



SLIS
School Council
October 20, 2017
1:00-2:30 pm
Room 117B, Rutherford South

[minutes taken by Acting SLIS Assistant Chair Nany Evans]

Present: Toni Samek Tami Oliphant, Dinesh Rathi, Dangzhi Zhao, Adam Worrall, Danielle Allard, Ali Shiri, Kathleen DeLong, Kerry Anderson, Colette Poitras, Sharon Farnel, Kirk MacLeod, Okan Bulut, Lorisia MacLeod, Sarah Milmine, Pilar Martinez, Rene Geogopalis and Lisa Shamchukl. Regrets, Michael McNally. Minutes: Nancy Evans

- A. Approval of Agenda – Remove item 1 from New Business (Calendar Change LIS 536). Toni/Tami Carried.
- B. Approval of Minutes Sept. 30, 2016 (attached) Ali/Tami carried
- C. Round robin introductions – Toni Samek
- D. Chair’s Report - **Toni Samek** includes at the end of these minutes
- E. Associate Chair & Graduate Coordinator Report (attached) - **Ali Shiri**
- F. New Business
 - 1. Calendar Change LIS 536 (attached)- Tami - Vote to delete from the calendar; Omnibus vote June 2017 update. **This item was removed from the agenda (as per Academic Council Oct 20, 2017 minutes).**
- G. Curriculum Committee Update - The Curriculum committee has begun a curriculum review that will be on going through to summer 2018. Stay tuned for updates and surveys where your participation may be required - **Tami Oliphant**
- H. Scholarship, Awards, & Bursaries Committee 2016 -17 Report - attached - **Adam Worrall**
- I. Brief updates from Council Representatives/Liaisons - my notes: separate document at the end of these minutes

Adjourn at 2:30 pm.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Welcome to Rutherford South this afternoon, where the *University of Alberta acknowledges that we are located on Treaty 6 territory, and respects the history, languages, and cultures of the First Nations, Métis, Inuit and all First Peoples of Canada, whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant community.*

Shared governance is conditional to democratic quality education and that is where we rely on you so strongly. Thank you enormously for your time and consideration. We rely on it. It keeps us accountable to the public good.

Hard-working and high-performing SLIS team. Honour and a privilege to serve as Chair here and great appreciation for the ethic and care shown by our Interim Dean and Dean.

Period of thriving and oxygenating – you will hear some stats and demographics from Ali. Suffice it to say we have the largest cohort of grad students on this campus across 18 Faculties.

- New Dean, Dr. Jennifer Tupper.
- New colleague Dr. Danielle Allard.
- Visiting PhD student from China Keran Zhao.
- New position effective July 1, 2018.

Program Assessment Page including a new graphic coming on Monday. More on that from Ali. But a few highlights:

Latest Exit Survey Results: 81% response rate of the 57 grads between NOV 2016 & JUNE 2017. 82% would recommend our program – even on campus and online.

Latest Employment Survey 2015 Results: 20 of the 22 respondents (91%) were employed in the library and information sector at some point since graduation. This is the highest percentage of graduates employed compared to previous years. To the extent that the survey data may be compared over time, the rate of employment in the library and information sector reflects an upward trend when compared with the responses of previous graduates from 2014 (80%) and 2013 (83%). The 2016 survey is going out in the next few weeks. 2016 Survey almost ready to go.

Practicum Site Supervisor Survey Report: Over 80% of responding supervisors and co-supervisors said that students were “well prepared” for their placements. Almost all of the respondents said that their Practicum students could count on positive job references as a result of the placement experience. Overall, responding supervisors and co-supervisors said the School’s approach to the pedagogy of the Practicum

resonated positively with them (which was elaborated in the survey as emphasizing leadership and self-leadership skills; socialization to professional values; networking and relationship skills; observing how communication, decision-making, and information-sharing occur; learning how to acquire tacit as well as formal knowledge about workplace culture and staffing relationships; and building self-confidence in career planning).

Inundated with expressions of interest in sessional teaching and we must apologize here we can't hire you all - but please stay in touch – we are blown away at your supportive interest and thank you for it! Teaching Symposium in May 2017.

Renovated Student Lounge.

50th Anniversary plans (coinciding with 5th anniversary of the online teaching and learning stream) will be addressed by Nancy a little later on.

The U of A adopted a new Institutional Strategic Plan entitled *For the Public Good* since we last gathered. (The Faculty is just getting underway.) We held strategic planning in May 2017.

Strategic Directions June 2017-June 2020

SLIS has a stated [vision, mission, values, and MLIS program learning outcomes](#) consistent with its parent institution and culture. Leveraging these in alignment with the University of Alberta's 2016 institutional strategic plan, [For the Public Good](#), taking into account the [Faculty of Education's](#) commitments and status as it celebrates its 75 anniversary in 2017, and in anticipation of our next scheduled accreditation round with the American Library Association's Committee on Accreditation in 2020, SLIS has set the following strategic directions.

2017-18 – reflecting sustainable growth and expansion

SLIS will adopt a recruitment statement, review its internal admissions process, administer a curriculum review, assess the longstanding 48-credit requirement for the MLIS degree, and hold the annual retreat on theme of sustainability (environmental, leadership, education and research, operations and infrastructure, community and culture, health and well-being).

SLIS will map its MLIS program learning outcomes to core courses, propose a cohesive online core course teaching strategy, and hold its annual teaching symposium with an emphasis on online pedagogy and instruction.

SLIS will evidence our diverse community engagement (including attention to international contexts), signal existing Indigenous-based activities, administer a survey of practicum site supervisor experiences, and further encourage student

research and scholarship activities extending beyond the classroom/virtual classroom in tandem with enhancing student travel awards.

2018-19 – reflecting 50th anniversary of continuously earning recognition

SLIS will launch its 50th Anniversary on Alumni Weekend, concomitantly mark the fifth year of the purely online teaching and learning stream, and host a debate series and other activities to critically engage the School's constituents in its diverse endeavours (as an important player in library and information studies research and scholarship, a stimulating model for educational advancement, and an intercultural hub for professional cooperation with a vibrant community). Visitors to the School and website will experience enhanced inclusive signage, spaces, and resources.

SLIS will introduce an Indigenous-based 3-credit MLIS course and produce an Indigenous initiatives report.

SLIS will enhance the extent to which the student exit survey maps to the program learning outcomes, express a vision for future joint programming, produce its accreditation *Program Presentation* plan, and hold its annual retreat on the theme of accreditation.

2019-20 - reflecting accreditation readiness for securing our future

SLIS will produce its accreditation *Program Presentation* addressing the 2015 Standards for Accreditation (systematic planning; curriculum; faculty; students; administration, finances, and resources), host the accreditation site team visit, attend the accreditation deliberation at the American Library Association annual conference, and maximize opportunities to streamline efforts with preparations for an expected institutional graduate program review in 2020.

Council Reports from Select Reps with News or Developments

Kerry Anderson - Public Libraries Services Branch. Interns for National network for equitable library service is a successful partnership. BC libraries co-op working 2 year project. 3 interns so far. Colette Poitras introduced as new manager new Indigenous outreach.

Lisa Schamchuk - GELA Rep. Speed networking in November for students.

Pilar Martinez. Edmonton Public Library Rep. All staff learning day last week, zero complaints from public. Indigenous space, equipment, strategic plan complete, now working on business plan.

Kathleen De Long - U of A Libraries Rep. Strategic plan approach was to use structure of objectives and directions Set 24 priorities. Has gone to Library Council and the external version is being written to go up to U of a Website. Student experience, management and retaining print materials. New storage facility and the move of objects is beginning for 5-6 million pieces. Located on South Campus and includes a reading room. Equity, Diversity and Inclusion new strategic directions, and scholarly communications is another.

Lorisia MacLeod - LISSA Rep. Student lounge renovations complete. Thank you expressed to Nancy Evans. Google form in play to allow online students to connect with informal discussions and going very well. Aim to meet their needs. Student elections took place and all positions were filled but 2. Have a new role of communications coordinator. Oct 23 Blanket Exercise coming up. New Indigenous intern Sheila Laroque. Activities include student engagement fundraisers and bake sales, as well as Shout out for Libraries 30 minutes once per month (Oct 27 is next radio show).

Rene Georgopolis - Archives Society of Alberta Rep. ASA provides funding for professional development for travel to archives conferences. Questions from Indigenous communities indicate a need for intro to archives courses. There is a demand. Seeking support.

Kirk MacLeod - LISAA Rep. At annual alum brunch introduced new rising star award given to Holly Arnason, gave longstanding Distinguished Alumuni Award to Keith Barber and Honourary Alumni Award to Ali Shiri. Coming up to SLIS 50th Anniversary LISAA is doing a monthly interview with an alum posted on website. Currently looking at career paths and how to best use your time.

Nancy Evans, SLIS Acting Assistant Chair, Administration reported on the School's upcoming 50th Anniversary in 2018. In the planning stages and have had meetings with Alumni Relations, LISAA, fund development staff and colleagues in Technologies in Education. In order to make this an inclusive event we enlisted the help of the Alumni Relations to run a survey asking for ideas and input. The information gathered from that survey will assist with planning as we move forward. Plan to have a soft roll out in the early New Year and we are working on a logo and other branding for that purpose. Planning a full roll out/launch in September 2018 to coincide with Alumni weekend. The momentum will continue throughout the year.