

MEETING MINUTES OF THE UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL

Tuesday, May 10, 2022 at 2:30 p.m. via Zoom

PRESENT: Dr. K. Dej (*Chair*), Ms. J. Azzi, Dr. L. Carter, Mr. C. Churchill, Dr. S. Corner, Dr. R. da Silva, , Dr. S. Hranilovic, Dr. M. Macdonald, Dr. K. McGarry, Dr. P. Miu, Ms. M. Pool, Dr. T. Prowse, Ms S. Sarhan, Dr. J. Wilson, Ms. K. Snow (*Assistant University Secretary*), Ms. C. Richard (*Associate University Secretary*), Ms A. Thyret-Kidd (*University Secretary*), Mr. B. Coburn (*Policy Advisor & Special Projects Officer*)

INVITED: Ms C. Bizarro, Dr. A. Gullage, Ms C. Mackenzie, Ms. S. Robinson, Mr. G. Rombough, Ms. M. White

REGRETS: Dr. C. Grise, Dr. S. McCracken, Mr. S. Van Koughnett.

GUESTS: Ms Allison Van, *Executive Director of Spark*
Dr. Dina Brooks, *Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences and Executive Director, of the School of Rehabilitation Sciences*

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING – APRIL 19, 2022

The minutes of the meeting held on April 19, 2022 will be circulated at the October 4, 2022 meeting of Undergraduate Council.

2. BUSINESS ARISING

There was no business arising.

3. CHAIR'S REMARKS

Dr. Dej expressed her thanks to all members for participating in Undergraduate Council this year, noting that members have been thoughtfully considering many of the recent items being brought forward for approval. Dr. Dej also acknowledged and thanked the Undergraduate Council members who would not be returning in the new academic year.

Dr. Dej explained that Dean Maureen MacDonald will be serving during the meeting as a delegate of Dr. Mic Farquharson.

4. REPORT FROM THE CERTIFICATES AND DIPLOMAS COMMITTEE

Dr. Sean Corner, *Chair of the Certificates and Diplomas Committee*, provided an overview of the circulated report.

a. Certificates of Completion in Social Research

Ms Allison Van, *Executive Director of Spark*, joined the meeting and was available to take questions from members.

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Undergraduate Council approve, for recommendation to the University Planning Committee and Senate, the establishment of three Certificate of Completion programs in *Organizational Learning and Program Evaluation*, *Qualitative Data Collection and Analysis*, and *Quantitative Data Collection and Analysis*.

The motion was *Carried*.

5. REPORT FROM THE CURRICULUM & ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE

Dr. Steve Hranilovic, *Chair of the Curriculum and Admissions Committee*, provided an overview of the circulated report.

**a. BHSc (Integrated Rehabilitation and Humanities) - Presentation
BHSc (Integrated Rehabilitation and Humanities) - Program Proposal**

Dr. Dina Brooks provided a brief overview of the program and the process of its development. Dr. Hranilovic acknowledged the extensive discussions that were held over numerous forums to discuss the proposal and thanked all those involved for maintaining a collegial atmosphere throughout those discussions.

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Undergraduate Council approve, for recommendation to the University Planning Committee and Senate, the establishment of the *Honours BHSc in Integrated Rehabilitation and Humanities* for inclusion in the *2023-2024 Undergraduate Calendar*, as recommended by the Faculties of Health Sciences and Humanities, and set out in the attached.

The motion was *Carried*.

6. REVISIONS TO THE UNDERGRADUATE EXPECTATIONS FOR MCMASTER VACCINATION POLICY

a. Undergraduate Expectations for McMaster Vaccination Policy

Members heard that an amended version of the Undergraduate Expectations for McMaster Vaccination Policy was being presented for approval. While the University's vaccine mandate has been paused, Dr. Dej explained that the revisions in the circulated document alert students to the continued existence of the vaccination policy. Dr. Dej spoke to the significant impacts the vaccination policy had on course enrollment and the ability for instructors to navigate the process of unenrolling uncompliant students from courses. It was noted as well by a member that some students found it difficult to navigate and comply with the policy in some circumstances outside of their personal control.

Dr. Dej explained that language in the calendar was needed to clarify that if the vaccination mandate was un-paused, students would be expected to comply. It was added that it would be helpful to keep operational details vague as discussions continue on how to improve this process leading up the fall term.

Members suggested several revisions to the policy including clarity on expectations for students in clinical placements, co-op or similar spaces where external organizational expectations or local vaccination policies would take precedent. It was also suggested to include language that those enrolling in undergraduate programs at the University would be expected to be on campus, as well as clarification that the vaccine requirement concerned the COVID-19 vaccine exclusively.

Discussion continued on further amendments to the policy. The Secretariat agreed to circulate the amended document to Undergraduate Council for an electronic vote following the meeting.

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Undergraduate Council approve revisions to the Undergraduate Expectations for McMaster Vaccination Policy for inclusion in the General Academic Regulations in the Undergraduate Calendar 2022-2023, effective May 18, 2022, as circulated (or amended).

The motion was *Tabled*.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

As there was no other business, the meeting adjourned at 3:50 pm.

Following the meeting, a final version of the policy was circulated and approved via electronic vote on May 20, 2022.