



OISE COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF OISE COUNCIL, held on December 9, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. via Zoom

Present:

Prof. Glen Jones, Dean
Prof. Katharine Janzen, Chair
Prof. Kathy Broad, Vice-Chair

Ms. Rushain Abbasi
Ms. Maha Babeker
Ms. Vesna Bajic
Prof. Abigail Bakan
Ms. Diana Barrero
Ms. Asmita Bhutani Vij
Prof. Megan Boler
Prof. Clare Brett
Prof. Cassie Brownell
Prof. Elizabeth Buckner
Ms. Samantha Burns
Dr. Andrew Campbell
Prof. Carol Campbell
Ms. Lara Cartmale
Prof. Charles Chen
Prof. Anna Katyn Chmielewski
Mr. Alfredo Chow
Prof. Anne Marie Chudleigh
Prof. Yiola Cleovoulou
Dr. Valerie Damasco
Ms. Julia Duncan

Guests:

Ms. Lynne Alexandrova
Ms. Kerri Bailey
Mr. Greg Baross
Prof. Kathy Bickmore

Regrets:

Prof. Jennifer Brant
Prof. Nina Bascia
Prof. Joshua Barker

Prof. Diane Farmer
Ms. Monique Flaccavento
Prof. Rubén Gaztambide-Fernández
Ms. Hoda Gharib
Dr. Sheldon Grabke
Ms. Emily Hector
Mr. Justin Holloway
Ms. Helen Huang
Mr. Derek Hunt
Dr. Hilary Inwood
Ms. Nadiia Kachynska
Prof. Normand Labrie
Prof. Kang Lee
Prof. Emmanuelle Le Pichon-Vorstman
Mr. Varun Malik
Dr. Carly Manion
Prof. Rhonda Martinussen
Dr. Kenneth McNeilly
Ms. Henrjeta Mece
Prof. David Montemurro
Prof. Roy Moodley
Prof. Michele Peterson-Badali
Prof. Angela Pyle
Ms. Jeananne Robertson

Ms. Ai-Ri Brown
Ms. Jennifer Cho
Ms. Cassidy Gong
Dr. Ahmed Ilmi
Ms. Phoebe Kang

Prof. Meric Gertler
Prof. Shahrzad Mojab
Mr. Leping Mou
Prof. Ann Lopez
Ms. Elisabeth Rees-Johnstone

Prof. Creso Sá
Mr. Ryan Shoot
Mr. Said Sidani
Dr. Jesse Sims
Ms. Janice Spencer
Prof. Shelley Stagg Peterson
Prof. Lana Stermac
Mr. Matt Stodolak
Prof. Vannina Sztainbok
Ms. Norin Taj
Ms. Athena Tassis
Mr. Ian Liujia Tian
Prof. Njoki Wane
Ms. Hanna Wickstrom
Dr. Lesley Wilton
Prof. Earl Woodruff

Ms. Biljana Cuckovic, Secretary
of OISE Council

Secretariat:

Ms. Lisa Smith
Ms. Jennifer Tucker
Mr. Doug Ullrich

Ms. Sim Kapoor
Ms. Christine Lowe
Ms. Denise Makovac
Ms. Leah Scherk

Prof. Cheryl Regehr
Prof. Miglena Todorova
Ms. Heather Watts
Prof. Terezia Zoric

1. Acknowledgement of Traditional Land

In the opening statement, the Chair of Council, Professor Katharine Janzen acknowledged the traditional land on which the University of Toronto operates.

2. Opening Remarks

Prior to proceeding with the agenda, the Chair welcomed members and guests to the second meeting of OISE Council in 2020-2021, and provided an overview of the Participation Guidelines highlighting speaking and voting procedures for the online format.

3. Review and Approval of Agenda

The Agenda for the meeting was approved.

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

Minutes of the October 28, 2020 meeting of OISE Council were approved with a minor amendment on page 7—Research Committee Report—regarding the introduction of Research Committee Vice-Chair, Henrjeta Mece, by the Committee Chair, Professor Gaztambide-Fernández.

5. Dean's Report

The Dean began his report by reminding members that the University will be closed for the holiday break from December 23rd 2020 until January 4th 2021, and that the OISE building will be closed during this period. While the teacher education programs will resume classes on January 4th, most of other graduate programs' classes in the winter term of 2021 will start on January 11th.

Turning to faculty renewal, the Dean informed members that eight approved searches were underway and that search committees were established and keen on engaging in this important process.

Related to space planning, the earlier announced fifth-floor roof-top patio redesign project is in the early stages of university governance including the establishment of a committee that will advise on the project, and the initial review of financial arrangements for the project. Following the feasibility study that was completed last year, the next milestone will be the creation of a high-level architectural design for the project, which will include a student lounge, outdoor community garden and the Indigenous Education Network social and cultural practice space.

Two recently held virtual community events were highlighted: the virtual graduation celebration held on November 26, 2020; and the annual R.W.B. Jackson Lecture held on December 8, 2020 that featured alumna and literary giant, Dionne Brand, in conversation with renowned Black studies scholar, Professor Rinaldo Walcott. The Dean highlighted that over 1000 community members were in attendance and acknowledged staff members who have contributed to the success of these important events.

In closing, the Dean thanked members of the OISE community including students, staff, faculty, as well as academic and administrative leadership for their hard work and contributions over the course of the fall term of 2020, and wished everyone happy holidays and a relaxing break.

A question was raised regarding OISE students completing in-person placements amid the pandemic and whether OISE leadership consulted infectious disease and public health experts within the University regarding this. It was explained that the University has an expert advisory committee that advises the leadership regarding these issues. OISE teacher education programs are working closely with their partner

schools and school boards, and are varying practicum courses in structure and schedule to ensure the health and safety of students and community. All students completing in-person placements are required to follow school safety protocols including social distancing and use of face coverings.

Another question was raised whether a third Strategic Mandate Agreement (SMA) was signed between the University and the Ministry of Colleges and Universities and its implication for University funding related to performance indicators. It was explained that the universities were represented by the Council of Ontario Universities in initial conversations regarding performance metrics. When this approach was announced by the government a few years ago, the Dean participated in a discussion that looked at the implications of performance-based funding for the University of Toronto as Canada's most research-intensive institution. The SMA process was delayed because of the pandemic, and the introduction of performance-based funding was delayed by a year.

6. Reports from Standing Committees

A. Academic Programs – Professor Carol Campbell, Chair of the Academic Programs Committee, reported on the Committee's proposals approved at the meeting held on November 27, 2020.

Prior to presenting the Committee's proposals, Professor Campbell provided a clarification, for the record, related to the Dual Degree Program approved by OISE Council at its October 28, 2020 meeting. She noted that Dual Degree Programs are founded on a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the parties and that this process is supported by the Office of the Vice-Provost, Academic Programs (VPAP). In the process of negotiating the MOA, it was learned the degree offered by the China Medical University—partner in the Dual Degree Program—is not the Master of Science in Applied Psychology, rather it is the Master of Medicine in Psychiatry and Mental Health (MMEd). Professor Campbell noted that this error was a result of a translation issue and added that, following this clarification, the VPAP Office will update the academic calendar entry for the Dual Degree Program with the correct degree name, and ensure that the correct information is reported to University governance and to the Quality Council at the end of this academic year.

For Approval: Major Modification Proposals – Significant Changes to Existing Programs

- New Combined Degree Programs: HBSc/HBA, Victoria College, Faculty of Arts and Science, and MA-CSE, Department of Applied Psychology and Human Development, OISE

Professor Campbell invited Professor Yiola Cleovoulou to speak to the proposal. Professor Cleovoulou noted that the two proposed Combined Degree Programs will bring students enrolled in the Education and Society minor program offered by Victoria College who are completing either an HBSc or an HBA degree, to OISE's Master of Arts in Child Study and Education (MA-CSE) program. Professor Cleovoulou added that these program pathways will bring excellent students to the MA-CSE program and fortify the longstanding collaboration in teacher education between OISE and Victoria College.

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

THAT the establishment of two Combined Degree Programs in Honours Bachelor of Science (HBSc)/ or Honours Bachelor of Arts (HBA), Victoria College, Faculty of Arts and Science, and the Master of Arts in Child Study and Education (MA-CSE), Department of Applied Psychology and Human Development, OISE, be APPROVED effective September 2021.

Of 58 members present and voting, 54 were in favour, none opposed, 4 abstained

In addition to the major modification proposal, Professor Campbell reported that, at its November 27, 2020 meeting, the Academic Programs Committee also approved four minor modifications to existing programs, and nine new courses.

For Information: Minor Modifications Proposals: Changes to Existing Programs

- Child Study and Education, MA – Change to Program Requirements
- Counselling Psychology, Global Mental Health Field, MEd – Change to Program Requirements
- Language and Literacies Education, Language Teaching Field, MEd – Change to Program and Admissions Requirements
- Educational Leadership and Policy, EdD – Change to Program Requirements

For Information: Minor Modifications Proposals: New Courses

- APD3303H Advanced Study of Tools and Research Methods for Investigating Problems of Practice: Data-Driven Research for Decision-Making
- APD3305H Systems and Organizational Change
- APD3401H Assessment with Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Children, Youth, and Families
- APD3402H Intervention with Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Children, Youth, and Families
- APD3403H EdD Internship in School Psychology
- JOI 3229H Meta-Analysis for Research in Psychology and Education (RM)
- CTL3200H Analyse du discours
- CTL3201H Bilinguisme et éducation
- CTL3202H Politique et aménagement linguistique

B. Equity – Professor Emmanuelle Le Pichon-Vorstman, Chair of the Equity Committee reported on the Committee’s discussions at the meeting held on November 24, 2020.

Professor Le Pichon-Vorstman reported that two Equity Committee sponsored events will take place in the winter term. The interactive workshop for faculty and staff entitled: “Understanding your Responsibility for Preventing Racial Discrimination and Harassment in the Work Environment”, facilitated by the Anti-racism and Cultural Diversity Office, will be held on February 2, 2021. The second installation of the Black Faculty in Conversations event entitled: “Black Faculty in Conversations with our Communities about our Collective Futures in COVID Times” will take place during the Black History Month, on February 10, 2020. Registration information for these events will be available early in the winter term of 2021. The Committee is also working with the Centre for Teaching Support and Innovation (CTSI) on organizing the third workshop entitled: “Creating Equitable Classrooms: how to Better Understand International Student Needs”. Related to this, the Committee will conduct a survey of international students at OISE in order to gather information about their experiences.

C. Research – Professor Professor Gaztambide-Fernández, Chair of the Research Standing Committee reported on the Committee’s discussions from the meeting held on November 18, 2020.

Professor Gaztambide-Fernández reported that the Committee discussed the proposed review of the Visiting Scholars Funding Program, which is currently on hold due to the pandemic. The purpose of the review would be to determine whether the program should continue and if so, in what format, and to assess the program’s objectives and terms of reference. The Committee decided that the review should be postponed until more information is available regarding when the University and OISE will resume its ‘on campus’ operations. The Committee also received an update from Professor Michele Peterson-Badali, Associate Dean, Research, International and Innovation, regarding the University’s Research Restart and Adaptation Committee, and directions regarding on-campus research requests and collaboration initiatives with both internal and external community partners during the pandemic.

7. OISE Review 2020-2021

The Dean reminded members that, in 2020-2021, an external review of OISE was commissioned by the Provost to coincide with the last year of the Dean's five-year term. This process involves a preparation of a self-study document that provides an overview of OISE over the past five years. In consultation with the departmental and unit leadership, the Dean's Office is preparing this document based on centrally provided data on OISE's programs, research and organizational features. The preliminary draft of the self-study will be completed and shared with the community for feedback before the holiday break. Given the Provostial oversight over the review process, the self-study draft will also be shared with the Provost's Office for their review and input.

An overview of cyclical reviews as the University's mechanism for assuring quality was provided. As a measure of its importance, the review report, as well as the administrative response to the review will be taken forward to University governance. The review represents an excellent opportunity for OISE to demonstrate its commitment to academic excellence, reflect on opportunities and challenges facing the Institute, and receive expert advice from leaders in the field on key strategic directions.

The Dean provided an overview of the terms of reference for the review, as well as the review timeline, highlighting that the completed self-study report is due to the Provost's Office in the end of January 2021, and that the virtual site visit is scheduled to take place from March 22 to 26, 2021. The three-member external review team includes: Professor Robert Floden, Dean, College of Education, Michigan State University; Professor Christopher Morphew, Dean, School of Education, Johns Hopkins University; and Professor Jennifer Tupper, Dean, Faculty of Education, University of Alberta.

Following the presentation, there was a brief discussion regarding challenges and opportunities facing OISE over the next five years, as well as possible emerging directions for the Institute. Among challenges, diminishing provincial funding was highlighted, as well as the impact of the pandemic on education. Regarding possible future directions, several suggestions were heard ranging from the need to continually monitor the success of our students, and focus on faculty renewal, to the need to continue to grow Equity, Diversity and Inclusion initiatives within OISE.

A question was raised whether the new performance-based funding of Universities has any implications for the review process and for the future of various programs. It was explained that metrics associated with the performance-based funding measures are relatively complicated but do not suggest major funding changes and will be rolled out over a period of time. Related to this, increases in government funding are also not anticipated, which highlights the broader challenge associated with increasing costs and OISE's needs to think about budgets carefully over the next five years.

Related to supporting student success, student representative, Diana Barerro, noted that she and two other student representatives on OISE Council were hoping to present the survey results on services available to students during the pandemic; however, this item was not included on the agenda for the meeting because of a missed deadline. She raised a question regarding measures the OISE administration will put in place for the winter term to support students based on experiences gained over the summer and fall terms. The Dean responded that OISE's academic leadership, including department Chairs, is always interested in meeting with student groups and departmental student associations to discuss issues and hear student suggestions on various matters. Professor Normand Labrie, Associate Dean, Programs, chairs the Student Success Committee that meets regularly. Professor Labrie is also meeting regularly with members of OISE's International Student Association as one of the mechanisms to ensure student input. The Dean further noted that, while faculty, staff and leadership are fully committed to supporting students and are doing the best they can, not all of the student concerns have been resolved and the work on supporting student needs continues during these most challenging times through various mechanisms including community and financial support.

Another question was raised regarding the specific mechanisms to ensure input from diverse student groups into the review process. The Dean noted that, despite the very busy academic term, steep review timelines and challenges associated with working remotely, he and his team have been trying to make the process as open and transparent as possible. Given these circumstances, regular meetings including OISE Council, Student Experience Committee, Deans and Chairs, OISE Leadership Team, and departmental meetings are being utilized to facilitate consultations. Another mechanism is making the draft self-study broadly available, and making it relatively easy for community members to provide feedback. The Dean invited members to contact him directly with comments, questions or suggestions regarding the review.

8. OISE Sustainability and Climate Action Plan

The Dean reminded members that the OISE Climate Action Summit, which was held on January 31, 2020, and plans for this initiative were discussed at the December 11, 2019 meeting of OISE Council. Following the Summit, there was a number of activities ranging from the community survey, a number of interviews, literature review, research and development work, to the establishment of OISE's Climate Action Advisory Committee (CAAC). Tasked with the development of OISE's first Sustainability and Climate Action plan by the winter term of 2021, the CAAC developed a vision statement on sustainability and climate action for OISE, and determined the structure, as well as the main branches of the plan including: governance and institutional supports; facilities and services; curriculum and teaching; research; and community engagement and outreach. In addition to the process for the development of the plan, key actions for each of the branches of the plan, and next steps, were presented by Professor David Montemurro, and Dr. Hilary Inwood who are leading the initiative in collaboration with the Dean.

Related to the 2020-2021 external review of OISE, Dr. Inwood noted that sustainability and climate action could be one of OISE's future directions over the next five years. It was agreed that OISE is well positioned to take the leadership role within the University in this critical area. The process and key elements of the Sustainability and Climate Action Plan presented at the meeting represent just an overview, and more specific details will be available in the winter term. In addition to the Plan that is expected to be completed and released by February 2021, some resources will need to be put in place to support the implementation of specific actions. Most importantly, all members of OISE community will play a role in advancing sustainability and climate action goals at the Institute.

9. Other Items

Professor Normand Labrie provided an update on OISE's annual Graduate Student Research Conference that was cancelled last spring due to the pandemic but is scheduled to be held online from March 5 to 7, 2021. Professor Labrie praised the work of the conference Co-chairs Shirin Haghgou, Leping Mou and Norin Taj who are working diligently on organizing the conference, including a series of pre-conference workshops, and noted the proposal submission deadline is January 15, 2021.

10. Adjournment

Before adjourning the meeting, Professor Janzen thanked members and guests for their attendance and contributions at the meeting, and reminded them that the next meeting of Council is scheduled for February 24, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. She also wished everyone a relaxing, enjoyable and safe holiday.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:27 p.m.