviate crowding of the elevators, and manage traffic in the building in the fall term. Professor Clare Brett reported on her department's plans to ensure building safety, and commended the work Helen Huang, CAO, on being a strong advocate for OISE's cautious approach to in-person activities amid rapidly changing policies and numerous challenges.

6. Reports from Standing Committees

- A. Academic Programs** – Professor David Montemurro, Chair of the Academic Programs Committee, reported on the Committee's proposals approved at the meeting held on March 4, 2022, which included one major modification proposal, four minor changes to existing programs, and three new courses.

For Approval: New International Dual Degree Program

This proposal introduces a new dual degree program involving the Counselling Psychology Master of Education (MEd), field in Global Mental Health (GMH), offered by the Department of Applied Psychology and Human Development (APHD) at OISE, and the Master of Applied Psychology (MAP), offered by the Department of Psychology and Behavioural Science at Zhejiang University (ZJU). Professor Montemurro invited Professor Earl Woodruff to speak to the proposal. It was noted that this was the third dual degree in the Department of APHD. The first two involve the same OISE/APHD MEd degree/field, and master's degrees offered within the Department of Psychiatry at China Medical University that were approved in the Fall term of 2020, and the Fall term of 2021. APHD's collaboration with ZJU allows both institutions to leverage their strengths and offer a dual degree to train graduates who will apply their expertise in mental health to respond to the needs of local communities, as well to contribute to dialogue and mental health service development initiatives.

On a motion duly moved, seconded and carried, IT WAS RESOLVED,

THAT the establishment of the Dual Degree Program in Counselling Psychology (MEd), Field in Global Mental Health/APHD, OISE, and the Master of Applied Psychology (MAP), Department of Psychology and Behavioural Science/Zhejiang University (ZJU), be APPROVED effective September 2023.

Of 43 members present and voting, 40 were in favour, 3 abstained, none opposed.

For Information: Minor Modifications: Changes to Existing Programs

- Adult Education and Community Development – PhD – change to program requirements
- Clinical and Counselling Psychology – MA – change to admissions requirements
- Counselling Psychology, Field in Global Mental Health – MEd – change to program requirements
- Developmental Psychology and Education, Emphasis in Program Evaluation – MEd – change to program requirements

For Information: Minor Modifications: New Courses

- APD1273H Psychology & Education of Children and Adolescents with Autism Spectrum Disorder
- CTL3041H Theories in Vocabulary Teaching and Learning
- CTL3811H Critical Perspectives on Language, Racism, and Settler-Colonialism

- B. Equity** – On behalf of Professor Emmanuelle Le Pichon-Vorstman, Chair of the Equity Committee, who was absent from the meeting, Helen Huang, CAO and Dean’s designate on the Committee reported on the Committee’s discussions at the meeting held on April 12, 2022.

The committee discussed feedback from the environmental scan survey on equity initiatives completed in March 2022, which indicated that the community uses a variety of approaches to address equity issues, is willing to share information, and engage in further conversation. The Committee will be conducting an in-depth review of the survey feedback, and hopes to share the results in the next academic year. The department Chairs, associate Chairs, centre directors, and heads of non-academic units were acknowledged for participating in the survey, and for their support of the Committee’s work. The Committee also reviewed the year’s activities including the successful Black Faculty in Conversation event, held on February 16, 2022; and the Mental Health and Wellness information session, held on March 16, 2022, which is available on YouTube as a resource on the University mental health services. Additionally, a new list of resources entitled “Mental Health in Digital Pedagogy” was created and added to the “Equity Focused Digital Pedagogy and Learning Guide” available on the OISE Library Website. Lastly, all members of the Equity Committee were acknowledged for their contributions in 2021-2022, as well as the Committee’s Research Assistant, Mai Naji, for supporting the work of the Committee.

- C. Research** – Professor Rubén Gaztambide-Fernández, Chair of the Research Committee reported on the Committee’s discussions at the meeting held on March 23, 2022.

At its last meeting of the year, the Committee discussed the Visiting Scholars Funding Program, and the need to review this program and revisit the terms of reference. Given that the program has been on pause during the pandemic, it was agreed that the program should resume in 2022-2023 before it is reviewed for effectiveness. Further, the Committee discussed the development of the research impact framework and toolkit for OISE researchers, which was underway by the Research Office to help scholars reflect on, assess, and communicate the impacts of their research. More information regarding this will be available in the coming academic year. The Committee also discussed ways to improve communication between various organizations, such as schools, that OISE faculty have research relationships with in order to continue to support research most effectively during the pandemic.

7. Other items

Before adjourning the meeting, the Chair asked if there are any additional comments or brief updates.

A student member followed up on her request made at the December 15, 2022 meeting that a message be sent to faculty regarding graduate students being asked to volunteer their labour performing teaching-related activities without a proper contract. The Dean responded that he has not yet acted on the issue and needs more time to consult with the School of Graduate Studies and Labour Relations regarding the matter. Therefore, an update will be provided at the next Council meeting. Another question was raised regarding what type of work considered acceptable under a Research Fellowship (RF) that is offered along with a Graduate Assistantship (GA) as part of the base funding package. The Dean explained that the funds for GAs come from OISE's operating budget, while the funds for RFs come from research grants. OISE faculty who receive research grants are invited each year to contribute to graduate student funding, which allows for combining half a GA with an RF while enhancing the sustainability of graduate student funding at OISE. The Dean added that RF duties should be aligned with objectives and deliverables outlined in the research grant application. It was noted that, while it is helpful to know from which source the funding comes from for GA vs. RF, it would be important to outline this more clearly on a website because during a recent bargaining process between the University and the CUPE 3907 union, this was a source of confusion. Another student member commented on the discrepancy in statements made by the Dean at OISE Council implying that student financial precarity is not an academic issue and as such is beyond the scope of OISE Council, and the statements made by the management bargaining team at the bargaining table who claim that the issue of student financial precarity at OISE is an academic issue. The Dean reiterated that once the collective agreement between the University and the union representing GAs has been ratified, the discussions regarding student funding matters can continue more broadly including a dedicated townhall meeting on student financial support.

8. Adjournment

The Chair thanked all member and guest for their contributions at the meeting, and to the work of OISE Council during the 2021-2022 academic year. The meeting was adjourned at 4:21 p.m.