

SLIS School Council
October 16, 2015
1:30pm to 3:00pm
1-17B Rutherford South

Present: Gerald Beasley, Nicholas Fonseca, Moyra Lang, Leslie Latta, Sean Luyk, Margaret Mackey, Tami Oliphant, Anastasia Piltingsrud, Aman Powar-Grewal, Toni Samek, Ali Shiri, Allison Sivak, Adam Worrall, Dangzhi Zhao

Minutes: Sophia Sherman

- A. Approval of Agenda
Approved. All in favour.
- B. Approval of Minutes
Approved with amendments. All in favour.
- C. Chair's Report – Toni Samek

Toni invited the new Dean, Randy Wimmer to Academic Council this morning.

We are very close to launching our new website.

Toni spoke about our different MLIS streams; online, MA/MLIS, MBA/MLIS. We are optimistic and competitive among other library schools especially due to the online MLIS program. We have a good succession of faculty members, some as assistant professors, associate professors, and full professors. We are still the only one online MLIS in Canada. There are numerous and growing combined programs across North America. There's a great interest in data science degrees across Canada.

Margaret Mackey's retirement party was last June. She is back part time and teaching 1 course per term.

SLIS "Director" title has been changed to SLIS "Chair". Ali Shiri's position has been extended to Associate Chair.

Dr. Jennifer Branch has returned to her home department of Elementary Education as of July 1, 2015.

We thank her for her time at SLIS.

Dr. Adam Worrall is the new SLIS hire as Assistant Professor. He is now teaching online for us.

Toni is very happy to be in the Chair's position 2015-2020. Toni will take us through the next Accreditation.

Our summer 2015 exit survey received an 81% response rate and 100% of respondents said that they would recommend our MLIS program.

We have a CAST 2 year position advertised now. We will be looking at applications next week.

Toni has had meetings around campus regarding eClass. There's more governance discussions happening around eClass. Discussion postings in eClass need to be purged at some point.

D. New Business

1. Updating Committee Terms of Reference

Motion to approve changes recommended to terms of reference for School Council, Academic Council, Admissions Committee, Curriculum Committee, Scholarships and Awards Committee. Motion to approve: Dangzhi Zhao, Seconded by Adam Worrall. All in Favour.

The Chair determines service assignments for faculty members and the faculty liaison will always communicate to the student representatives regarding Research Colloquia's and Speaker's Corners.

**Motion to dissolve two committees: Research Colloquium Standing Committee and Speaker's Corner Standing Committee.
Motion to approve: Leslie Latta, Seconded by Tami Oliphant. All in Favour.**

2. LIS 508: Information Technologies in LIS Environments

This has been voted on at Curriculum Committee and Academic Council.

Motion is to remove LIS 508 from the curriculum and Calendar to reduce the number of required courses in order to align with other MLIS programs in North America and to facilitate greater flexibility for student planning. See further in-depth rationale on attached Curriculum Committee Recommendation form.

Motion to approve: Tami Oliphant, Seconded by Adam Worrall. All in Favour.

E. Report from the Associate Chair – Ali Shiri

In 2012 we had 112 students, now we have 240 students. We have 200 applications and have admitted 60 students. High GPA's with average over 3.5. Currently 6 aboriginal students. 19 courses developed and 3 courses under development in online MLIS. We have hired 10 sessional instructors to teach in the online MLIS. 53 currently registered in online program (2015 entry) from China, Australia, Switzerland, Japan, Canada. 20 students from Ontario, 7 BC, 17 Alberta, 1 Yukon, 4 Saskatchewan, 1 PEI, 3 New Brunswick; representing 11 different languages.

Moyra Lang asking if eClass is accessible to visually impaired students.

Action item: Toni Samek will look into this and follow up.

F. Reports from Representatives/Liaisons

1. Leslie Latta (Provincial Archives of AB): The Archives has been affected by the

government change. They don't have a certain budget yet.

2. Moyra Lang (Sessional Rep): CAST members are getting together to discuss AASUA bylaws on October 21, 2015 in Education 221. There's been a call for CAST members to sit as reps on AASUA.

3. Sean Luyk (GELA): Professional buddies program. Welcoming event on October 18, 2015. Look at GELA website and sign up to be a mentor. New student reps will be asked to be on committees. Partnering with LAA and AALT on an event about learning commons, it will be in January or February, 2016. Jan 23, 2016 Brunch event at Yellowhead Brewery 11am-1pm. Keynote speaker Pilar Martinez from EPL. AGM will be in April. The president elect is Ali Grotkowski, a former SLIS student.

4. Anastasia Piltingsrud (standing in for Celine Gareau-Brennan: LISSA President): New format of ½ day orientation, students really liked this. Great election year, as there were 3 contested positions. All sub committees have successfully recruited committee members. Social events: Career forum in collaboration with CAPS, integrating online students into social events. Toni thanks on campus students for integrating online students.

5. Nicholas Fonseca (ARMA): Back from ARMA conference in Washington, DC. The retired CEO of CIA spoke about how exposed we are if we don't protect our information. ARMA Edmonton chapter will have speakers and workshop sessions coming up. The Young mentoring program is available where people new in their career are matched with people under 35 to mentor them.

6. Allison Sivak (SLIS Liaison Librarian): Open Access week is coming up next week, there will be an art exhibition in Rutherford foyer. In January 2016 they will be launching new website design. LIS 526 is collaborating with UofA libraries and students come to watch instructional sessions. From liaison point of view they are very happy to continue.

7. Gerald Beasley (Vice Provost & Chief Librarian): There's a delay in Bruce Peel opening with renovations. The storage space will be tripled and new name is "Storage Collections and Archives". RCRF (Research and Collections Resource Facility) will take the place of BARD. RCRF will have 3.1 million items transferred to it at South Campus. Other libraries will transfer an additional 1+ million items in the next 20 years. The construction on the RCRF is expected to begin next spring and will open in Fall of 2017.

UofA Libraries is thrilled that we're selected as Association of Research Libraries leaders fellows program, over a 15 month period. It's North America wide program in 2016. SLIS will be involved in this. Licence copyright will not be renewed for faculties.

G. Other

Pat Demers will be our visiting speaker on February 24, 2016.

Meeting adjourned at 3:10pm