

**Amended Minutes of Faculty Council Meeting 249
Tuesday, February 7, 2012
10:00 a.m.
Room 1210**

Present: L. MacKeigan (Chair), S. Acharya, M. Bystrin, A. Cameron, T. Chalikian, A. Choi, C. Cummins, D. Dubins, H. Heerklotz, J. Henderson, W. Hindmarsh, J. Köhler, G. Luna, H. Mann, D. Moy, K. Mulherin, M. Nenadovich, P. Pennefather, S. Pietrobon, M. Piquette-Miller, L. Raman-Wilms, R. Reilly, K. Robillard, M. Rocchi, D. Sibbald, B. Thrush, J. Uetrecht, P. Wells, S. Wu, L. Chung (Recording Secretary)

Guest: B. Sproule

Regrets: Z. Austin, R. Bendayan, N. Chattopadhyay, L. Delgado, D. Kalamut, L. Kotra, L. Lavack, R. Macgregor, M. Moleschi, L. Musielak, S. Parna, A. Taddio, J. Wells

1.0 Introduction of New Members

The Chair introduced the following new members to Council:

- Gustavo Luna and Sandra Parna to represent the Administrative Staff
- Maria Nenadovich to represent the Alumni
- Shama Acharya to represent the International Pharmacy Graduate Program (IPG) students

2.0 Approval of Minutes

MOVED: L. Raman-Wilms; **SECONDED:** J. Henderson; **THAT,** the minutes of Faculty Council 247 held on November 29, 2011 be approved.

CARRIED

MOVED: J. Köhler; **SECONDED:** S. Wu; **THAT,** the minutes of Faculty Council 248 held on January 9, 2012 be approved with the following correction: Add D. Sibbald under 'Regrets'.

CARRIED

3.0 Report of the Executive Committee

H. Mann reported that the Executive Committee had met three times since its last report to Council and had approved the following items.

October 24, 2011 meeting

The report of the Board of Examiners for the Doctor of Pharmacy Program (PharmD) was approved. It was noted that three students had completed all degree requirements and were eligible to graduate.

December 16, 2011 meeting

The report of the Fourth Year Board of Examiners for the Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy (BScPhm) Program was approved. Five students had failed fall term courses and were eligible to write supplemental exams. The reports of the Boards of Examiners for the Combined BScPhm-PharmD and the PharmD program were approved. Two Combined BScPhm-PharmD students and one PharmD student failed the same fall-term course and were eligible to write a supplemental exam.

January 24, 2012 meeting

Supplemental examination results for the Fourth Year BScPhm, Combined BScPhm-PharmD and PharmD programs were approved. One student in the Combined program failed the PHM611H1 Cardiology supplemental exam and was not eligible to proceed in the program. The student was given the option of either repeating the failed course at the next offering (October 2012) or returning to the BScPhm program and proceeding to SPEP.

4.0 Report of the Curriculum Committee

D. Sibbald presented the report of the Curriculum Committee which has met once since its last report to Council.

Item for approval:

PHM105H1 Medication Therapy Management I: The outline for this new first-year course had been previously approved but minor changes in content were proposed to optimize delivery.

MOVED: D. Sibbald; **SECONDED:** M. Rocchi; **THAT,** the proposed change to PHM105H1 be approved.

CARRIED

Items for Information:

- The first-year online courses are currently in session. The Curriculum Committee will monitor implementation and reassess the placement of these courses for next year.
- The course change form was reformatted in December to allow fill-in fields. Course coordinators must complete this revised course change form if any changes are required to their approved course outline and submit to the Curriculum Committee. The form is available at <http://www.pharmacy.utoronto.ca/bscphm/course-outline>
- The Curriculum Committee has begun to review course outlines for the second year of the new curriculum.

5.0 Report of the Awards Committee

M. Piquette-Miller presented the report of the Awards Committee, which has met once since its last report to Council.

Items for Approval:

- New Award Record – Rho Pi Phi Sidney Faibish Memorial Entrance Scholarship. The Rho Pi Phi Fraternity has established an award in memory of their friend and colleague Sidney Faibish. It will be awarded to the student entering the undergraduate pharmacy program who obtains the highest admissions index and has not received another award of equal or greater value. The source of funds is an expendable donation of \$2,500 which will be paid over five years with each year's award recipient receiving \$500.
- Combined BScPhm-PharmD Program Students – Eligibility for Year 4 Awards. The Committee recommended that Combined program students be considered for Year 4 awards as follows:
 - i. Awards that are based on performance in an applicable course or series of courses;
 - ii. Awards that are based on involvement in extra-curricular activities;
 - iii. Awards that are based on Grade Point Average (GPA) which will be calculated from all 500-series courses, PHM605H1 Critical Appraisal (which replaces the BScPhm Program selective requirement) and the Advanced Pharmacotherapy (PHM611 or 612H1) course for which the student achieves the higher grade (this course replaces the BScPhm Program elective course requirement).

MOVED: M. Piquette-Miller; **SECONDED:** P. Wells; **THAT,** the above items be approved.

CARRIED

6.0 Report of the Admissions Committee

J. Utrecht reported that the Admissions Committee had met twice since its last report to Faculty Council.

Item for Approval:

PCAT cut scores for selecting applicants for the 2012 Admissions Interviews will be the same as in 2011:

Conventions of language	3
Problem solving	2.5
Biology	10
Reading comprehension	20
Quantitative ability	10
Chemistry	20
Composite	20
Verbal ability	10

These cuts yielded 298 interview candidates out of the 378 applicants for whom PCAT scores were available (close to 80% of the pool). Once final PCAT data are received the raw numbers will change but the percentage of eligible applicants above these thresholds is expected to remain similar. Therefore, the recommended cut scores should yield a sufficient number of applicants to be invited to the Multiple Mini Interviews (MMI).

MOVED: J. Uetrecht; **SECONDED:** D. Moy; **THAT,** the proposed PCAT cut scores to select applicants for admissions interviews be approved.

CARRIED

Items for Information:

- The mean pre-pharmacy GPA for students admitted in 2011 decreased 2.5% from 2010.
- The 2012 online application went live on September 20, 2011. Most applications were submitted by the December 1 'early bird' deadline (reduced application fee). The final deadline was January 11, 2012.
- The Admissions Committee considered the Curriculum Committee request that Human Physiology and/or Anatomy become pre-requisites for the BScPhm Program rather than first year courses. This would lighten student workload in a heavy first year curriculum. The Admissions Committee was decided it was premature to change the pre-requisites at this time. The Committee will reconsider this request after the completion of one full academic year of the new program.

The question was raised as to whether students who have taken anatomy or physiology courses do better academically in our program. It was mentioned that human physiology was more accessible than anatomy to students in the first two years of university. A member suggested that applicants be strongly encouraged to take these courses as it will benefit them in the program. Another member noted that we have had a decline in applicants in recent years and the addition of prerequisites would likely further decrease our applicant pool.

An issue coming to light in the PHM105H1 Medication Therapy Management I course is weak language skills and reading comprehension in first year students, and not just those whose first language is not English. Although the MMI assesses oral communication it does not assess reading comprehension. The course coordinator wondered whether the cut point on the verbal ability component of the PCAT had been lowered in 2011, and it had been lowered by 10 points. Another member suggested that a communications course could be introduced to address this deficiency.

A member cautioned Council against changing too much too soon as this is only our first experience with the first year of the new curriculum. Much data are being collected and it may take a few years before the curriculum can be optimized. Another member suggested that the Program Evaluation committee convene sooner than later as the second year of the new curriculum is currently being developed.

7.0 Update on Election of New Members

The Chair reported on behalf of the Vice-Chair that 17 nominations were received for the 10 memberships on Council held for those who contribute to our academic programs but who are not in Teaching Staff⁷ positions of 50% or more. A vote has been held and the Striking Committee will recommend individuals for these 10 memberships when it meets on February 23rd. The Striking Committee will also recommend members for the new standing committees of Council. Faculty members were surveyed in January regarding which standing committee they preferred to serve on.

8.0 Faculty Council Website

The Chair reported that the new Constitution and ByLaw documents have been posted on the Faculty's website since December. See the About Us page for the link. The schedule of Council meetings and agendas, as well as contact information for the Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary, were added in January. As per the new ByLaws, approved minutes will also be posted on the Council web page.

A member expressed the need for caution regarding the public posting of minutes. The Chair indicated that identities of speakers are no longer provided in the minutes except for those speaking in an official capacity and that discussions are not recorded verbatim. Furthermore, it has been the Chair's practice to forward contentious sections of the minutes to the speaker for verification prior to distribution to Council members. Since our ByLaws state that meetings of Faculty Council are open to the public Council's minutes should also be publicly available, as has been confirmed by the office of the Vice-Provost. A member added that speakers may wish to be more circumspect when characterizing issues and another reminded members that Council has the prerogative of moving *in camera* when sensitive issues are being discussed.

9.0 **Other Business**

A member enquired about the status of the Faculty's Teaching Workload Policy. The Dean responded that the circulated draft policy had been revised with input from the Workload Committee and that the final version would be submitted to the Provost's office shortly.

10.0 **Date of Next Meeting:** April 24, 2012.

11.0 **Adjournment:** 11:00 a.m.