

OISE COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF OISE COUNCIL, held on February 23, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. via Zoom

Present:

Prof. Normand Labrie, Interim
Dean
Prof. Katharine Janzen, Chair

Ms. Rushain Abbasi
Mr. David Allens
Ms. Sezen Atacan
Ms. Kerri Bailey
Ms. Vesna Bajic
Prof. Abigail Bakan
Ms. Diana Barrero
Ms. Asmita Bhutani Vij
Prof. Clare Brett
Ms. Samantha Burns
Ms. Missy Chareka
Prof. Charles Chen
Ms. Jennifer Cho
Prof. Anne Marie Chudleigh

Guests:

Ms. Lynne Alexandrova
Ms. Tess Barclay
Ms. Ai-ri Brown
Ms. Lara Cartmale

Regrets:

Ms. Maha Babeker
Prof. Nina Bascia
Prof. Joshua Barker
Prof. Megan Boler
Prof. Jennifer Brant
Prof. Kathy Broad, Vice-Chair
Prof. Yiola Cleovoulou
Prof. Daniel Corral

Dr. Valerie Damasco
Ms. Alison D’Cruz
Ms. Monique Flaccavento
Dr. Sheldon Grabke
Mr. Justin Holloway
Ms. Helen Huang
Dr. Hilary Inwood
Prof. Kaja Jasinska
Ms. Alison Jefferson
Mr. Perry King
Prof. Emmanuelle Le Pichon-
Vorstman
Dr. Carly Manion
Prof. Rhonda Martinussen
Prof. Douglas McDougall
Prof. David Montemurro
Prof. Sarfaroz Niyozov
Prof. Michele Peterson-Badali
Prof. Angela Pyle

Ms. Mindy Harris
Ms. Sim Kapoor
Prof. Evelyn Kipkosgei
Ms. Jessica Lovett
Prof. Ann Lopez

Ms. Julia Duncan
Prof. Diane Farmer
Prof. Rubén Gaztambide-
Fernández
Prof. Meric Gertler
Prof. Kang Lee
Ms. Christine Lowe
Mr. Varun Malik
Dr. Kenneth McNeilly
Prof. Roy Moodley

Ms. Jeananne Robertson
Prof. Creso Sá
Dr. Gurpreet Sahmbi
Ms. Huda Salha
Mr. Said Sidani
Mr. Ian Liujia Tian
Prof. Njoki Wane
Mr. Desmond Wong
Prof. Earl Woodruff
Ms. Zian Zhang

Ms. Biljana Cuckovic, Secretary
of OISE Council

Secretariat:

Ms. Lisa Smith
Ms. Jennifer Tucker
Mr. Doug Ullrich

Prof. Amal Madibbo
Ms. Denise Makovac
Ms. Henrjeta Mece
Ms. Mai Naji

Dr. Elisabeth Rees-Johnstone
Prof. Cheryl Regehr
Dr. Jesse Sims
Mr. Henry Ssali
Mr. Matt Stodolak
Prof. Miglena Todorova
Dr. Lesley Wilton
Ms. Yun Zhan
Prof. Terezia Zoric

Acknowledgement of Traditional Land

The Chair, Professor Katharine Janzen, commenced the meeting by reading the land acknowledgement.

1. Opening Remarks

The Chair welcomed members and guests to the third meeting of OISE Council in 2021-2022, and

online platform. The incident was immediately reported to the Provost's Office, Community Safety Office, Campus Police, and Toronto Police. As a result, the Education Commons established a protocol and issued guidelines to increase security of Zoom platform.

Turning to awards, honours and fundraising, the Dean reminded members that nominations for OISE's Staff Excellence Awards are open until early March. Owing to the hard work of Ms. Sim Kapoor, Director of Advancement and External Relations, and her team, a good progress was made in fundraising for new scholarships and awards. Since the last Council meeting, over \$100,000 was received in donations.

In closing his report, the Dean addressed several issues raised at the previous meeting. Regarding the request for the creation of a generic email account for student members of OISE Council, it was explained that, at the University of Toronto, this service is available to faculty and staff only, and students cannot open a generic email account, or shared mailbox, on their own. In case of recognized student groups or associations, the faculty and staff responsible for these groups initiate the creation of a generic email account and request permission for access to students while maintaining ownership of the account. Relatedly, as per the *University Policy on Official Correspondence with Students*, the University has the right and responsibility to provide the infrastructure, such as listservs, to make official communications available to students electronically.

Related to the funding provided to the former OISE Graduate Students Association (GSA), this year, the Dean's Office distributed these funds to the departments for the accredited departmental student associations. There is a carry forward of about \$20,000 in the GSA account, which will remain in the account until the establishment of a new accredited association of OISE graduate students.

Related to Ms. Diana Barerro's comment at the previous meeting that graduate students are being asked to perform duties of Teaching Assistants without being properly compensated, the Dean commented that this was initially understood to be concerning Graduate Assistants (GAs). He noted that instructions to faculty regarding creating GA positions are clear and define GAs as students engaged in research activities who are not permitted to perform teaching-related, nor administrative tasks. Given that that Ms. Barrero clarified her comment, the Dean's Office will investigate any specific reports of volunteer work of graduate students.

For Information: Approval of the Not-for-Credit Certificate Program: Continuing Education:

Enabling Life

The Dean responded that return to in-person activities is being considered in light of the need to protect the health and safety of the community, while making adequate pedagogical decisions for teaching and learning. These decisions are academic in nature and are being made collegially at the level of programs. In September 2021, a survey of OISE students was conducted regarding their experiences in online classes, and their interest for future offerings—either in-person or online, which generated data for future planning. Related to student groups, the Dean mentioned that the *University Policy on Recognition of Student Groups* outlines responsibilities and procedures that must be met for a student group to be recognized. He then invited Ms. Helen Hung, CAO, to respond to the question regarding the building. Ms. Huang noted that the issue of air quality is important, and is a frequent topic of discussion at the Joint Health and Safety Committee. The University has a website dedicated to strategies for managing indoor air quality. Most of rooms at OISE meet the standard of a hospital waiting room where air circulates six times per hour. For those rooms that do not meet this standard, the University will install air purifiers. Regarding masks, the University procured some medical-level masks to provide to those community members who, for any reason such as supply chain disruptions or equity issues, are unable to obtain them. These can be picked up at the Robarts Library. OISE also procured a small amount of N95 masks for emergency use for students who may need them for practica in case the placement sites are unable to provide them.

Mr. Justin Holloway thanked the Dean for his responses to concerns raised at the previous meeting noting that it is odd that OISE Council is unable to generate an official email address for its student members, and that he believed that Council should have the power to do so. Related to the GSA funding, the students heard that this funding was distributed to the departments for the departmental student associations; however, the students have requested the actual proof of this. The former GSA provided many supports such as conference funding, which students have not been receiving since the start of the pandemic. According to the website, funding applications for conferences that occurred in May 2020 are still being processed. Related to the February 7, 2022 incident, Mr. Holloway characterized it as a “violent hate crime”, asked why it was not reported to the Joint Health and Safety Committee. 00000912 0

created a brief survey to conduct an environmental scan of equity-related programs, initiatives, and events across OISE's departments, centres, and units. The scan aims to provide an opportunity for sharing (not evaluating) information about best practices along with enhancing communication. The second Committee-sponsored event