ARTS AND SCIENCE COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES OF THE ARTS AND SCIENCE COUNCIL held on Wednesday, February 13, 2019 at 9:00 am in the Governing Council Chamber, Simcoe Hall

Present

Gillian Hamilton (Chair)  Paul Hamel  Stephen Rupp
Igor Samardzic (Vice-Chair)  Haseeb Hassaan  Dana Seitler
Thomas MacKay  Ikran Jama  Arjun Singh
Martha Harris  Rebecca Jockusch  Tatiana Smolyarova
Kevin Mak  Sharon Kelly  Thomas Socknat
Dwayne Benjamin  Michael Kessler  Cheryl Suzack
Eric Cazdyn  Pamela Klassen  Guillaume Thomas
Michelle Craig  Carl Knappett  Marie-Anne Visoi
Adam Fox  Kyoungrok Ko  Foti Vito
Harry Fox  Brent Miles  William Watson
Max Friesen  Nathalie Moon  Art Weis
Bernardo Galvao-Sousa  Nakanyike Musisi  Ira Wells
Alison Gibbs  Mirella Pasquarelli-Clivio  Melanie Woodin
David Goldreich  Michael Ratcliffe  Helen Yang
Kanishka Goonewardena  Branden Rizzuto
Daphne Goring  Marlene Rong

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 am by Professor Gillian Hamilton, Vice-Chair (Teaching Staff) of Council. As the Chair was unable to attend the meeting, Professor Hamilton substituted as Chair for this meeting in her capacity as Vice-Chair. She began with the reading of the Statement of Acknowledgement of Traditional Land. She also acknowledged the passing of University of Toronto Chancellor Emeritus, the Honourable Michael Wilson. A memorial resolution recognizing Chancellor Wilson is expected at the next Council meeting.

1. Approval of Minutes of the December 12, 2018 Meeting of Council

The Chair called on a motion to approve the minutes, which was carried. There was no business arising from these minutes.

2. (For Approval) Major Modifications to Undergraduate Programs – Pamela Klassen, Vice-Dean, Undergraduate & International

As this item contained a number of motions requiring a vote, the Chair sought and received confirmation from the Proctors that quorum was reached. She then announced that the motions associated with the same academic unit would be introduced together but voted on separately.

   a. Accounting Specialist Program, Rotman Commerce
b. Finance and Economics Specialist Program, Rotman Commerce
c. Management Specialist Program, Rotman Commerce

Professor Pamela Klassen, Vice-Dean, Undergraduate & International, and Professor David Goldreich, Director of Rotman Commerce, presented the proposals to modify the three existing Rotman Commerce Specialist programs. Vice-Dean Klassen acknowledged that these major program modifications were the result of collegial discussions and collaboration taken place between the Faculty of Arts & Science and the Rotman School of Management. She specifically thanked Professor Melanie Woodin, Vice-Dean, Interdivisional Partnerships, and Professor Goldreich for the work leading to this moment.

The joint nature of the Rotman Commerce programs is reflected in the current rule of requiring students to complete a minimum of 10.0 FCE of RSM courses and 10.0 FCE of non-RSM courses to fulfill the 20.0 FCE required for a Bachelor of Commerce degree. This 10/10 rule makes it challenging for students to complete areas of study that complement existing Rotman Commerce programs. The new 8/8 rule of requiring students to complete a minimum of 8.0 FCE of RSM courses and 8.0 FCE of non-RSM courses will provide students with more flexibility to further explore their areas of interest.

Among other changes to the programs is the requirement for all Rotman Commerce students to get exposure to different business subdisciplines. This means that students in the Accounting Specialist and the Finance and Economics Specialist will be required to take courses in organizational behaviour, operations management, and strategic management. The Finance and Economics Specialist will also see the removal of an international business requirement to make way for an increase in the upper-level finance requirement, while the Management Specialist will have a new upper-level requirement of 2.5 FCE of courses meant to mimic what is currently required of the academic unit’s four Focuses.

Changes to the Accounting Specialist will see a reduction of the upper-level Economics requirement as well as the closure of the Financial Reporting and Control stream. A new Focus within the Management Specialist will be created in the future to serve students who would neither want to complete the remaining requirements of the Financial Reporting and Control stream nor pursue the existing Public Accounting stream, which will become a single Accounting Specialist.

Be It Resolved
THAT the proposed changes to the Accounting Specialist program, as described in the attached proposal, be approved effective March 1, 2019.

The motion was moved and seconded.

A member inquired about the relaxation of the 10/10 rule and the projected path students would take in response to the increased flexibility. Professor Goldreich responded that results yielded from the survey of Rotman Commerce students showed a significant two-way traffic. The academic unit is encouraging its students to pursue more Arts & Science Minor programs in addition to one of the existing Rotman Commerce Specialists.

A member asked if Rotman Commerce students would be required to complete courses from all five breadth requirement categories under the new changes. Professor Goldreich replied that Rotman Commerce students are subject to the same breadth requirements as all other Arts & Science students. Current RSM course offerings fulfill three of the five breadth categories but the existing 10/10 rule limits the number of non-RSM courses students can take to fulfill breadth category 1 (Creative and Cultural Representations) or 4 (Living Things and Their Environment).

Two questions were raised about the academic unit’s decision to remove the international business requirement from the Finance and Economics Specialist. Professor Goldreich responded that this requirement was initially added to the Finance and Economics Specialist and the Management Specialist to encourage students to get exposure to the realm of international business, but over time it became more of a box-ticking exercise. He acknowledged that
similar concerns were expressed during the consultation process at the unit level. The unit is looking to develop a Focus within the Management Specialist that would concentrate on international business and international economics.

A member asked about the level of consultation that had taken place with students on the proposed program modifications. Professor Goldreich replied that there was extensive student consultation, including within the Undergraduate Programs Committee, which had student representation. He noted that students were enthusiastic about the increased flexibility but had different opinions about what courses would be required.

On the vote the motion was carried.

**Be It Resolved**

THAT the proposed changes to the Finance and Economics Specialist program, as described in the attached proposal, be approved effective March 1, 2019.

The motion was moved and seconded. There was no discussion arising from the motion. On the vote the motion was carried.

**Be It Resolved**

THAT the proposed changes to the Management Specialist program, as described in the attached proposal, be approved effective March 1, 2019.

The motion was moved and seconded. There was no discussion arising from the motion. On the vote the motion was carried.

d.  Sexual Diversity Studies Specialist Program, Mark S. Bonham Centre for Sexual Diversity Studies
e.  Sexual Diversity Studies Major Program, Mark S. Bonham Centre for Sexual Diversity Studies

Vice-Dean Klassen and Professor Dana Seitler, Director of the Mark S. Bonham Centre for Sexual Diversity Studies, presented the proposals to modify the existing Specialist and Major programs in Sexual Diversity Studies.

The re-visioning of the programs includes the establishment of three thematic clusters (Politics & Policy, Formations & Practices, and Media & Aesthetics) meant to better orient students and help them make sense of the rationale behind the completion requirements, as well as the creation of a First-Year Foundations seminar course on sexuality and intersections to serve the general population as an introduction to the field of Sexual Diversity Studies. New permanent courses in Queer Indigenous Politics and Cultures (SDS385H1) and Queer Migrations and Refugee Politics (SDS465H1) will address gaps that currently exist in the academic unit’s curriculum. In addition, a capstone requirement will be introduced for students pursuing the Major program.

**Be It Resolved**

THAT the proposed changes to the Sexual Diversity Studies Specialist program, as described in the attached proposal, be approved effective March 1, 2019.

The motion was moved and seconded.

A member inquired about the number of courses that are grouped in the three thematic clusters. Professor Seitler replied that there are about eight courses in each cluster. Students pursuing the Major are expected to take one course (0.5 FCE) from each of the three clusters while students pursuing the Specialist are expected to take two courses (1.0 FCE) from each of the clusters.
A member asked about the existence of courses pertaining to religion in any of the thematic clusters. Professor Seitler responded that the Centre for Sexual Diversity Studies currently cross-lists relevant courses offered by other Arts & Science academic units, such as RLG313H1 (Gender, Sexuality and Religion in the West), in its program requirements.

On the vote the motion was carried.

Be It Resolved
THAT the proposed changes to the Sexual Diversity Studies Major program, as described in the attached proposal, be approved effective March 1, 2019.

The motion was moved and seconded. There was no discussion arising from the motion. On the vote the motion was carried.

f. Statistics Specialist Program, Department of Statistical Sciences
g. Applied Statistics Specialist Program, Department of Statistical Sciences
h. Statistics Major Program, Department of Statistical Sciences

Vice-Dean Klassen and Professor Alison Gibbs, Associate Chair, Undergraduate Studies (Statistics) from the Department of Statistical Sciences presented the proposals to modify the existing Specialist and Major programs in Statistics.

The proposed modifications reflect changes in the statistics discipline, which include the emergence of big data and data science, and new learning outcomes established by the academic unit. Third- and fourth-year requirements have been reorganized so that the programs will have a greater focus on visualization, models for prediction, and computation, as well as a larger emphasis on communication and teamwork. The Statistics Specialist will be renamed to the Specialist in Statistical Science: Theory and Methods, while the Applied Statistics Specialist will be renamed to the Specialist in Statistical Science: Methods and Practice. The latter Specialist program yields opportunities for collaborative research and features a comprehensive list of disciplinary focuses. A program enrolment restriction is being introduced for the Statistics Major to help the academic unit better manage enrolment growth in its programs (i.e., capping enrolment in the Major program at 3,000 students). STA130H1 (An Introduction to Statistical Reasoning and Data Science) is required for students looking to enrol in these Specialist and Major programs in Statistics.

Be It Resolved
THAT the proposed changes to the Statistics Specialist program, as described in the attached proposal, be approved effective March 1, 2020.

The motion was moved and seconded.

A member inquired about the amount of student consultation conducted by the academic unit and sought clarification on the new courses introduced. Professor Gibbs responded that student consultation was conducted through a survey, a town hall, as well as through students serving on the academic unit’s curriculum committee. STA130H1 was added as a program requirement for the Specialist and Major programs last year. STA492H1 (Seminar in Statistical Science) is a new capstone course being proposed this year, and STA490Y1 (Statistical Consultation, Communication, and Collaboration) is a capstone course that has existed for some time.

Two questions were raised about the proposed enrolment restriction for the Statistics Major. Professor Gibbs replied that approximately 60% of the Statistics students are currently enrolled in the Major, and 20% of the students are enrolled in the Specialist programs. The academic unit hopes to maintain that ratio. At present, the academic unit
has about 4,500 students in its programs of study. Had enrolment restrictions been in place last year, students would need an average of 65% to get into the Major program and an average of 75% to get into a Specialist program. The unit will be monitoring enrolments over the next year to get a sense of the impact of the restrictions.

A member sought clarification regarding STA130H1 as it relates to enrolment in the Specialist and Major programs. Professor Gibbs replied that students looking to enter these programs after first year would need to have completed STA130H1 and 100-level MAT course(s) in first year. An alternate path would require students looking to enter these programs after second year to have completed 200-level STA and MAT courses, with a substitution for STA130H1. STA130H1 is a large course with about 1,000 students.

Be It Resolved

THAT the proposed changes to the Applied Statistics Specialist program, as described in the attached proposal, be approved effective March 1, 2020.

The motion was moved and seconded. There was no discussion arising from the motion. On the vote the motion was carried.

Be It Resolved

THAT the proposed changes to the Statistics Major program, as described in the attached proposal, be approved effective March 1, 2020.

The motion was moved and seconded. There was no discussion arising from the motion. On the vote the motion was carried.

3. (For Approval) Closure of the Collaborative Program (Specialization) in Astrophysics (MSc), Department of Astronomy and Astrophysics – Dwayne Benjamin, Vice-Dean, Graduate Education

Professor Dwayne Benjamin, Vice-Dean, Graduate Education, presented the proposal to close the Collaborative Program (Specialization) in Astrophysics.

This Master’s level Collaborative Specialization was established in 1998. It was offered through the Department of Physics and the Department of Astronomy and Astrophysics, with the Canadian Institute for Theoretical Astrophysics (CITA) as a supporting unit. In 2002, the Department of Astronomy and Astrophysics introduced an option to allow students to enter the PhD program directly. This combined with alternative opportunities for graduate students in both departments to collaborate and pursue research with overlap in physics and astronomy has resulted in a collapse in interest for this Collaborative Specialization. Admissions to this program was closed in 2014-15, and this program has not been in operation for several years. The three participating units have agreed to the formal closure of this Collaborative Specialization.

Be It Resolved

THAT the proposed closure of the Collaborative Specialization in Astrophysics, to which admissions have already been closed as described in the attached proposal dated January 31, 2019, be approved, with full effect on September 1, 2019.

The motion was moved and seconded. There was no discussion arising from the motion. On the vote the motion was carried.
4. (For Recommendation) Academic Unit Name Changes, Department of the History of Art (St. George) and the Tri-Campus Graduate Department of Art – Dwayne Benjamin, Vice-Dean, Graduate Education

Vice-Dean Benjamin presented the proposal to change the names of the Department of History of Art and the Graduate Department of Art to the Department of Art History and the Graduate Department of Art History respectively.

At the undergraduate level, the proposed name change is meant to reflect the fact that this is where Art History courses are taught. The academic unit last changed its name to “History of Art” in 2015 in response to the transfer of its Visual Studies program to the John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design.

At the graduate level, the academic unit’s renaming plan was put on hold in 2015 as a result of varying opinions from different stakeholders on the appropriate name to be assigned to the tri-campus department. Now that four years have passed, confusion about the academic unit’s activities remains. The proposed name change to “Art History” would better describe the department’s research and teaching activities.

Choosing the name “Art History” over “History of Art” takes into consideration that both the University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM) and the University of Toronto Scarborough (UTSC) already offer programs in Art History. The unit name changes would ensure alignment at both the graduate and undergraduate levels, as well as with existing undergraduate programs at the other two U of T campuses.

There was extensive consultation about the proposed unit name changes with faculty members and students at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. Consultation was also conducted at the tri-campus level and with the Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design.

Be It Recommended
THAT the change in name from the Department of the History of Art to the Department of Art History be approved effective July 1, 2019, pending approval of University governance.

The motion was moved and seconded.

Questions were raised about the existence of studio practices at the undergraduate level, as well as the separation of theory and practice from the History of Art. Professor Carl Knappett, the Department Chair, responded that students may pursue studio practices through the Visual Studies program administered by the Daniels Faculty. He added that his unit maintains a good relationship with the Daniels Faculty and its Visual Studies program.

On the vote the motion was carried with one abstention as noted by the Chair.

Be It Recommended
THAT the change in name from the Graduate Department of Art to the Graduate Department of Art History be approved effective July 1, 2019, pending approval of University governance.

The motion was moved and seconded. There was no discussion arising from the motion. On the vote the motion was carried with one abstention as noted by the Chair.

5. Other Business

There was no other business.
6. **Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 10:03 am.