



School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures  
Council Meeting 003  
Wednesday November 16, 2016, 3:00 – 4:00 pm: Rozsa Centre Scotiabank Milling Area

MINUTES

**Voting Members**

W. Jordan, Chair	C. Dueck	I. Shilova	B. Whaley
O. Amedegnato	D. Flynn	E. Spoldi	S. Winters
M. Asatryan	A. George	D. Storoshenko	X. Yang
A. Barber	A. Hallworth-Duez	J. Süselbeck	Y. Yang
M. Bergeron	E. Lohka	L. Torres	Grad Rep Non-Ling: L. Kowalsky
N. Barrios	D. Maher	A. Val	Grad Rep Linguistics: J. Windsor
E. Bratishenko	O. Mladenova	D. Vijayan	Sessional Rep: L. Brown
C. Burian	A. Pounder	M. Wagner	Support Staff Rep: T. Schurch
W. Cai	S. Sciban	A. Wall	Support Staff Rep: F. Gowen
S. Carroll	A. Sharp	E. Wang	Undergrad Rep : C. Terpstra

1. **Call to Order** The Chair confirmed quorum and called the meeting to order at 3:05 pm
2. **Approval of Agenda**  
**MOTION** That the Agenda for the November 16, 2016 School Council be approved with the addition of the following item: discussion of Graduate issues in French and Spanish. Maher/Wall **CARRIED**
3. **Approval of Meeting Minutes from October 19, 2016**  
**MOTION** That the Minutes for the October 19, 2016 School Council be approved Dueck/Lohka **CARRIED**
4. **Director's Remarks**  
Luis Torres and Mary O'Brien received Great Supervisor awards from FGS; Elizabeth Ritter received SSHRC funding for the West Coast Conference in Formal Linguistics; all of the travel proposals submitted by the School were approved.

Budget process is moving ahead with Faculty submission to the Provost on November 7. The cuts to GATs are not ideal, however if new money is found the first priority is to replace GATs. To put it into perspective - this year we have 30, next year we will have 29 GATs.

Selection Committee documents have been submitted to the Dean's office. The Director advertisement has been posted; the announcement will be sent out after the meeting today.

The proposal for the LLAC program is under government review. It is not yet on the Campus Alberta Quality Council agenda, we are discreetly pushing to move it forward.

All content for the webpage has been developed and approved. The new go-live date is November 25.

Message from Dean: Energizing Eyes High focus group on November 22, 2 – 4:30 pm in SS 1339. Need at least two people from the School to attend. Please let Bill know if you wish to attend.

Good news - the School has received two contributions from the Italian government in support of the Italian program.

Higher Clause raised concerns over reports not being heard at meetings due to time restrictions. The Director will ensure that any concerns raised in the reports are responded to during the question period. The report from the last School Council raised the issue of noise complaints in Craigie Hall C- and D-block. Work was done last fall to attempt to minimize the noise emanating from radiator vents. If Higher Clause students would like to assigned quieter space, please make a written request to the Director.

5. **Question Period** It was pointed out that noise from the Dance Studio in Craigie Hall D-block 5<sup>th</sup> floor is very disruptive for occupants of the neighbouring grad office. Response: please make a brief written request to the Director for quieter space.

Question regarding GATs from last year - 32.5 GATs vs. 30 as noted in Directors comments? The actual number will be confirmed. It was noted that comparative data on GATs would be useful from across the faculty.

Director position – is committee set up yet? Nothing known yet.

It was requested that meeting Minutes present both sides of the discussion – agreed that we continue to strive to do so.

6. **Action Item: Motion to form governance document committee**

**MOTION** That the School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures accept in principle the formation of a special committee whose role it would be to review the governance documents of our former Departments and, after wide consultation of the School's membership, lay the groundwork by late spring or early summer for a new governance document for the School. Wall/Carroll **CARRIED**

*Explanation:* We have a foundational document in place that provides for voting, selection committee membership and an undergraduate program and curriculum committee. At the last Director's Advisory Committee meeting, Luis Torres raised the issue that the document should now be fleshed out and approved by School Council.

*Discussion:* it was agreed that we need to begin work on the Governance document. Success of the School depends on appropriate decision making.

**MOTION** That the structure of the new Governance Document Committee would consist of one representative chosen from each Division, one support staff representative, one graduate or undergraduate student representative, and one member at large elected to serve as Chair. Wall/Dueck **CARRIED**

*Discussion:* It was requested that a student representative be included on this committee. It was agreed that either a graduate or undergraduate student would serve on the committee.

7. **School Standing Committees**

- a. Undergraduate Programs and Curriculum Committee (C. Burian): templates will be available within the next few days. The School received an extension to end of January 2017 for CARC submissions.

Other CARC items: there were a number of corrections to documents, most inconsistencies (Department vs. School) have been ironed out. The French entry has been edited to reflect the special status of French. The LANG courses will be renamed LLLC courses; please consider how to integrate these courses into our programs. The University is developing a new certificate/diploma framework – we need to decide if we wish to offer these within the School.

*Discussion:* Is the undergraduate committee in place? Not quite, we still do not have a student representative.

We should be aware that Cont Ed has many diploma/certificate programs before we decide to develop any of our own certificates/diplomas.

**8. Questions about written reports submitted** none

**9. External Committees** The Research & Scholarship Committee met recently; its first task was to review the Research and Scholarship Leave (RSL) applications.

**10. Faculty Association** none

**11. Reports from Student Representatives**

- a. Undergraduate Students – no report.
- b. Graduate Students – The graduate students in French, Italian and Spanish received the news that Ozouf Amedegnato has resigned his position as Grad Program Director (GPD). It was asked who to contact with questions about the program.

*Director's comments:* Dr. Amedegnato resigned less than two weeks ago due to a difference of opinion on how to go forward. He is a highly respected colleague and we greatly appreciate his input and efforts on behalf of the graduate program. The Director reported that Dr. Daniel Maher will serve as interim GPD until June 30, 2017. Dr. Maher is a former Department Head, Graduate Program Director and Associate Dean. Dr. Mary O'Brien has agreed to take on the role of GPD effective July 1, 2017 when she returns from RSL. Dan Maher will set up times in the following weeks to do a meet & greet with each graduate student.

*Discussion:* The graduate students extended their sincere appreciation to Dr. Amedegnato for his support. Higher Clause wished to specifically thank Dr. Amedegnato for spearheading the initiative to join the Alberta Conference on Linguistics (ACOL) and the Young Researchers' Conference (YRC) together under one umbrella. This also meant that he shared the conference funding he was successful in securing. This allowed the grad students to waive the registration fee and provide food/snacks for the attendees. Thanks were also extended to the Director for responding to the Higher Clause report.

**12. Other Business**

What now happens to the Graduate Committee? At first it was thought that a clean start would be best, however after more consideration it was decided that the current committee members would be asked to continue in their role, with the addition of a member from German. It is important to have as much continuity as possible with the addition of German, the section can select a member as they wish. We will have a parallel committee structure during the interim phase. When the new LLAC program is approved, we already have people available to contribute in the areas of transcultural studies and applied linguistics. We need continuity on what we currently have, and we need to plan for the eventuality of the LLAC program being approved.

Regarding the resignation of the GPD: a concern was raised that a difference of opinion has led to someone stepping down. It is disturbing that there may not be room to express a difference of opinion. Difference of opinion is normal and we have to be able to work with it via compromise, negotiation, etc. Committee members shouldn't have to worry about being disbanded in case of disagreement with the Director.

Response: we hope nothing like this happens again – point taken. Discussion, compromise, flexibility is important.

It was pointed out that the grad committee met several times, and the GPD met with the Director. It was made clear during those meetings that the committee exists for the current program and shouldn't exist for the new program. At the last meeting between the Director, the GPD and Associate Dean Research, it was asked if a representative from the German section could join the current committee. The answer was that we cannot do that. Why is the committee now remaining as is? Response: There is a difference of how that is remembered – would not be useful to continue this discussion. Let's move forward as best as we can.

13. **Next Meeting** January 18, 2017 at 3:00 pm, Evans Room, Rozsa Centre  
**MOTION TO ADJOURN** Torres/Wall Meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm