



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO  
FACULTY OF APPLIED SCIENCE & ENGINEERING

**Minutes of the Faculty Council Meeting of  
Friday, September 7, 2012  
12:10 – 2:00 p.m.**

**Michael E. Charles Council Chamber, Galbraith Building**

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**Present:**

Tony Sinclair (Speaker)  
Stewart Aitchison  
Dionne Aleman  
Cristina Amon (Dean)  
Jason H. Anderson  
Stavros A. Argyropoulos  
Joe Baptista  
Will F. Bawden  
Jason Bazylak  
J. Christopher Beck  
Kamran Behdinin  
Evan Bentz  
Sharon Brown  
Phil Byer  
David Chartash  
Yu-Ling Cheng  
Chris Damaren  
Jim Dawson  
Khuong Doan  
Greg J. Evans  
Scott Genin  
Penney Gilbert  
John Harrison  
Benjamin Hatton  
Jennifer Hsu  
Robert Irish  
Bryan Karney  
Chris A. Kennedy  
Mark Kortschot  
Deepa Kundur  
Matthew Lattavo  
Ofer Levi  
Rishi Maharaj  
Brenda McCabe  
Susan McCahan  
Barbara McCann  
Farid Najm

Jun Nogami  
Graeme Norval  
Austra Ozolins  
Jeffrey A. Packer  
Daman Panesar  
Debrah Pert  
Doug D. Perovic  
Karl Peterson  
Jane Phillips  
Nelly Pietropaolo  
Kim Pressnail  
Lisa Romkey  
Paul Santerre  
Shamim A. Sheikh  
Chandra Veer Singh  
Brent E. Sleep  
Steven J. Thorpe  
Olev Trass  
Peter Weiss  
Christopher Yip  
Jean Zu

**Guests:**

Ameri Afshin  
Christina da Rocha-Feeley  
Liz Do  
Leslie Grife  
Madelyn Herschorn  
Jessica Li  
Lesley Mak  
Tom Nault  
Chirag Variawa  
Caroline Ziegler

**Regrets:**

Grant Allen  
Gabriele D'Eleuterio

## **1. Welcome/Adoption of the Agenda**

Dean Amon introduced and welcomed the new Faculty Council Speaker, Tony Sinclair.

The Speaker thanked members joining the first Faculty Council meeting of the 2012-2013 academic year, and welcomed all present, in particular undergraduate and graduate Faculty Council student members.

He noted that members had received the agenda on August 28.

On a motion duly moved, seconded and carried, it was resolved –

**THAT** the agenda be adopted.

## **2. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

On a motion duly moved, seconded and carried, it was resolved –

**THAT** the minutes of the meeting of April 26, 2012 be approved as circulated.

## **3. Introduction of New Faculty Members**

The Speaker called upon Chairs and Directors to introduce their new faculty members.

Professor Jun Nogami, Chair of the Department of Materials Science and Engineering, introduced his new faculty member, Benjamin Hatton.

Professor Jean Zu, Chair of the Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering, introduced her new faculty member, Tobin Filleter.

Professor Paul Santerre, Director of the Institute of Biomaterials and Biomedical Engineering, introduced his new faculty member, Penney Gilbert.

Professor Farid Najm, Chair of The Edward S. Rogers Sr. Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, introduced his new faculty member, Deepa Kundur.

The Speaker welcomed and members applauded the new faculty members.

## **4. Report of the Dean**

Dean Cristina Amon welcomed members to Faculty Council and provided remarks.

### **(a) Academic Ranking of World Universities**

The Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU) rankings were released last month, with UofT Engineering ranking #13.

The ARWU has traditionally used the following indicators for rankings: citations, publications, quality of publications, and research expenditures. Because US schools

distribute research funding differently than other schools, this indicator has historically caused us to underperform. We have been working for a couple of years to address this issue and last year, together with the University of Waterloo, presented the ARWU with a rationale for excluding this indicator. As a result, this is the first year that universities outside the US did not use research expenditures as part of their ranking.

**(b) Boundless Campaign**

Members were sent an invitation to our Faculty's Afternoon of Engineering Innovation being held on Saturday, September 15.

This event will mark the official launch of our Boundless Campaign, and is open to faculty, staff, students, and alumni. It will include presentations and panels by faculty, students, and alumni and is an excellent opportunity to learn more about the breadth of education, research and innovation happening across our Faculty, and to join in celebrating the impact that our work has on Canadians and across the world.

Several recently received major gifts will be announced, including donations toward the new building on Simcoe Hall's parking lot (Site 10).

All members were encouraged to attend, and to direct any questions to Jim Dawson, Executive Director of Advancement.

**(c) Site 10 Town Hall**

The first Town Hall of the academic year will be held on Tuesday, September 11 from 12:10-1:30 p.m. in GB202. To be discussed are the common vision for the Centre for Engineering Innovation and Entrepreneurship (Site 10), and an update on the project's status.

**(d) Annual Report and Academic Plan Update**

The 2011-12 Annual Report is almost finalized, and will be available in print and online in October. This is the Faculty's fourth annual report, and builds on previous years' well received publications. It includes a brief update on the progress of our Academic Plan, which will be presented in more detail at our November Faculty Council meeting.

The Annual Report and the Academic Plan allow us to measure our progress towards goals in addition to celebrating our accomplishments. Members input is welcomed.

**(e) CEAB Update**

Our CEAB accreditation review has been scheduled for October 21-23, 2012. The Chair of the visiting team will be Professor James Lee of the Department of Geological Sciences & Geological Engineering at Queen's University.

Departments have been working diligently over these many months in preparation for the visit, with the goal of receiving the full six-year accreditation for all programs. All materials have now been sent to the CEAB.

The Dean thanked faculty and staff for their efforts, in particular the departmental representatives and the Vice-Dean, Undergraduate.

**(f) IBBME External Review**

The external review of the Institute of Biomaterials and Biomedical Engineering is on November 19-20, 2012. Colleagues from Carleton, Johns Hopkins, University of California, Berkeley, and tentatively Duke will be conducting the review.

Members of the Faculty who wish to offer comments toward the review should contact Caroline Ziegler, Faculty Governance and Programs Officer.

**(g) Undergraduate / First Year Class**

We have an outstanding group of undergraduate and first-year students joining us, with an entrance average of 91.3%, up from 90.4% last year. The total of first-year students is 1,398, well over our target of 1,130. The Admissions Committee will be reviewing the processes in place to try to avoid a recurrence of such a large deviation from our admission target in future years.

**(h) Faculty Administrative Appointments**

Stewart Aitchison ended his term as Vice-Dean, Research on June 30, 2012 and Kim Pressnail will end his term as Chair, First Year on October 31. Dean Amon thanked both for their hard work and dedication over the course of their terms.

Ted Sargent began his term as Vice-Dean, Research on July 1, 2012, and Micah Stickel, who recently won the Faculty's Early Career Teaching Award, will begin his term as Chair, First Year on November 1.

**5. Business Arising from the Meeting of April 26, 2012**

**(a) Faculty Council Meeting Dates, 2012-2013**

The Faculty Council meeting dates for 2012-2013 were not available at the April 26, 2012 meeting. They were emailed to members on July 13, 2012 and are presented in Report 3354 for members' information.

There were no questions, and the Report was received for information.

**(b) Updated Membership of Faculty Council Standing Committees, 2012-2013**

The preliminary membership of Faculty Council Standing Committees was approved at the April 26 Council meeting. The attached Report 3334 Revised is an update for members' information.

There were no questions, and the Report was received for information.

## **6. Master of Engineering in Cities Engineering and Management (MEngCEM) Proposal**

The Speaker reminded members that Faculty Council meetings are formal and our Rules of Order and standard parliamentary procedure require that a motion be seconded before discussion ensues.

Brenda McCabe presented Report 3349, a proposal to create a Master of Engineering in Cities Engineering and Management (MEngCEM), circulated in advance.

Professor McCabe discussed the importance of cities as the primary economic engines of the world and the challenges of managing their infrastructure and services due to lack of funding, systemic inertia, or other organizational and political circumstances. The proposed MEngCEM program will enable engineers to address pressing issues that face cities, create innovative responses that are environmentally responsible, socially engaging and economically feasible, and lead innovation in infrastructure-supporting organizations. Although other programs exist that are broadly similar, this will be the first of its kind in Canada.

The program consists of ten courses plus a practicum taken over four consecutive terms on a full-time basis, with 40-60 students registered per year in steady state. It will be structured around three themes: Theme A includes infrastructure-related courses that focus on quantitative methods to provide a foundation for evidence-based decision making; Theme B focuses on cities as complex systems that influence decision making; and Theme C, facilitated by the PEY office, is an integrative practicum that allows students to apply the technical knowledge they have learned to a complex problem related to cities.

At the conclusion of the presentation, Dean Amon moved and Brenda McCabe seconded the following regular motion –

THAT the Master of Engineering in Cities Engineering and Management (MEngCEM) program, as outlined in the attached proposal, be established.

There were no questions. The Speaker called the question and the motion was carried.

## **7. Multidisciplinary Capstone Design Course**

Graeme Norval, Chair of the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, presented Report 3350, circulated in advance.

Dr. Norval introduced Kamran Behdinan of the Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering and NSERC Chair in Multidisciplinary Engineering Design, for whom the proposed multidisciplinary capstone design course is a mandated primary deliverable.

Dr. Norval explained that the proposed multidisciplinary capstone design course builds extensively on the innovative ESP and Praxis course offerings in first year, and aims to foster multidisciplinary capstone participation amongst students. The central focus of this deliverable is for multidisciplinary student teams to contribute directly to a multidisciplinary capstone project (MCP) while communicating with a broad spectrum of industry sectors and clients.

At the conclusion of the presentation, Dean Amon moved and Kamran Behdinan seconded the following regular motion –

THAT the proposed Multidisciplinary Capstone Design be accepted for implementation beginning in the 2013-2014 academic year.

Members discussed the weighting of the capstone design course, and if the assessment of student work can be aligned with the relevant CEAB graduate attribute for consistency.

Members also recommended two friendly amendments to the Report:

- the word “course” be added to the motion for clarity, so that it reads: “THAT the proposed Multidisciplinary Capstone Design **course** be accepted for implementation beginning in the 2013-2014 academic year” and
- the final sentence in the Report before the motion be changed to read: “All programs are involved in these changes, and the impact on **interested** students **from participating** ~~in the various~~ programs has been considered.”

There were no objections to the amendments. The Speaker called the question and the motion was carried.

## **8. Proposal to Strike a Task Force to Review the Membership Composition of Faculty Council**

Dean Amon presented previously-circulated Report 3352, a proposal to strike a Task Force to review the membership composition of Faculty Council, in particular, its size which at approximately 400, can lead to several undesirable results. These may include difficulty in achieving quorum, limited interest in Council business and a corresponding lack of preparation by many attendees to consider the issues at hand, and inefficient allocation of resources in terms of the total number of person-hours spent by the Faculty to consider routine matters.

The Task Force will have broad representation, and will seek input from all members of Council and other interested parties. Council will have an opportunity to vote on any recommendations that may result from the Task Force.

There were no questions and the Report was received for information.

## **9. Academic Appeals Board Annual Report**

Evan Bentz, Chair of the Academic Appeals Board, presented previously-circulated Report 3357, describing the responsibilities of the Academic Appeals Board and summarizing the appeals heard from September 2011 through September 2012.

There were no questions and the Report was received for information.

## **10. Reports and Recommendations of Standing Committees**

The Speaker reminded members that the following reports are for Council's information.

### **(a) Changes to the Admissions Requirement for Applicants from Saskatchewan**

Christopher Yip, Chair of the Admissions Committee, presented Report 3351, regarding changes to the admissions requirement for applicants from Saskatchewan. These changes are in effect because Saskatchewan has phased in changes to their mathematics curriculum to align with an initiative by the prairie provinces and British Columbia to make their math courses similar. Effective September 2012, Mathematics B30 and C30 will be eliminated and replaced with Pre-Calculus 30.

There were no questions and the report was received for information.

### **(b) Scholarships and Awards Committee Goals for 2012-2013**

Graeme Norval, Chair of the Scholarships and Awards Committee, presented the Committee's goal for this academic year as indicated in Report 3356, namely to consult with students to identify upgrades to the e-portfolio system that would make it more user-friendly and thereby increase its usage among students.

A member thanked the Committee for seeking student input and suggested that the Committee also provide students with information on how they may best complete the form.

The Report was received for information.

### **(c) Teaching Methods and Resources Committee Goals for 2012-2013**

Lisa Romkey, Chair of the Teaching Methods and Resources Committee, reported on the Committee's goals for the year. These include the continued deployment of the teaching evaluation framework that was approved by Council on April 26, 2012, including the establishment of priorities for department-specific questions for those who had requested it; a review of the Instructor Manual prepared by the Registrar's Office; the establishment of a Sustained Excellence in Teaching award; and hosting an Educational Technology conference in Spring 2013.

There were no questions and report was received for information.

### **(d) Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Goals for 2012-2013**

Graeme Norval, Chair of the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, presented Report 3355, the Committee's goals for the year. These include ensuring that curriculum and calendar changes are reviewed and processed in a timely fashion, and dealing with any curricular changes that arise as a result of the accreditation review.

There were no questions and report was received for information.

## **11. Recognition of Service**

### **(a) Retiring Faculty Members**

The Speaker acknowledged three faculty members who retired in 2011-2012 and thanked them for their contributions to the Faculty. These are William Bawden and Philip Byer of the Department of Civil Engineering, and Tom North of the Department of Materials Science and Engineering.

Brenda McCabe, Chair of the Department of Civil Engineering, recognized the contributions made by William Bawden and Philip Byer.

Jun Nogami, Chair of the Department of Materials Science and Engineering, recognized the contributions made by Tom North.

Dean Amon presented Professor North with the gift of an engraved captain's chair. Professors Bawden and Byer had previously received similar gifts.

### **(b) Outgoing Vice-Dean, Research**

Dean Amon recognized the contributions of Professor Stewart Aitchison, who completed his term as Vice-Dean, Research at the end of the 2011-2012 academic year, and presented him with a gift of an engraved jade plaque.

## **12. Other Business**

There was no other business.

## **13. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of Faculty Council is November 29, 2012.

## **14. Adjournment**

The Speaker thanked members for attending and participating in the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m.