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**SCHOOL COUNCIL Approved MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**December 15, 2022**  
**1-3 p.m.**

**Present:**

Abiramy Sriharan, Adalsteinn Brown, Alexander Mendell, Andrea Cortinois, Angela Mashford-Pringle, Areeb Hassan, Arjumand Siddiqi, Aviv Shachak, Aya Mitani, Bruce Urch, Carol Strike, Carolyn Starosciak, Christine Shea, Danielle Toccalino, Dionne Gesink, Don Willison, Erica Di Ruggiero, Eric Ng, Fiona Miller, France Gagnon, Francisco Ibanez-Carrasco, Geoff Anderson, Gurjinder Gill (GG), Jennifer Gibson, Jeremy Scott, Joanne Kotsopoulos, Jodeme Goldhar, John McLaughlin, John Murphy, Julia O’Sullivan, Kevin Thorpe, Kuan Liu, Morgann Reid, Pamela Kaufman, Paul Bozek, Raisa Deber, Robert Schwartz, Roberta Timothy, Robin Hurst, Ross Upshur, Sara Allin, Shafi Bhuiyan, Shaza Fadel, Susan Bondy, Suzanne Stewart, Sarah Buchan, Vibhuti Kacholia, Victoria Arrandale, Walter Wodchis, Wendy Lou, Whitney Berta

1. **Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement.** Chair, Susan Bondy called the meeting to order and did the acknowledgment of the University’s use of traditional land.
2. **Presentation/Approval of the Agenda.** Item number 6: 5 minute time slot, should be given 10-15 minutes to Walter if there are questions. Motion by Geoff Anderson and seconded by Christine Shea.
3. **Review/Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting June 29, 2022.** There were no comments or suggestions to minutes circulated prior to today’s meeting. Minor typo errors caught UTQAP (Item #3) and ‘prove’ to approve (Item #5). Motion to approve by Geoff Anderson and a second by Jeremy Scott. Minutes accepted.
5. **Business Arising:  
Membership Slate**  
Slate has been updated with replacement of administrative staff for PHS Executive committee as striking committee reached out to both divisions to Professors Emeritus, invited to nominate. Looking for one teaching staff member to join the school council executive committee. No further feedback was shared.
6. **New Business:  
New Proposal: NACIC EDU-D**  
Walter Wodchis and Jodeme Goldhar discussed the integrated care and delivery systems. Since the meetings take place in New York every spring, proposed an idea to create a forum and a center in Canada to meet up to co-create projects and engage with health system. Jodeme and Walter hosted webinars and organized the first North American meeting in October 2021. Successful conference and gave seed money to start center. Walter shared more content, for questions, thoughts or ideas, please contact Walter or Jodeme.
8. **Standing Items:**
  - a. **Collaborative Specialization in IH**  
Major modification. Paul Bozek required a vote by this committee.  
Angela Mashford-Pringle mentioned the program gives credentials to people though it is challenging to say if they have enough cultural safety or have learned enough to work with Indigenous people, they have

decided to close the program. There isn't enough support from the faculty to continue this program. Deciding to close in hopes to find something more in depth to replace it with. There are 14 PhD students left, all have completed requirements, waiting on the SGS office to state they have completed everything until the end of degree. Motion to approve, Shafi Bhuiyan and Adalsteinn Brown seconded. Motion approved.

**b. School Council Education and Student Awards Committee  
REPORT of the SCESA (information from SCESA November 9, 2022 mtg)**

Paul Bozek: the list minor modification courses is included in the meeting package, a couple of new courses since the approvals came in after the meeting.

**c. Dean's update**

No report for governance from Steini Brown.

**d. CAO's Update**

No report from Robin Hurst.

**e. Associate Dean, Research Update**

No report from France Gagnon.

**f. Associate Dean, Academic Affairs Update**

Updates from Dionne Gesink:

UTQAP Cyclical Review: Self-study Update: outlined the self-study consultation period and is due January 11 and sent to reviewers on January 13. Site visit expected February 6-8. When the Provost reviews and sends the feedback, it will be shared with the faculty. The focus will be on what we can do better or keep working on.

SGS Funding policy: Progress has been made in securing external awards, DLSPH contributions remain at almost \$2,000,000, in support of PhD students. DLSPH students are securing external awards. Professors in IHPME are providing more stipends than PHS. PHS provides more RAships. Faculty contribution is low to fund PhD students.

Two issues were brought to attention:

1. There is a long time to completion even with funding, and
2. Many students are working in excess.

These factors may cause a delay in completion due to RA and TAships, working full time. It is expensive to live in the city, there are mature students coming to the programs with dependants. However, there is a financial sustainability issue and funding equity. For example, some students are working full time and drawing full time package, and others not working at all and surviving on the funding package. We are not allowed to take in a person's financial situation coming into the program as long as they are registered as a full time student. Keeping minimum funding threshold incredibly low. If a student is working full time, they should be enrolling as a flextime student considered full time. This has to happen before they entered the program, not during, under SGS procedures.

Possible solutions:

1. Mandatory matching: advisor, project, and stipend. Impacts on admission, impacts on supervision.
2. Change the way we admit students - all doctoral students admitted flextime. This assumes everyone is working, no enforcement issues or ambiguity, no guaranteed funding (doesn't mean no funding; it means we have flexibility how we fund students), allows us to provide much larger funding support for students truly in need.

Aviv Shachak states IHPME does look at student's income to determine funding, a policy held for more than 20 years with SGS. He met with the SGS office to discuss this; he would establish a task force to look into this. Approved for IHPME to keep this restriction for the time being.

France Gagnon: asked eligibility to hold CIHR awards: Award recipients must devote at least 75% of their time to research training in order to maintain their eligibility. and Dionne followed up, stating that flextime and full time students can apply to CIHR awards.

Danielle Toccalino: Student perspective about funding in general. Either increase the base of the stipend due to expenses. Assuming people should not work is not feasible. We need to think about safety nets, because grant funding can be taken away after a student has been admitted. Need to determine when the UTF should be used to provide funds to make the transition.

Governance Guidelines for Academic Change has been created. The idea is to consult as much as possible before the Governance; before making any changes because it impacts everyone's courses, dates, curriculum. This is for faculty and for students providing resources and support on steps to take when 'things go wrong', when dealing with a difficult student or faculty member; formal and informal complaints; new course checklist, etc. This will be uploaded to SharePoint, or can contact Dionne, Audrey and Carol for a copy.

**g. Associate Dean, PHS**

No report from Carol Strike.

**Update from Student Associations**

**PHSA**

Update from Alexander Mendell: A reminder to everyone, of the role of the student association. Recognizing public health students, a request to build community, provide opportunity for leadership and connection; create a bridge between faculty and students. During the last orientation week, a partnership with IHPME and alumni, hosting events, to share student experience and wellbeing, pure mentorship program, plans are continuing to next term. Action for all programs to gather in a town hall to discuss topics related to mental health, and share their experiences.

**GSU**

Set up a slack channel for all students, to advocate on behalf of students. Shared student feedback from self study: IHPME students have been a part of two town halls. Curriculum needs to be more responsible to their reality. Curriculum should be reviewed. Discussions to ensure meaningful integration.

**Update from the PHAA and IHPME Society of Grads**

**PHAA**

GG on budget, the mentorship program continues to be the star. Alumni would like everyone to check out their Instagram page. The team will be getting together for a virtual celebration and continue next year. Taylor not available to make further comments.

**10. Other Business**

Will return to slate at future meetings.

**11. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn meeting from Geoff Anderson and seconded by Erica Di Ruggiero.