Minutes of the OISE Council Meeting of October 28, 2020

OISE COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF OISE COUNCIL, held on October 28, 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. Jennifer Brant
Prof. Clare Brett
Prof. Kathy Broad
Mr. Aaron Brown
Ms. Samantha Burns
Dr. Andrew Campbell
Prof. Carol Campbell
Ms. Lara Cartmale
Prof. Charles Chen
Prof. Ruth Childs
Prof. Anna Katyn Chmielewski
Mr. Alfredo Chow
Prof. Anne Marie Chudleigh
Prof. Yiola Cleovoulou
Dr. Valerie Damasou
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
Ms. Ian Liujia Tian
Mr. Varun Malik
Dr. Carly Manion
Prof. Rhonda Martinussen
Dr. Kenneth McNeilly
Ms. Henjeta Mece
Prof. Shahrazad Mojab
Prof. David Montemurro
Prof. Roy Moodley
Mr. Leping Mou
Prof. Michele Peterson-Badali
Prof. Angela Pyle
Ms. Jeananne Robertson
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
Prof. Miglena Todorova
Prof. Njoki Wane
Ms. Heather Watts
Ms. Jenaya Webb
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

Guests:
Ms. Lynne Alexandrova
Ms. Kerri Bailey
Mr. Greg Barros
Prof. Kathy Bickmore
Ms. Ai-Ri Brown
Dr. Ahmed Ilmi
Ms. Phoebe Kang

Regrets:
Prof. Nina Bascia
Prof. Joshua Barker
Prof. Cassie Brownell
Prof. Elizabeth Buckner
Prof. Meric Gertler
Prof. Ann Lopez
Ms. Christine Lowe
Ms. Denise Makovac
Ms. Leah Scherk
Prof. Cheryl Regehr
Prof. Terezia Zoric
1. Acknowledgement of Traditional Land

Professor Kathy Broad, member of the Executive Committee, commenced chairing the meeting, and welcomed members and guest to the first meeting of OISE Council in 2020-2021.

The land acknowledgement statement developed by OISE’s Deepening Knowledge Project was read.

2. Opening remarks

Prior to proceeding with the agenda, Professor Broad provided an overview of the Participation Guidelines, which were distributed in advance of the meeting 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 April 15, 2020 meeting of OISE Council were approved.

5. The Executive Committee – Call for Nominations from the Floor

Professor Broad noted that, each year, new members of the Executive Committee are elected among Council members at the first meeting of OISE Council. She then called for nominations from the floor for the position of Chair of Council. On a motion duly made, seconded and carried:

- Professor Katharine Janzen was elected as Chair of Council for a two-year term.

Professor Broad congratulated Professor Janzen on being elected to serve in this important role and invited her to chair the remainder of the meeting.

Professor Janzen thanked members of Council for the vote of confidence and stated that she is looking forward to serving the community in this capacity. She then proceeded to call for nominations from the floor to fill the remaining vacant positions on the Executive Committee. On motions duly made, seconded and carried:

- Professor Kathy Broad was elected as Vice-Chair of Council
- Professor Yiola Cleovoulou was elected as the representative of teaching staff
- Dr. Kenneth McNeilly was elected as the representative of other academic appointees
- Mr. Derek Hunt was elected as the representative administrative staff

6. Dean’s Report

The Dean thanked Professor Janzen and Professor Broad for taking on the roles of Chair and Vice-Chair Council, and began his report by acknowledging OISE students, faculty and staff for their flexibility and agility in adjusting to the new ways of teaching, learning and working during these challenging times.

The Dean highlighted initiatives that bring people together such as the OISE Stay at Home Club, a Twitter Live web series that connects donors, alumni and friends with the OISE community through workshops, sessions, book readings, math lessons and more. The success of the series is owed to the leadership of Ms. Sim Kapoor, Director of Advancement and External Relations, and her team. The OISE Mentorship Program continues to be successful connecting hundreds of alumni with current OISE
students. The OISE Graduate Students Research Conference is preparing for a virtual event in the winter term by running a series of well-attended workshops. OISE’s Indigenous Education Network has a growing list of online community activities featured in their Newsletter. The Academic Social Club within the Registrar’s Office is also increasing their efforts to build a sense of community, and the OISE Wellness Committee is hosting an increasing number of virtual events and sessions this term. The Dean noted that this increase in community programming is over and above the wonderful work done by faculty and staff within the academic departments to bring students together and build a sense of community. He invited members to visit the OISE Together Hub, which includes a wealth of information and resources on health and safety, wellness, news, and community programming.

Over the last few months, OISE Deans and Chairs have been meeting regularly to discuss systemic anti-Black racism, which has been illuminated by the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, and to identify steps to address the needs of our Black faculty, staff, and students. OISE’s Black Faculty Caucus, through periodic meetings with the Dean, provided a list of recommended actions to address anti-Black racism within our community, which were part of the recent joint OISE academic leadership announcement. These recommended actions represent an initial commitment to address anti-Black racism and these important conversations will continue within our community.

Another issue receiving considerable attention is climate action. In January 2020, the first ever OISE Climate Action summit was held with well over 100 community members in attendance. Drawing on the participants insights, knowledge, and expertise, the summit resulted in a number of recommendations to enact sustainability across OISE including the establishment of the Dean’s Advisory Council on Climate Action, which is working to develop OISE’s first Climate Action Plan by the end of 2020-2021 academic year. The Dean acknowledged the leadership of Dr. Hilary Inwood, Professor David Montemurro and a team of students for their work on this important initiative.

The Dean reported on the recently completed external reviews of three OISE departments and their programs including the Department of Applied Psychology and Human Development, the Department of Curriculum, Teaching and Learning, and the Department of Social Justice Education. The review reports for these three reviews were received in the Winter term of 2020, and administrative responses to the reviews were finalized in the summer months. Along with other review documents, the administrative responses were considered at the October 27, 2020 meeting of the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs (AP&P)—a committee of the University of Toronto Governing Council, and were well received. Due to the pandemic, the site visit for the Department of Leadership, Higher and Adult Education (LHAE) was postponed and will take place virtually from November 4-10, 2020. Related to the reviews, the Dean informed members that OISE is scheduled to undergo a Provostial review in 2020-2021. This important review will soon be announced and the community will engage in conversation as part of the self-study process. The site visit for this review will take place in March 2021.

The Dean concluded his report by welcoming new colleagues who recently joined OISE including Ms. Leah Scherk, Manager, Space Planning, Facilities and Services.

7. Report from the Special Committee on Teaching Awards

For Approval:

- Proposed Changes to the Terms of Reference for OISE’s Teaching Excellence Awards

The Dean reminded members that, at its April 15, 2020 meeting, OISE Council approved the establishment of the Special Committee on Teaching Awards. The Special Committee’s mandate was to conduct a review of OISE’s Teaching Awards, for which nominations are welcome from the OISE
community each year, focusing on the award categories, nomination and eligibility criteria, and to consider the possibly of establishing a new award category that would recognize the contributions of faculty members engaged in diverse forms of teaching activity that may not be captured by the existing awards.

Over the course of the summer of 2020, the Special Committee reviewed the existing awards, their descriptions and criteria, as well as the data analysis on the award winners since the inception of the awards in 2004 to date. The Committee also discussed and identified changes to the existing three awards, and developed the description and the nomination and eligibility criteria for the new award category entitled: Award for Excellence in Educational Leadership. The Special Committee also discussed and provided advice on strategies to improve the nomination and selection process for OISE’s Teaching Awards including the development of the nomination guidelines, and the evaluation rubric. The representative from the University of Toronto Centre for Teaching Support and Innovation was involved in this review, provided insights regarding the alignment of OISE’s Teaching Awards with the broader institutional and national teaching awards, as well as consultation in the process of developing changes to the descriptions and criteria for the existing awards, as well as for the new award category.

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

THAT the proposed amendments to the Terms of Reference for OISE’s Teaching Excellence Awards be APPROVED effective immediately.

Of 61 members present and voting, 57 were in favour, none opposed, 4 abstained

8. 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 October 8, 2020.

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

- New field in Online Teaching and Learning – Curriculum and Pedagogy (MEd)

Professor Campbell invited Professor Clare Brett to speak to the proposal. Professor Brett noted that the Department is very excited about this academic initiative, which has been in preparation for a long time. She highlighted that the proposed new field in Online Teaching and Learning is designed for educators who are interested in becoming effective instructors and designers of online courses. The societal need for specialists who know how to prepare, construct, and deliver online courses has become increasingly evident due to the pandemic.

Professor Gaztambide-Fernández congratulated Professor Brett on the proposal and raised a question regarding the impact of the new field on human resources given the diminishing faculty who can teach specific courses. It was explained that students in the new field will take the CTL1000H as it is the required course for the Curriculum & Pedagogy program but not a specific version of this course.

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

THAT the establishment of a new field in Online Teaching and Learning within the Curriculum and Pedagogy, Master of Education (MEd) program be APPROVED effective September 2021.

Of 61 members present and voting, 57 were in favour, none opposed, 4 abstained
- **New field in Higher Educating Leadership – Higher Education (MEd)**

Professor Campbell invited Professor Katharine Janzen to speak to the proposal. Professor Janzen noted that the addition of the new field in Higher Education Leadership within the Higher Education (MEd) program is being proposed in response to the high and continuing demand for the Higher Education Leadership cohort option within the current regular program. The MEd in Higher Education Leadership Cohort option was established in 2007 as a direct response to a need and demand identified by University of Toronto mid-managers. This strong demand continues and the applications are oversubscribed. The recognition of the leadership focus on the students’ transcripts will benefit students and will streamline admissions and registrations processes, which now require a lot of manual work.

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

THAT the establishment of a new field in Higher Education Leadership within the Higher Education, Master of Education (MEd) program be APPROVED effective September 2021.

Of 61 members present and voting, 57 were in favour, none opposed, 4 abstained

- **New field in School Psychology – Counselling Psychology (EdD)**

Professor Campbell invited Professor Earl Woodruff to speak to the proposal. Professor Woodruff noted that the addition of the new field in School Psychology will provide doctoral-level training in school psychology for practitioners providing direct services to children and youth in the education system (K-12). He noted that this is especially important given that there is an increased need in the school system for school psychologists with a professional doctorate. The curriculum of the proposed new field in School Psychology is consistent with the scholar-practitioner model of training in the existing Counselling and Psychotherapy field, and will provide school psychology practitioners with core theoretical and practical training needed to develop research-informed leaders in the field of school psychology. Students in the field will engage in coursework, practical training (practicum and internship) and will complete a thesis (dissertation in practice). The program is structured to provide students with the requirements necessary for registration as a Psychologist with competency in school psychology with the College of Psychologists of Ontario.

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

THAT the establishment of a new field in School Psychology within the Counselling Psychology, Doctor of Education (EdD) program be APPROVED effective September 2021.

Of 61 members present and voting, 57 were in favour, none opposed, 4 abstained

- **New Dual Degree Program – Counselling Psychology (MEd), Field in Global Mental Health/APHD, OISE and the Master of Science (MSc) in Applied Psychology, Department of Psychiatry/China Medical University (CMU)**

Professor Campbell invited Professor Earl Woodruff to speak to the proposal. Professor Woodruff highlighted that this proposal builds on the success of the field in Global Mental Health (GMH) that was added two years ago within the MEd degree in Counselling Psychology. This proposal establishes a three-year dual master’s degree program involving: (1) the GMH field offered within the Master of Education (MEd) in Counselling Psychology; and (2) the Master of Science in Applied Psychology (MSc) in the department of Psychiatry at China Medical University (CMU). Students will take all the GMH field requirements in the MEd in Counselling Psychology, in the second year of the program in Toronto, except for the practicum course, which students will complete in the Fall of their
third year in China, along with their other MSc in Applied Psychology requirements. APHD’s ongoing collaborations with China Medical University will allow both institutions to leverage their strengths and offer a dual degree to train graduates who will be able to 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 – Counselling Psychology (MEd), Field in Global Mental Health/APHD, OISE and the Master of Science (MSc) in Applied Psychology, Department of Psychiatry/China Medical University (CMU) be APPROVED effective September 2021.

Of 61 members present and voting, 57 were in favour, none opposed, 4 abstained

For Information: Minor Modifications Proposals: Changes to Existing Programs

Professor Campbell informed members that at its October 8, 2020 meeting, the Academic Programs Committee also approved one minor modification to add a new emphasis in Program Evaluation within the Developmental Psychology and Education, Master of Education (MEd) program. Professor Campbell explained that an emphasis in a graduate program is associated with an identified set of courses or other academic activity completed on an optional basis in partial fulfillment of the requirements for a graduate degree program. Professor Woodruff added that the emphasis will encourage an exploration of program evaluation used in education, psychology, and social sciences allowing students to develop an understanding of how social, cultural and political factors impact program evaluation.

B. Equity – Professor Emmanuelle Le Pichon-Vorstman, Chair of the Equity Committee reported on the Committee’s discussions at the meeting held on October 13, 2020.

Professor Le Pichon-Vorstman began her report by thanking Professor Ann Lopez, the former Chair of the Equity Committee, for her leadership over the past two years. She also acknowledged the work of Ms. Phoebe Kang, an EdD student, who supported the Committee’s initiatives as a Graduate Assistant. At its first meeting of the year, the Equity Committee reviewed the last year’s activities and discussed goals and prioritizes for the current academic year. The last year’s activities included a successful community event entitled: “OISE Black Faculty in Conversation: Addressing Anti-Black Racism in Education” held on May 26, 2020. The Committee also worked with the OISE Library to create resources for the community including the equity-focused research guide, and the anti-Black racism reading list for families and educators. The Committee conducted a survey to gain insights into the equity-focused issues and topics that the community would like to learn more about, and will be exploring some of these ideas during the 2020-2021 academic year. The Committee will continue to develop resources and will attempt to organize at least two equity-focused webinars in collaboration with the Anti-Racism and Cultural Diversity Office and the Centre for Teaching Support and Innovation. The Committee is also considering organizing the second installment of the Black Faculty in Conversation event during the Black history month in February 2021. The Committee will also consider the possibilities to gather information about the experiences of international students to create more equitable learning environments for all during these challenging times. Professor Le Pichon-Vorstman concluded her report by thanking all faculty, students, and staff who supported the work of the Equity Committee.

C. Research – Professor Professor Gaztambide-Fernández, Chair of the Research Standing Committee reported on the Committee’s discussions from the meeting held on October 7, 2020.
Professor Gaztambide-Fernández commenced his report by saying that he is excited to have been elected as Chair of the Research Committee for a two-year term; however, during his leave in the winter term of 2021, Ms. Henrjeta Mece, a PhD Candidate in Social Justice Education, Diaspora and Transnational Studies, and a tenured Assistant Professor at another Canadian university who has been elected as Vice-Chair of the Committee, will be providing the Committee’s reports to Council in his stead.

**For Information:** The establishment of the Centre for Smart Learning and Development (EDU-D)

Professor Gaztambide-Fernández informed members that, at the special meeting held on June 17, 2020, the Research Committee approved the establishment of the Centre for Smart Learning and Development, which is an EDU-D unit based in the Department of Applied Psychology and Human Development. The Centre aims to leverage the department’s faculty research in technology-rich learning environments and its impact on students’ self-regulation, emotion, and cognitive development. With the expansion of portable technology and recent advances in artificial intelligence, education is undergoing remarkable development in educational goals, teaching practice, and learning environments. The Centre for Smart Learning and Development will be dedicated to research of this emerging educational ecosystem.

At its first meeting, the Research Committee also discussed current efforts and supports for research offered by the Office of the Associate Dean, Research, International and Innovation, especially related to supporting the transition of research to online environments due to the pandemic. There is a lot of activity at OISE and across the University in terms of supporting faculty adapting their research protocols to the current public health recommendations and regulations that have been established. The Office of Associate Dean has created a new SharePoint site for disseminating information to faculty regarding applying for grants and for providing research support.

9. **Adjournment**

Before adjourning the meeting, Professor Janzen thanked members and guests for their attendance and contributions at the meeting, and reminded members that the next meeting of Council is scheduled for December 9, 2020 at 3:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m.