

OISE COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF OISE COUNCIL, held on **April 26, 2023** at 3:00 p.m.

Present:

Prof. Erica Walker (Dean), Prof. Kang Lee (Chair), Prof. Carly Manion (Vice-Chair), Niki Anastasakis, Sezen Atacan, Prof. Elizabeth Buckner, Prof. Andrew Campbell, Lara Cartmale, Prof. Charles Chen, Prof. Yiola Cleovoulou, Prof. Daniel Corral, Christine Corso, Dr. Valerie Damasco, Dr. Barnabas Emenogu, Prof. Diane Farmer, Iman Fouad, Prof. Antoinette Gagné, Prof. Patricia Ganea, Prof. Rubén Gaztambide-Fernández, Prof. Roy Gillis, Dr. Sheldon Grabke, Justin Holloway, Helen Huang, Dr. Hilary Inwood, Prof. Linda Iwenofu, Prof. Arlo Kempf, Prof. Normand Labrie, Ana Luiza Lacerda, Prof. Eric Lavigne, Rurui Liu, Prof. Sofya Malik, Prof. Douglas McDougall, Prof. David Montemurro, Titilola Omotosho, Prof. Soudeh Oladi Ghadikolaei, Prof. Michele Peterson-Badali, Dr. Christina Phillips, Prof. Angela Pyle, Jeananne Robertson, Prof. Creso Sá, Ghayas Shams, Henry Ssali, Prof. Tracy Solomon, Prof. Lana Stermac, Prof. Njoki Wane, Jenaya Webb, Desmond Wong, Prof. Earl Woodruff, Andrea Zdzykowski, Yang Zhang, Zian Zhang

Secretariat:

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

Guests:

Rushain Abbasi, Lynne Alexandrova, Ateeqa Arain, Tess Barclay, Prof. Clare Brett, Ai-Ri Brown, Prof. Katyn Chmielewski, Prof. Scott Davies, Prof. Claudia Diaz Rios, Omar Elfarseisy, Prof. Abby Goldstein, Kayla Gregg, Mindy Harris, Sim Kapoor, Prof. Grace Karram Stephenson, Josie Lalonde, Denise Makovac, Joseph Rotich, Leah Scherk, Dr. Jesse Sims

Regrets:

Prof. Abigail Bakan, Prof. Joshua Barker (Dean, School of Graduate Studies), Prof. Carol Campbell, Julia Duncan, Haliz Doskee, Prof. Michel Ferrari, Prof. Whitneé Garrett-Walker, Prof. Meric Gertler (President), Prof. Kaja Jasinska, Yilun Jiang, Fadi Kayale, Kinza Khan, Perry King, Prof. Emmanuelle Le Pichon-Vorstman, Prof. Amal Madibbo, Dr. Haesun Moon, Dr. Elisabeth Rees-Johnstone, Prof. Cheryl Regehr (Vice-President and Provost), Huda Salha, Ana Tariq, Prof. Angela Vemic

Acknowledgement of Traditional Land

Professor Kang Lee, Chair of Council, welcomed members and guests to the fourth and final meeting of OISE Council in 2022-2023, and read the land acknowledgement statement.

1. Opening Remarks

An overview of the Participation Guidelines for virtual meetings of OISE Council was provided.

2. Review of Agenda

The Agenda for the meeting was reviewed and accepted with a change in the order of business. The Dean's Report was moved after the Standing Committee reports to allow ample time for review, discussion, and consideration of each of the five major program changes on the agenda.

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

The minutes of the February 22, 2023 meeting of OISE Council were approved.

4. Chair's Report

The Chair reported on the Executive Committee meeting held on April 17, 2023, and highlighted that the Council Secretariat started the process to determine governance meeting dates for 2023-2024, which will be published on the governance website by July 1, 2023. The Chair then thanked all members and guests for their participation and contributions to the governance process at OISE during 2022-2023, acknowledged members who were completing their terms, and extended welcome to new members who will be joining OISE Council and its Committees in 2023-2024.

5. Reports from Standing Committees

- A. Academic Programs** – Professor Montemurro, Chair of the Academic Programs Committee reported on the Committee's proposals approved at the March 10 and March 24, 2023 meetings.

For Approval: Major Modifications: Significant Changes to Existing Programs

(1) Closure of the of the Research-intensive Training (RIT) in Psychology and Education field offered within the Master of Arts in Child Study and Education (MA-CSE)

Professor Montemurro introduced the proposal and invited Professor Yiola Cleovoulou to speak to it. It was noted that the MA-CSE is a professional teacher education program accredited by the Ontario College of Teachers (OCT) including two fields: (1) Research-Intensive Training (RIT) in Psychology and Education; and (2) Practice-Based Inquiry (PBI) in Psychology and Educational Practice. Due to low enrolment, admissions to the RIT field were administratively suspended in 2019, and there were no students enrolled in the field. Furthermore, the decision to close the field emerged from discussions regarding the OCT-required core content for Ontario teacher education programs including an emphasis on the use of educational research and data analysis, which accomplished within the PBI field that will continue to be offered and provide research opportunities for all MA-CSE students.

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

THAT the closure of the RIT field offered within the MA-CSE program be approved effective September 1, 2023.

Of 43 members present and voting, 36 voted in favour, 1 abstained, none opposed, 6 did not vote.

(2) Closure of the Collaborative Specialization in Educational Policy (CSEP)

Professor Montemurro introduced the proposal and invited Professor Katyn Chmielewski to speak to it. It was noted that the main reason for closing the CSEP was the current overlap in disciplinary foci between the CSEP, and the Educational Leadership and Policy (ELP) program, which contributes the majority of CSEP courses and faculty, and features the most prominent student enrolment. At the same time, a decline in participation of students and faculty from other participating programs was observed. Additionally, the ELP faculty resources have shifted over the years, such that the program, and the department, can no longer support the administrative load required to operate this offering. However, students currently enrolled in the CSEP will be able to complete the specialization requirements and receive a transcript notation. The closure will allow the department to focus its resources on the existing graduate degree programs in ELP (MEd, MA, EdD, PhD), while offering access the specialization area courses to current CSEP students, and students from other departments subject to available space and instructor approval.

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

THAT the closure of the CSEP be approved effective August 31, 2029, with the effective date the CSEP will be administratively suspended to new admissions September 1, 2023.

Of 43 members present and voting, 33 voted in favour, none abstained, none opposed, 10 did not vote.

(3) Program Requirements & Delivery Mode Change: Education in the Professions Field, MEd in Higher Education

Professor Montemurro introduced the proposal and invited Professor Grace Karram Stephenson to speak to it. It was noted that the goal of the proposal was three-fold: (1) to change the delivery mode for the Education in the Professions field from in-person to online; (2) to increase the number of required courses from three to six half-courses in order to ensure a more focused academic experience and enable a cohort model; and (3) to close the coursework plus Major Research Paper (MRP) option. The revised program of study for the field was consistent with other fields offered within the MEd in Higher Education, and the shift from in-person to online delivery will meet the needs of working professionals who often have highly demanding and complex schedules. Since the MEd in Higher Education, Education in the Professions field, is a practice-oriented professional degree, the removal of the coursework plus MRP option, and the emphasis on coursework only in this field will allow for a clearer differentiation from the expectations and requirements of the research-stream MA degree, and better alignment with the program requirements for other fields offered within the Higher Education program.

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

THAT the change to the program requirements (incl. closure of the Coursework plus MRP option) and program delivery mode change from in person to online for the Education in the Professions field offered within the MEd in Higher Education be approved effective September 1, 2023.

Of 43 members present and voting, 33 were in favour, none abstained, none opposed, 10 did not vote.

(4) Delivery Mode Change: Child Study and Education EdD; and Developmental Psychology and Education (MEd, MA, PhD)

Professor Montemurro introduced the proposal and invited Professor Abby Goldstein to speak to it. The proposal entailed the addition of hybrid and online (in addition to in-person) as modes of delivery for the following programs and degrees in the Department of APHD: (1) adding a hybrid delivery mode to the Child Study and Education (EdD); (2) adding hybrid and online delivery modes to the Developmental Psychology and Education (MEd); and (3) adding a hybrid delivery mode to the Developmental Psychology and Education (MA and PhD). It was noted that the proposed change does not impact the admission requirements, the program requirements, nor the program objectives and learning outcomes. Apart from the EdD-CSE, which is a more structured program with a mix of in-person, hybrid, and online courses, the key feature of DPE degree programs is flexibility with a couple of required courses and ample elective space that allows students to tailor their degree/program experience according to their academic and professional goals, by choosing to complete an emphasis, a collaborative specialization, or simply to theme their degree by opting for courses in several evolving curricular areas offered within and beyond the department.

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

THAT the change to the program delivery mode for the CSE (EdD), and the DPE (MEd, MA, PhD) be approved effective September 1, 2023.

Of 43 members present and voting, 36 were in favour, none abstained, none opposed, 7 did not vote.

(5) Delivery Mode Change: Social Justice Education (MEd, MA, EdD, PhD), and Closure of the Coursework Plus Thesis Option (MEd)

Professor Montemurro invited Professor Diane Farmer to speak to the proposal which entailed: (1) adding hybrid and online delivery modes (in addition to in-person) to the MEd, MA, PhD and EdD in SJE; and (2) and closing the Coursework Plus Thesis option in the MEd. It was explained that the Master's degree programs in SJE (MEd, MA) will be available: in-person, hybrid, and online, depending on students' choices of courses and/or collaborative specializations. The doctoral programs (PhD, EdD) are designed as in-person programs with the possibility of completing the programs in hybrid mode. It was noted that the proposed change does not impact the admission and program requirements, nor the program objectives and learning outcomes. Aligned with all other MEd degrees at OISE, which are all coursework-based programs, the proposed closure of the Coursework plus Thesis option in the MEd allows for a clearer differentiation from the expectations and requirements of the research-stream MA degree, and aligns SJE MEd with the SGS Regulation 13.14 (Master of Education).

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

THAT the change to the program delivery mode for the SJE (MEd, MA, EdD, PhD) be approved effective September 1, 2023; and THAT the closure of the Coursework Plus Thesis option in the MEd be approved effective August 31, 2023.

Of 43 members present and voting, 37 were in favour, none abstained, none opposed, 6 did not vote.

For Information: Minor Modifications: Changes to Existing Programs

- Developmental Psychology and Education – MEd – change to admissions requirements
- Developmental Psychology and Education – Program Evaluation Emphasis – MEd – change to program requirements
- Educational Leadership and Policy – EdD, PhD – change to program requirements
- Master of Teaching (MT) & Master of Arts in Child Study and Education (MA-CSE) – change to program requirements for MT (Primary/Junior only) and MA-CSE candidates.

For Information: Minor Modifications: New Courses

- LHA1845H Indigenous Students in Higher Education
- LHA1858H Internship in Student Services 1
- LHA1859H Internship in Student Services 2
- WPL3930H Practitioner Communities in Workplace Learning
- CTL3042H Complexity Theories and Language Education
- CTL3204H L'immersion française: enseignement et recherches
- CTL7200H Curriculum and Teaching in French as a Second Language – P/J

Professor Montemurro reported that the Committee also reviewed a number of minor course changes approved at the departmental level. In closing, Professor Montemurro thanked members of the Academic Programs Committee for their contributions to the work of the Committee in 2022-2023.

- B. Equity** – On behalf of Professor Emmanuelle Le Pichon-Vorstman, Chair of the Equity Committee, who was absent from the meeting, Helen Huang, the Dean’s designate on the Committee, reported on the Committee’s discussions at the meeting held on April 11, 2023.

The report started by the acknowledgement of Professor Le Pichon-Vorstman’s thoughtful, pragmatic, and consultative leadership style as Chair of the Committee for the past three years. At its final meeting, the Committee reflected on initiatives of the 2022-2023 academic year, and heard the presentation on diverse student recruitment led by Dr. Sheldon Grabke, Registrar and Senior Director, Student Services. The Committee also discussed the Round Table on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) held on April 20, 2023. The event was organized as a follow up to the environmental scan survey on EDI that the Committee conducted in 2021-2022. The survey feedback demonstrated that the OISE departments and units use a variety of approaches to address equity issues, and were willing to share this information and engage in conversations at the round table. The Committee thanked the department Chairs, associate Chairs, and heads of divisional support units for their participation in the survey and the round table. Members of the Committee, and particularly the Committee’s Graduate Assistant, Miralla Alakji, were acknowledge for their contributions to the Committee’s work.

A question was raised whether any details regarding the round table event would be shared via a newsletter, or a website for those who were not able to attend. It was explained that the Committee will discuss how to further promote this work and share it more broadly with the community.

- C. Research** – Professor Rubén Gaztambide-Fernández, Chair of the Research Committee, reported on the Committee’s discussions at the meeting held on March 29, 2023.

Professor Gaztambide-Fernández begun by congratulating Professor Michele Peterson-Badali on the two-year extension of her term as Associate Dean, Research, International and Innovation. He noted that the Research Committee, as well as the OISE community, has benefited from Professor Peterson-Badali’s leadership and contributions to advancing research at the Institute. At the final meeting of the year, the Committee received the Research Office report on efforts to expand research partnerships with educational organizations including the Ministry of Education, EQAO, and the local school boards. The Committee also hosted Professor Leah Cohen, VP, Research and Innovations and Strategic Initiatives, for a consultation on the U of T Institutional Strategic Research Plan. Given OISE faculty members’ particular research expertise, and the Institute’s longstanding commitment to equity and social justice, there was a rich conversation to ensure that those commitments are reflected in the Institutional Strategic Research Plan. There was also a discussion about administrative systems that support research including funding and research data management, and how those can impede strategic goals.

Professor Peterson-Badali thanked Professor Gaztambide-Fernández for serving as Chair of the Research Committee for the past three years, and for his leadership and contributions to the work of the Committee.

6. Dean’s Report

Dean Walker commenced her report by acknowledging the passing of two OISE champions, Madame Helen Vari and Professor Charles Pascal. For over two decades, through the Vari Scholarship, Madame Vari and her family supported hundreds of aspiring OISE teachers who are now educational leaders making significant impact on the field of education. One of the first colleagues to reach out to Professor Walker following the announcement of her appointment as Dean of OISE, Professor Pascal has made sustained contributions to public education, and an impact on education policy in Ontario including on full-day kindergarten programming that has benefited generations of young people. The Dean noted that the contributions of these two ardent supporters of OISE cannot be overemphasized, and invited members to watch for an announcement on the celebration of life event that OISE will host for Professor Pascal.

Turning to academic initiatives, Dean Walker noted that the full agenda for the Council’s final meeting of the year speaks to the continued efforts to sustain OISE’s tradition of forward thinking and excellence in

teaching and learning. She read all major modification proposals and thanked the Interim Associate Dean, Programs, Professor Normand Labrie, and Biljana Cuckovic, Director of Governance, Policy and Planning for working with the departments and the Academic Programs Committee to shepherd these proposals through various consultation and governance approval processes within and beyond OISE. Given that Professor Labrie was completing his term as Interim Associate Dean, Programs, the Dean thanked him for outstanding service to OISE, and congratulated him on being elected as the new Acting Vice President and Interim Chair of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC).

Turning to appointments, the Dean thanked Professor Peterson-Badali for extending her term as Associate Dean, Research, International and Innovation, and reported that a number of new academic administrative and staff appointments were nearing completion including Chair, Department of Curriculum, Teaching and Learning (CTL), Associate Dean, Programs, Coordinator of Indigenous Initiatives, Director of Recruitment, and that announcements regarding these appointments will be forthcoming. She added that several faculty searches were also underway and thanked the department Chairs for leading the searches.

Vis-à-vis international initiatives, the Dean reported that she and Associate Deans met with Professor Li Wei, Dean, Institute of Education, University College London (UCL) who visited Toronto, and had productive conversations on shared interests and ideas for collaboration between OISE and UCL. She also noted that OISE had an excellent showing at the 2023 AERA annual meeting and conference in Chicago with several faculty winning various awards, and the CTL doctoral candidate, Lucy El Sherif, recognized with the Division B Dissertation Award for outstanding contributions to the field of curriculum studies.

The Dean thanked members of Council who joined the recent community events including the Dean's Wishes and Welcome held on March 2, 2023, and the OISE Excellence Awards Celebration held on April 4, 2023 that provided opportunities for enriching conversations among members of the community. From the Wishes and Welcome event, the Dean shared a few inspiring wishes that members of the OISE community left on the wishing trees that were on display at the event. One was the quote from an educator, Ivan Fitzwater, "the future of the world is my classroom today"—a reminder of the importance of education and the work of educators. The second one was from one of the youngest attendees at the event that read "I wish I had more Legos". The Dean reflected on this statement noting that Legos and other building blocks allow for exploration and creation, stimulating playful thinking and inviting everyone to join in building something up. She further noted that she is looking forward to engaging in constructive thinking and creating with members of the OISE community on several initiatives that will begin in the summer and continue into the fall. These include two working groups, one on pedagogical excellence and the other one on improving doctoral student experience that will seek to analyze various policies, processes, and structures related to teaching and learning, supervision, and mentoring; examine how these are working, and how they might be improved. She thanked members of the Deans and Chairs group for their engagement in crafting the working groups' mandates, and acknowledged faculty, staff, and students for the many conversations that have helped inform her thinking about the working groups.

The Dean also shared updates about the upcoming academic planning process and the budget planning consultations that she intends to implement. Since commencing her term in January 2023, the Dean has been learning about the University's budget process including its key aspects that budgeting must be aligned with academic planning, as well as with the University's annual budget planning cycle. To support this alignment, in the fall term, the Dean will facilitate community learning and understanding of the budget and enable conversations with the OISE community about how the budget supports priorities identified through the academic planning process while maintaining sustainable academic operations. It was further noted that, within the increasingly challenging broader university and provincial budget context, based on the Academic Plan (2017-2022), OISE leadership set several priorities for sustainable operations including faculty renewal, sustaining research strengths and enhancing OISE's impact, increasing professional program enrolment and international student enrolment, improving student experience, expanding revenue generation possibilities, continuing to link academic decisions with

financial implications, and ensuring that equity, diversity, and inclusion principles are reflected in all activities including but not limited to faculty hiring, student recruitment, and fundraising.

A brief overview of revenues and expenses that constitute OISE budget was provided. The revenues include tuition and government grants (93%), some endowment income, university fund transfers, and some cost recoveries. Expenses include faculty and staff salaries, student aid, contingency and reserve funds. The University's deductions range from 30 to 40% of OISE revenue and help to fund key central university operations such as the libraries. The largest portion of OISE expenses represent compensation for faculty and staff, which amounts to three quarters of the budget. Higher than other faculties, 17% of the operating budget is allocated for student aid, which illustrates OISE's commitment to supporting student financial needs. Other portion, about 12%, is allocated to academic departments for their various operations, and the remainder is earmarked for savings for emergencies, contingencies, etc. Related to the next fiscal year's budget, the Dean noted that she looks forward to community learning and conversations about the budget, and to sharing an overview of the budget for information at the appropriate Council meeting as has been typical practice at OISE. She then highlighted that OISE continues to be in good financial shape maintaining a balanced budget owing to the careful planning, and to the work of CAO, Helen Huang.

Given the context in the province regarding education funding, the Dean's key priorities include supporting students and identifying opportunities for increased revenue generation. Related to this, in collaboration with Sim Kapoor, Director of Advancement, Communications, and External Relations, planning for new fundraising campaigns was underway and more details regarding these will be forthcoming. In addition to increasing student financial aid, funding innovative and collaborative research, increasing international collaboration, and supporting renovation efforts with emphasis on student space improvements, are also important priorities. The two working groups mentioned earlier, the OISE-wide discussion groups on academic and budgeting priorities, as well as feedback from various reviews and ongoing consultations on current initiatives will inform the Institute's academic planning process that will commence in January 2024 and lead to the development of a five-year strategic plan, which will form a strong foundation for OISE's academic and budgeting priorities moving forward.

Turning to space planning, the Dean informed members that the fifth-floor roof top terrace renewal project received approval by the University of Toronto Governing Council. Part of OISE's capital plan to renew student and Indigenous education spaces, the project is set to begin in the summer of 2023 and be completed by the fall of 2024. The Dean thanked the CAO, Helen Huang, for shepherding this project through various consultation and approval processes within the University.

In closing her report, the Dean thanked all members and guests for conversations over the course of the winter term of 2023, both in person and online, and noted that she hopes that OISE will continue to be inspired by two champions, Madame Vari and Professor Pascal, whose love of OISE and its work will continue to sustain the Institute.

A student member of Council and the Executive Committee thanked the Dean for sharing highlights of the OISE budget and for outlining the consultation process for the budget planning for the coming year, highlighting the importance of linking academic decisions with financial implications as one of the priorities. Another student member thanked the Dean for her report noting that students are excited to hear about the working group on doctoral student experience, and about the discussion groups on academic priorities and budget, and that they are looking forward to being partners in these initiatives.

A student guest in attendance thanked the Dean for an inspiring update on initiatives underway and added that the 2023 Graduate Students Research Conference, the first in-person one since the pandemic, was successful and shared enthusiasm for the reactivation of the OISE Graduate Students Association.

The Dean thanked the students for their comments.

7. Other items

The Chair thanked all members and guests for their contributions at Council meetings, acknowledged members and Chairs of standing committees of Council for their work, and Secretary of Council for expertise and support to the Chair, and wished everyone a restorative summer season.

The Dean thanked Professor Kang Lee for his leadership and contributions as Chair of Council during 2022-2023.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.