Minutes of the OISE Council Meeting of October 17, 2018

OISE COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF OISE COUNCIL, held on October 17, 2018 at 3:00 p.m. in the Dean’s Boardroom at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education

Present:
Prof. Glen Jones, Dean
Prof. Kathleen Gallagher, Chair
Ms. Monique Flaccavento, Vice-Chair
Mr. Dor Asia
Prof. Kathy Bickmore
Prof. Kathy Broad
Prof. Cassie Brownell
Prof. Carol Campbell
Prof. Charles Chen
Mr. Alfredo Chow
Prof. Yiola Cleovoulou
Dr. Rose Fine-Meyer
Prof. Joseph Flessa
Prof. Patricia Ganea
Prof. Roy Gillis
Dr. Sheldon Grabke
Mr. Justin Holloway
Ms. Helen Huang
Dr. Katharine Janzen
Dr. Michel Kouadio
Ms. Marianne Lau
Prof. Ann Lopez
Mr. Terry Louisy
Dr. Carly Manion
Prof. Doug McDougall
Mr. Hamidreza Moeiniasl
Mr. Matthew Moreno
Prof. Sarfrazo Niyozov
Prof. Michele Peterson-Badali
Prof. Angela Pyle
Ms. Riley Richman
Ms. Jeananne Robertson
Ms. Ruth Rogers
Prof. Creso Sá
Mr. Eric Schwenger
Dr. Coleen Scully-Stewart

Guests:
Ms. Lynne Alexandrova
Ms. Lara Cartmale
Prof. Antoinette Gagné
Ms. Valerie Gow
Ms. Alison Grossman
Prof. Rosalind Hampton
Ms. Sim Kapoor
Ms. Denise Makovac

Regrets:
Ms. Sezen Atacan
Prof. Joshua Barker
Prof. Nina Bascia
Prof. Megan Boler
Prof. Clare Brett
Prof. Scott Davies
Mr. Isaac Eng
Prof. Diane Farmer
Prof. Meric Gertler
Prof. Abby Goldstein
Ms. Gurkiran Kaur
Mr. Stephen Krench
Ms. Fay Lim-Lambie
Prof. Rhonda Martinussen

Mr. Said Sidani
Prof. Judy Silver
Ms. Cindy Sinclair
Ms. Janice Spencer
Prof. Lana Stermac
Mr. Rouben Tchakhmakhtchian
Prof. Njoki Wane
Prof. Leesa Wheelahan
Ms. Hanna Wickstrom
Dr. Lesley Wilton
Prof. Earl Woodruff
Ms. Biljana Cuckovic, Secretary of OISE Council

Secretariat:
Ms. Daniella Spencley
Ms. Lisa Smith
Mr. Doug Ullrich

Prof. Roy Moodley
Ms. Madelaine Panoulias
Ms. Suryana Thappa
Ms. Irene Wandili

Prof. Lance McCready
Prof. Enrica Piccardo
Ms. Elisabeth Rees-Johnstone
Prof. Cheryl Regehr
Prof. Shelley Stagg Peterson
Ms. Stacey Sterling
Prof. Terezia Zoric
Prof. Marvin Zuker
1. **Acknowledgement of Traditional Land**

   In the opening statement, the Vice-Chair, Monique Flaccavento, acknowledged the traditional land on which OISE and the University operates.

   The Vice-Chair introduced herself, the Secretary of Council, Ms. Biljana Cuckovic; the Dean, Professor Glen Jones; and Mr. Alfredo Chow who provides technology support for Council meetings. She then welcomed members and guests to the first meeting of OISE Council for the 2018-2019 academic year.

2. **Review and Approval of Agenda**

   The Agenda for the meeting was approved.

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

   Minutes of the April 11, 2018 meeting of OISE Council were approved.

4. **Executive Committee**

   Vice-Chair reminded members that, in June 2018, Professor Leslie Stewart-Rose completed her two-year term as Chair 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 Kathleen Gallagher was elected as Chair of Council for a two-year term.

   Vice-Chair congratulated Professor Gallagher on being elected to serve in this important role and invited her to chair the remainder of the meeting.

   Professor Gallagher thanked Professor Sarfaroz Niyozov for the nomination, and members of Council for electing her. She stated that she is looking forward to serving the community in this capacity and to ensuring that OISE Council continues to be a forum for open discussions of issues that matter to the community. She then called for nominations from the floor to fill the vacant position on the Executive Committee. On motions duly made, seconded and carried:

   - Professor Lana Stermac was elected as member of the Executive Committee representing faculty;
   - Dr. Rose Fine-Meyer was elected as member of the Executive Committee representing instructors;
   - Mr. Said Sidani was elected as member of the Executive Committee representing graduate students;
   - Mr. Terry Louisy was elected as member of the Executive Committee representing staff.

   **For Approval:**

   - Establishment of a Special Committee on Constitutional Revisions

   The Chair invited the Dean to present the motion to establish a Special Committee on Constitutional Revisions.

   Dean Jones noted that, as per the By-Laws of OISE Council, the Institute is required to periodically review its Constitution and By-Laws. He noted that, since OISE’s full transition to an all-graduate faculty of education, the updating of the Constitution and By-laws will ensure the alignment with University policies and reflect the current state of the Institute’s development.

   Following a brief overview of the Terms of Reference for the Special Committee including its mandate, composition and timelines, the Dean noted that, once approved by OISE Council, a call for nominations will be issued to faculty, students and staff to serve on the Committee. As per the By-laws of OISE...
Council, the membership of the Special Committee will be approved by the Executive Committee and reported to Council at its next meeting on December 12, 2018.

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

THAT the establishment of a Special Committee on Constitutional Revisions be APPROVED as per the proposed Terms of Reference.

5. Dean’s Report

The Dean began his report by welcoming the recently appointed academic and administrative leaders: Professor Rhonda Martinussen, who was appointed as Director of the Dr. Eric Jackman Institute of Child Study effective July 1, 2018, and Dr. Michel Kouadio, who joined OISE as Director of Education Commons effective August 13, 2018.

New faculty members who recently joined OISE were also acknowledged: Jennifer Brant, Assistant Professor, Department of Curriculum, Teaching and Learning; Cassie Brownell, Assistant Professor, Department of Curriculum, Teaching and Learning; Claudia Díaz Ríos, Assistant Professor, Department of Leadership, Higher and Adult Education; Rosalind Hampton, Assistant Professor, Department of Social Justice Education; and Jennifer Wemigwans, Assistant Professor, Department of Leadership, Higher and Adult Education.

Related to faculty renewal, the Dean noted that four faculty searches were underway including two positions in the Department of Applied Psychology and Human Development, and two positions within the Department of Curriculum, Teaching and Learning.

The Dean reminded members that space planning and revitalization at OISE was an important goal outlined in the Institute’s Academic Plan. With membership to be finalized shortly, the institutional Space Planning Committee will review community needs and priorities; analyze and assess space usage in the building; and engage in consultations to develop space planning recommendations guided by the core principles established by OISE Deans and Chairs. In the interim, the renovation project will commence this year to improve the OISE lobby space, making the space more welcoming and accessible to community members and visitors. The Dean noted that details of the project will be presented by Ms. Helen Huang, CAO, at the end of the meeting.

Turning to community events and initiatives, the Dean informed members that the OISE Alumni Association’s Mentorship Program which links hundreds of OISE students with alumni was successfully launched on October 9, 2018. On October 10, 2018, the Dean attended the 5th annual Excellence in Teaching Reception hosted by the Provost, honouring outstanding achievements in teaching and learning at the University of Toronto. Three of OISE’s faculty members, recipients of the 2017 OISE’s Teaching Excellence Awards, were honoured at the event. From October 2-4, 2018 in Fort Frances, OISE’s Robertson Program co-hosted a conference focused on land-based learning and culturally-responsive teaching. The event brought together Indigenous and non-Indigenous educators, policy makers, and academics to improve teaching within a framework of reconciliation and reciprocal learning.

The Dean provided an update regarding the OISE Wellness Committee initiatives including the new wellness website with related events and resources and invited members to participate. He applauded the committee members on their enthusiasm and commitment to realising an important goal in OISE’s academic plan related to mental health and wellbeing within and beyond the Institute.

In closing his report, the Dean invited members to subscribe to the Inside OISE—an internal and informal newsletter for faculty, staff and students, which was launched in September, 2018. The subscription link will be included in the next community update from the Dean.
6. Reports from Standing Committees

A. Academic Programs – Professor Joseph Flessa, Chair of the Academic Programs Committee, reported on the Committee’s proposals approved at the meeting held on October 5, 2018, which included one minor modification to an exiting program, and one new course proposal.

- **For Information:**
  - Minor Modifications Proposals: Changes to Existing Programs
    - Higher Education (PhD)
  - Minor Modifications Proposals: New Courses
    - CTL7060H Intermediate Teaching Subject – Drama

B. Appeals – No report.

C. Equity – Professor Ann Lopez, Chair of the Equity Committee reported on the Committee’s discussions at the meeting held on October 2, 2018.

The Committee was very active last year and will continue to sponsor equity related initiatives such as the Windows on Equity workshop series. The Committee will engage in conversations in regards to creating a respectful working and learning environment at OISE, welcoming input from all members of the OISE community including international students. The Committee will continue to explore embedding equity principles in curricula and programs and will reach out to faculty to seek examples of equity related course materials, resources and pedagogical approaches. Professor Lopez noted that, as Provostial Advisor on Access Programs, she is looking forward to conversations regarding supporting student success and enhancing the ability of students from diverse backgrounds to access our academic programs.

D. Research – On behalf of Professor Lance McCready, Chair of the Research Committee, who was absent from the meeting Professor Michele Peterson-Badali, Associate Dean, Research, International and Innovation, reported on the Committee’s discussions at the meeting held on October 3, 2018.

Professor Peterson-Badali reported that all vacancies have been filled and in addition to Professor McCready, who was elected Chair, Professor Stephanie Springgay was elected Vice-Chair of the Research Committee. During the 2018-2019 academic year, the Committee will engage in the review process of most of OISE’s research centres, and will report to Council on this initiative at its first meeting in the winter term of 2019. Professor Peterson-Badali added that the Research Office has been working to support faculty members with 13 insight development grant applications already submitted, as well as two grant applications with the Employment Skills Development Canada and the Law Foundation of Ontario.

7. Other items

- **OISE Library Updates**

Vice-Chair of Council and Director of OISE Library, Monique Flaccavento, presented on the Library initiatives for the 2018-2019 academic year. These included: Personal Librarian Program; individual and group research consultations; research posters; library workshops; Indigenous resource displays; discover archives, digitization project; publishing, copyright and Open Access support; study rooms and collaborations with the Office of the Registrar and Student Services. Some wellness related initiatives such as therapy lamps, “UnStudy” Spots, and Typewriter Tuesdays were also highlighted. Ms. Flaccavento acknowledged the work of the dedicated team of librarians who support these initiatives:
Navroop Gill, Pat Serafini, Nailisa Tanner, Jenaya Webb and Desmond Wong. In closing, Ms. Flaccavento invited interested students to join the OISE Library Student Advisory Committee.

**OISE Lobby Project**

Ms. Helen Huang, Chief Administrative Officer, began her presentation by highlighting the core principles for space planning developed by OISE Deans and Chairs, which will also guide the lobby redesign project. She noted that the OISE lobby has not seen improvement in over forty years, and that the redesign project will improve accessibility, wayfinding and sustainability, while making the space more welcoming for community members and visitors. The high level design concept, which received the University approval, was developed in consultation with the OISE leadership team, sustainability and disability colleagues, and Indigenous colleagues. Ms. Valerie Gow, who assisted with the development of the design concept, was hired by the University to be the project’s lead architect. Ms. Huang introduced Ms. Gow and noted that she was also the architect for the OISE Office of the Registrar and Student Services (8th floor) project. The lobby redesign project incorporates the Indigenous land acknowledgment, “Dish With One Spoon”—a wampum treaty between the Anishinaabe, Mississaugas and Haudenosaunee that bound them to share the territory and protect the land. The living wall, which will be constructed in the cafeteria area was also highlighted as a significant design feature focused on sustainability, community building and wellbeing. The redesigned lobby will feature flexible furniture which will ensure that the space can be used for varied purposes including collaboration, relaxation and community events. With the projected completion date of February 2020; the project team will aim for September 2019 completion. It was also noted that during the construction, the cafeteria and elevators will continue to function with adjustments to pathways and safety precautions.

A member thanked Ms. Huang on the presentation, commended her for working with the TTC to install an access ramp in the concourse level entrance from the St. George subway station, and raised a question regarding the use of the fob access at that entrance. It was explained that the first set of doors was controlled by TTC, and that the fobs are programmed to allow entrance at the second set of doors controlled by OISE. It was further noted that the issue will be discussed with the TTC. Another question was raised about the estimated cost for the lobby redesign project. It was explained that the projected cost for the high level design concept was approximately one million dollars. It was further noted that the project represents an advancement opportunity and that efforts will be made to raise funds to cover part of the cost. A member commented that the design concept appears to feature minimal furniture and asked how will the redesigned lobby allow for people to gather and sit in the space. It was explained that the furniture visuals included in the design concept were notional and that there will be a community consultation regarding specific details; however, it was highlighted that one of the goals of the redesign project is to increase the flexibility and usage of the lobby space.

**Other Updates**

Professor Roy Gillis informed members that UTFA will host a pension town hall meeting on Wednesday, October 24, 2018 from 12:00 to 2:00 PM at Claude T. Bissell building. He also reminded faculty and librarians about the UTFA negotiated health care spending account which provides $650 that could be used to pay expenses that qualify as a medical expense tax credit. As one of OISE’s four UTFA representatives, Professor Gillis invited faculty members to contact him with any UTFA related questions and matters.

8. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.