Minutes of the 31st meeting of the Faculty Council held on September 27, 2023 at 4:30 p.m. via Zoom.

FACULTY COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT *(via Zoom)*

REGRETS

Mylène Arsenault, Steven Backman, Shashika Bandara, Jake Barralet, Jonathan Bramson, Alie Wentre Bessissow, Robert Simon Biskin, John Chen, Sam Daniel, Matthew Donlan, Robert Gagnon, Alain Gratton, Bryana Jean-Jacques (NUS), Kevin Jutras, Mark Levental, Zachary Levine, Chelsea Maedler-Kron, Juliet-Ann McArthur, Malina Charisma Moskun, Ciriaco Piccirillo, Lauralicia Sacre, Leon Tourian, Té Vuong, Theodore Wein, Stephen Yang, Natalie Zeytuni.

SECTION I   (*L. Fellows*)

1.   Welcoming Remarks from the Chair

The Chair welcomed

6.   Research security and compliance at McGill   *(M. Weber)*

M. Weber, Director, Innovation and Partnerships, provided context outlining how the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) has required a risk assessment form for the Alliance program (grants with an industrial partner) since July 2021, for which McGill put together an internal team to review completed forms, make suggestions and approve the plan. It is worth noting that no applications were rejected because of research security issues. He further indicated the Federal Government will make a similar requirement for all Tri-Council funding programs, however an exact roll-out and effective date is not yet known (see presentation). It was noted the University has received funding from the Canadian government to spend on human resources, tools etc. related to research security and compliance, as well as purchased licenses to software tools to evaluate sanctioned entities and company infrastructure. Before concluding, M. Weber mentioned that this will be communicated to the larger community once the lists are received from the government, at which point they will organize road shows at the Faculty/department level to present the team and process. Several questions and comments ensued, which may be referred to in the [recording](#).

7.   EDI Taskforce Report   *(L. Fellows)*

L. Fellows provided a summary of this Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) taskforce which former Dean Eidelman asked to be assembled in order to look at the state of EDI activities within the Faculty. She noted a report mapping current activities and making recommendations on next steps had been produced and will soon be shared Faculty-wide for further recommendations as part of a renewed strategic plan for 2023 onwards. She then provided an overview of the consultation process this entailed, which involved surveying members of the Faculty Leadership Commons, for which most members responded."cpf "hqmqy kpi "wr "y kj "vj g"kf gpvkhkgf "=GF K"ej co r kqpuø"y kj kp" departments, schools, and affiliated institutes. She also outlined several recommendations that resulted, including a continued Faculty commitment to culture change related to EDI, mechanisms to promote knowledge exchange on EDI best practices, and integration of those practices in usual processes, accompanied by regular reporting and other means to promote accountability (see presentation for more details).

SECTION III

8.   Report from the Steering Committee   *(L. Fellows)*

The Chair confirmed that at its meeting on August 30, the Steering Committee reviewed and adopted the agenda for this meeting of the Faculty Council. Their report was made available to all members of the Faculty Council and was posted online.

9.   Consent Agenda

  i. Faculty Council Minutes (May 16, 2023)

The minutes of the Faculty Council meeting held on May 16, 2023 were presented on the consent agenda, for which the link was sent to all members following the meeting. The Chair asked for a member to propose the adoption of the minutes, which was moved and seconded. Without any objections, the minutes were approved.

Before proceeding, the Chair outlined several recent highlights within the Faculty, including the Kpuvkwwg"qh"J gcnvj "Uekgpegu"Gf wecvkqp"u"pgy "Rj F "r tqi tco "receiving final government approval as well as the 2nd annual FMHS community breakfast. She also took the opportunity to remind participants this was the second of two Indigenous Awareness Weeks at McGill (see presentation).

SECTION IV

10.   Kudos   *(L. Fellows)*

The Chair went over an impressive list of accomplishments within the Faculty and congratulated the many faculty and staff members as well as students who have been publicly recognized for their accomplishments in recent months (see presentation). Congratulations to all!

SECTION V

Open Session/Town Hall

The Chair invited Faculty Council members and guests to put forward any questions or issues they wished to discuss. One question was raised pertaining to the Tri-Council presentation (see recording). There being no other business to address, she thanked everyone for their attention and wished everyone a great evening; the meeting ended at 6:07 p.m.

The complete set of documents, including PowerPoint presentations made at the Faculty Council meetings and video links of the meeting, are kept as part of the official minutes and can be found in the Governance section of the Faculty website.