Call to Order and Vice-Dean’s Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 am by the Vice-Dean, Undergraduate & International, Professor Pamela Klassen, who welcomed everyone.

1. Report from the Vice-Dean, Undergraduate & International

Vice-Dean Klassen addressed the committee on several items.

_Revised Arts & Science Policy Guidelines:_

**i. Grade Restricted Programs**

She informed the committee that the Faculty has proposed updates to the language and guidelines regarding restricted-enrolment programs. Currently, programs of study are classified by “types” based on their enrolment requirements, but these labels are viewed as jargons that not all stakeholders would understand. Under the revised language and guidelines, programs would fall into one of two categories: “open” enrolment (programs requiring only the completion of 4.0 FCE) and “limited” enrolment (programs with special grade conditions or assessments for enrolment). In addition, faculty will be moving away from CGPA or GPA values when specifying program entry requirements or individual course prerequisites.

The Faculty hopes that these changes would allow for more transparency and better clarity when communicating program-entry requirements to students, generate a more careful examination of programs of study encountering enrolment pressure, as well as introduce opportunities for academic units to undertake regular reflection of their enrolment requirements in relation to academic success of students in their programs and vice versa.

**ii. Streams, Focuses & Certificates**

Academic units have shown increasing interest in offering Streams and Focuses to create new academic pathways for students. With the University having formally established parameters surrounding Certificates through its 2016
Policy on Certificates (For-Credit and Not-For-Credit), the Faculty recognizes the need for guidance and additional reference around Category 2 Certificates, which are for-credit Certificates offered in conjunction with an undergraduate degree program. The Faculty hopes that the updated Guidelines on Streams, Focuses & Certificates would enable academic units to have a better understanding of how these three curriculum structures operate as they revamp their curriculum.

Academic units wishing to create new Category 2 Certificates are asked to first consult with the Dean's Office, and a decanal advisory would review the submitted Certificate proposals.

A member inquired about the development cycle of the Certificate in Global German Studies proposal to be presented later in this meeting. Vice-Dean Klassen responded that this Certificate is part of a larger Global Scholars pilot initiated by the University’s Office of the Vice-President, International. She indicated that she would be open to more conversations about this.

Updates re: First-Year Foundations and Curriculum Planning:

A document detailing the Faculty’s communications plan to promote the First-Year Foundations (FYF) seminar courses and the Ones Programs was circulated to the committee. Working with the Arts & Science Communications team in conjunction with the seven Colleges, the Dean’s Office had identified a number of ways First-Year Foundations programming would be promoted to first-year students.

The Faculty is running a pilot initiative with Innis College where select FYF seminar courses would be house at Innis College, with Innis College students having priority in these courses during the initial course enrolment period in July 2019.

A member raised a question about the class size cap for these courses. Vice-Dean Klassen replied that the Faculty would experiment with 25 and possibly up to 30 students depending on the specific classroom location and its space capacity.

Vice-Dean Klassen then proceeded to solicit initial feedback on three items slated for more detailed discussions in the future:

- Should there be a limit to how many FYF seminars/Ones a student can take?
- Should there be scheduling guidelines to ensure that FYF seminars and Ones are not course conflict with large gateway courses?
- What are some appropriate ways that select FYF courses can be factored into POS (program of study) requirements of the units that host the FYF course?

She asked academic units that have concerns about the scheduling of their FYF seminar courses with other large gateway courses to get in contact with the Dean’s Office. Vice-Dean Klassen clarified that these FYF seminars and Ones courses would not count towards program requirements unless academic units allow them as an exception. These courses can never be a requirement for a program because of sustainability issues.

A member commented that a number of academic units had expressed the desire for autonomy to allow an FYF course to count towards program requirements at the joint Social Sciences and Sciences Curriculum Committee meeting earlier in the week. Vice-Dean Klassen acknowledged that there are differences in sentiment and opinion about this issue across the three sectors, and the Dean’s Office would look into proposing some language in the coming months to facilitate additional dialogue during the Fall 2019 round of curriculum committee meetings.

Finally, Vice-Dean Klassen informed the committee that Professor Andrea Williams, Director of the Faculty’s Writing Integrated Learning initiative, is in the process of setting up workshops to support academic units and instructors offering and teaching the FYF seminar courses. These workshops are expected to start in May, and a schedule of
these workshops would be published in the First-Year Foundations section of the Faculty’s Teaching & Learning Support website.

Vice-Dean Klassen added that if academic units have postdoctoral fellows who will be teaching the FYF seminar courses, these workshops would form part of their training. Professor Williams commented that some of these workshops would be more specialized and discipline-specific.

2. Approval of Minutes of the February 1, 2019 Meeting of Humanities Curriculum Committee

The meeting minutes were approved.

3. Course and Program Modifications for Abbreviated/Expedited Review

No issues were raised.

4. Course and Program Modifications for Full Review

Anthropology, Department of:

Professor Janice Boddy, Chair of the department, presented the new First-Year Foundations seminar course proposal for ANT195H1 (Speculative Fiction and Social Reality). The course proposal was approved.

Art History, Department of:

Ms. Louise Kermode, Undergraduate Assistant from the department presented the proposals to create a new First-Year Foundations seminar course, FAH195H1 (On Foot: From Pilgrimage to the Mobile City), as well as another new course. The department is going through a curriculum renewal and is attempting to make its first- and second-year courses more thematic. Both course proposals were approved.

Cinema Studies Institute:

Professor James Cahill, Undergraduate Coordinator of the Institute presented the course proposals for CIN215H1 (Fantasy Film) and CIN216H1 (Crime Film Traditions). Both course proposals were approved.

Diaspora and Transnational Studies, Centre for:

Dr. Antonela Arhin, Associate Director of the Centre presented the revision proposal for DTS199H1. Previously approved as “Routes of Conversion,” the revised title/topic is now “The Bible and Migration.” This revision proposal was approved.

Drama, Theatre and Performance Studies, Centre for:

Ms. Colleen Osborn, Undergraduate Administrative Coordinator of the Centre presented the proposals to modify three programs and 26 courses, as well as revise twelve courses that were previously approved in Fall 2018.
Modifications to the Drama Minor, Major, and Specialist stemmed from the decision by University College to split its full-credit UNI102Y1 course into UNI102H1 (Performing the City I) and UNI106H1 (Performing the City II). In addition, the prerequisites for a number of 300- and 400-level courses were changed so that instead of specifying the CGPA as a requirement, the Centre would ask for minimum grades in specific courses. All of the course and program proposals were approved.

(Addendum: An administrative update was made to correct the course title for DRM300Y1 on April 11, 2019. The revised title for DRM300Y1 is “Performance II.”)

Germanic Languages and Literatures, Department of:

Professor Erol Boran, Associate Chair, Undergraduate Studies presented the proposal for a new Certificate in Global German Studies (UofT Global Scholar). Students pursuing this Certificate would have an opportunity to engage in experiential learning through different means, which include the department’s very own iPRAKTIKUM Experiential Learning and Internationalization Internship (GER391H1).

Vice-Dean Klassen stated that this Certificate is part of a broader Global University vision (and Global Scholars initiative) spearheaded by Professor Joseph Wong at the University’s Office of the Vice-President, International (OVPI). The Faculty is looking at ways to make it easier for students to engage in international mobility during their undergraduate studies, and this Certificate is the first offering in the Arts & Science context.

This proposal prompted feedback from members. A member questioned if employers would ask for the completion of such a certificate. A member commented that students would need to know why it would be beneficial for them to pursue this Certificate. Another member felt the need for the Faculty to establish a distinction between “in-conjunction” (i.e., Category 2) Certificates and related Minor programs.

Professor Alana Boland, Associate Dean, Teaching & Learning responded that this Certificate is to be offered as a pilot initiative and is not meant to be interpreted as a certification move/pathway/direction. Dr. Martha Harris, Manager, Governance & Curriculum Services added that while the University does offer other types of skills-based Certificate programs that might lead to professional certification, the Certificate in Global German Studies is not a proxy for certification purposes and a Category 2 Certificate would not be meant to replace a Minor.

Vice-Dean Klassen acknowledged that there are many ways for the Faculty to fulfill OVPI’s Global University-related initiatives, and she expressed her interest in having discussions with the different academic units to see which routes or tools would be the most appropriate. It was also clarified at the meeting that a Certificate would have a smaller set of completion requirements than a Minor, similar to a Language Citation.

History, Department of:

Professor Alison Smith, Chair of the department presented the proposals to create a new First-Year Foundations seminar course (HIS195H1: Drunk History), modify three existing courses, as well as revise a course that was approved earlier in the 2018-19 governance cycle.

Previously approved as “Medieval Medicine,” the revised title/topic for the First-Year Foundations course, HIS197H1 is now “Microhistory, Global History, and Historical Narrative.” In response to the HIS436H1 (Stalinist Terror) course modification proposal, a question was raised regarding the proposed minimum grades required in specific prerequisite courses. As Professor Smith could not speak to the proposed changes for that course, Vice-Dean Klassen suggested holding this modification proposal for further advisement. With the exception of HIS436H1, all of the course proposals were approved.
Innis College:

Ms. Sharon English, Director of the Writing and Rhetoric Program and the Innis College Writing Centre, presented the new course proposal for INI308H1 (Selected Topics in Writing and Rhetoric). Prior to the creation of this course, the only special topics courses offered by the Writing and Rhetoric Program were only at the 400-level. Ms. English indicated that the Program would like to open up enrolment in this course to non-program students.

A question was raised about the topic to be offered in the 2019-20 academic year. Ms. English replied that the proposed topic would likely revolve around the rhetoric of health medicine or rhetoric in ecology. She also noted that the Program currently has a special topics course at the 400-level that focuses on self-editing techniques (i.e., INI409H1: Special Topics in Writing and Rhetoric: Writing through Revision). A member expressed interest in hearing more about the topic to be offered next year because of its potential connection to Health Studies.

Vice-Dean Klassen indicated that if the same topic is to be offered for more than one year, it might be better to create a permanent course so that it would be easier for students to find the course in the Academic Calendar. Professor Boland added that sharing information about special topics courses with other relevant academic units is a good way to build relationships. Dr. Harris also commented that while special topics courses offer flexibility, they are not a sustainable solution if a particular topic becomes very popular. Some questions were raised about the publication of subtitles for special topics courses. Dr. Harris indicated that they would appear in the Arts & Science Timetable as well as on a student’s transcript.

This new course proposal was approved.

Latin American Studies:

Professor Susan Antebi, Director of the Latin American Studies Program presented the new course proposal for LAS411Y1 (Independent Study). The academic unit has been working with the Centre for International Experience to facilitate independent studies undertaken overseas in countries such as Chile and Mexico. Based on the academic unit’s discussions with international partner institutions, the number of contact hours and amount of work these students assume might render them eligible to earn a full-credit as opposed to a half-credit. The creation of LAS411Y1 would complement the existing half-credit LAS410H1 Independent Study course. This new course proposal was approved.

Religion, Department for the Study of:

Professor Sol Goldberg, Associate Chair of the department presented the proposals to create three new courses and modify one program. The proposed modification to the Islamic Studies Major stemmed from the department’s desire to streamline the requirements so that students could complete the program in a timely manner. All of the course and program proposals were approved.

(Addendum: As the course code RLG397H1 had already been assigned to another new course (Readings in Early Sikh Texts) for Fall 2019, the course code for Religion, Space and Diaspora was later revised from the originally-approved RLG397H1 to RLG334H1 on April 15, 2019).

Sexual Diversity Studies, Mark S. Bonham Centre for:

Professor Dai Kojima, Undergraduate Director for the Centre presented the proposals to create one new course, retire one course, and revise three programs that were previously approved in February 2019.
In response to the proposals to renumber the Queer Popular Culture course from SDS379H1 to SDS279H1, a question was raised about the consultation that had taken place with other academic units, given the number of programs of study that were listed for which SDS279H1 might be suitable. Professor James Cahill from the Cinema Studies Institute indicated that his academic unit was aware of this proposed course numbering change. Vice-Dean Klassen reminded the committee that consultation would involve consulting with Associate Chairs or their equivalent counterparts of academic units, and that consultation would enable academic units to better help students find relevant courses across other Arts & Science departments and units.

All of the course and program proposals were approved.

**Slavic Languages and Literatures, Department of:**

Professor Donna Orwin, Chair of the department presented two new First-Year Foundations seminar course proposals: SLA194H1 (Utopia Interrupted: Late and Post-Soviet Russian Literature) and SLA195H1 (Literature and Painting in Russia and the West). Both of the course proposals were approved.

**Spanish and Portuguese, Department of:**

Professor Yolanda Iglesias, Undergraduate Coordinator presented the new course proposal for SPA456H1 (Transatlantic Hispanic Baroque: Crisis and Disenchantment). A question was raised to seek clarification on the proposed prerequisite requirements. Professor Iglesias confirmed that students would need to complete at least one 300-level SPA course in addition to SPA320Y1. The new course proposal was approved.

**Trinity College:**

Professor Michael Ratcliffe, Dean of Arts and Vice-Provost of Trinity College presented the proposals to create one new First-Year Foundations seminar course and retire one existing course. TRN191H1 (Disaster and Terrorism: Religion and Ethics at Ground Zero) has previously been offered as a 300-level special topics course as part of the Ethics, Society & Law program. The 300-level special topics course has been well-received, and the tenured faculty member has expressed interest in teaching this course to a more heterogeneous audience.

A member indicated that the Centre for Jewish Studies might be interested in learning more about this course. The member suggested that it might be beneficial for Trinity College to also consult with the Department of East Asian Studies and the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures. Professor Ratcliffe acknowledged that his College is used to seeing students complete a number of interdisciplinary courses. Vice-Dean Klassen suggested striking a working group on Humanities-Social Sciences curricular integration and communication so that more could be done to better communicate interdisciplinary curricular information to students. Both of the course proposals were approved.

**University College:**

Professor John Marshall, Vice-Principal of University College presented five new course proposals, four of which were First-Year Foundations seminar courses.

In response to the First-Year Foundations seminar courses proposed, Vice-Dean Klassen reiterated that FYF seminar courses are never required for a program but academic units may choose to count them towards their own program requirements. This generated a discussion of whether a note should be added to the listings of program requirements or to the course description of each of the FYF seminar courses to convey this. The committee was unable to come to a consensus.
Vice-Dean Klassen also stated that if a new degree requirement is to be introduced to coincide with the Faculty’s First-Year Foundations initiative, it would require adjusting the number of first-year courses that could be counted towards a student’s 20.0-credit degree but that there would be many other things to sort out.

All of the course proposals were approved.

**Victoria College:**

Professor Angela Esterhammer, Principal of Victoria College presented the proposals to create six new courses, retire two existing courses, as well as modify four programs and revise one program that was approved earlier in the 2018-19 governance cycle.

She noted that questions were raised about the initial breadth requirement category proposed for VIC242H1 (Scientific Worldviews of the Renaissance) during the January/February 2019 round of curriculum committee meetings. Upon further consultation with the Department of History, the College changed the course’s breadth requirement category from 5 (The Physical and Mathematical Universes) to 3 (Society and Its Institutions).

With respect to the proposal to revise the Material Culture Minor, it was confirmed that FAH205H1 (Clay: A Material and Visual History), a new course that was just approved earlier in this meeting, would be added to the list of acceptable cognate courses.

All of the course and program proposals were approved.

**Woodsworth College:**

Professor Brock MacDonald, Vice-Principal of Woodsworth College presented the proposal to modify the Digital Humanities Minor.

He stated that the existing 1.0 FCE capstone experience requirement had generated difficulty for students given the changes to courses offered by other Arts & Science academic units as well as changes to topics courses offered within Woodsworth College. Reducing the capstone experience requirement to 0.5 FCE would provide more flexibility to students as they complete this Minor along with other Major programs.

A member asked if enrolment in the Digital Humanities Minor is restricted to Woodsworth College students only. Professor MacDonald replied that such a restriction does not exist and that some Computer Science students do enrol in this Minor.

The program modification proposal was approved.

5. **Other Business**

There was no other business.

6. **Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 11:40 am.

Minutes prepared by Kevin Mak, Curriculum and Governance Assistant, Faculty of Arts & Science