Executive Meeting Minutes

Dec 4th 2020

3pm EST

VIA ZOOM

Present: Ikran Jama, Victoria Chen, Emma Davy, Fatemeh Nami, Paavni Grover, Foti Vito, Jane Seto (Executive Coordinator), Gavin Nowlan (Secretary to the Executive)

Called to order at 3:17pm EST

1. Approval of the Agenda

MOVED (Davy/Vito) “To approve the agenda as presented”

\*CARRIED

1. Approval of the Previous Minutes -Nov 20th 2020

MOVED (Chen/Grover) “To approve the previous minutes from November 20th 2020”

\*CARRIED

1. Report of the President
* Mental Health Initiative: I. Jama reported on the developments of this group since the last meeting. The next meeting will not be until the start of the next term. Right now, one of the issues is that there are two many working groups, so these need to be streamlined. The working groups are designed to address mental health from different angles. The idea is that this group will not be reactive, but proactive. Hopefully, this will be a tri-campus endeavour and hopefully more Executive members can be involved.
1. Report of the Executive
* Victoria Chen: For URC things are going well. Selections are going ahead right now. They have until the 14th of December to get their selections to the team. Social Scientists and Humanities will have them done soon.

Mental Health: It was sort of a mess when Chen chaired the meeting but now that some people have stepped up to lead some of these meetings things are getting going with this initiative.

ASL Course Proposal: Chen has been trying to touch base with the Associate Dean, Teaching for the past few weeks. Hopefully they can get a time to actually meet and get this course added to the Fall timetable.

* Emma Davy: EDI Meeting (Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion) went well. There did not seem like too much of a focus for this group. The priorities are to draft a values statement and also to identify relevant types of data (gender/recruitment/admissions) and also to engage with BIPOC faculty. No mentions of whether hiring is on the table

Arbor Journal: Editors are still editing and will be done by end of December 15th 2020
* Foti Vito: Arbor Journal question is if there should be a second version published in the same year. So a first semester/second semester journal

IR Society: wants to start a small scholarship with some of their leftover money this year.

* Paavni Grover: Met with the career centre folks and talked about how they could get their career fairs and workshops to more students. There is a real issue about communicating the services offered to students and how best to get it to students.
* Martha Taylor: nothing to report
* Fatemeh Nami: Met with I. Jama for their intake meeting to the team today.
1. Report of the Executive Staff
* Jane Seto: Office has slowed down with makes sense. It is final assessment period. The Auditor still needs to be into the office to complete the process and present it to Council. Most Course Unions have received their funds for the semester and are holding their events. J. Seto asked the Executive if they could send their schedules to her so that they can plan
* G Nowlan: reported that there are still a number of academic issues this week. STA314 in particular is a struggle right now. PUM is going well so far. The new Quad started last week so there are new applicants from the highschools.
1. Dean Meeting Prep

The Meeting will take place on Monday December 7th. I. Jama asked how to address the systemic issues that have been identified in the first semester. There are a number of issues like curving that have not been addressed yet. J. Seto asked if maybe there are situations where curving might make sense? There might be times when it would benefits students. I. Jama said that the problem is with instructors who make tests and assignments that are so difficult that the majority of students have failed. F. Vito brought up the issue of ECO230 and how the course was curved by 22%.

The Executive strategized how best to approach this issue at the meeting on Monday and how to get around the denials from the Faculty on this rampant issue.

Another issues to be brought up at the meeting on Monday is the CR/NCR a program required course. There is a mental health aspect to the CR/NCR proposals. The 2nd part of this discussion is around how to students access their registrars as well. Some colleges have better support than others.

The Executive wanted to make sure that the issues raised this semester are not replicated in the 2nd semester.

1. Other Business

Ikran Jama wants to host a fun social night sometime after final assessments. Because we can’t be in the same place eating, we’ll figure it out and make it fun.

1. Adjournment

MOVED (Chen/Taylor) “To Adjourn”

\*CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 pm EST