

Faculty Council Minutes
January 19, 2024 12:00 - 2:30 p.m.
Virtual Meeting, Zoom

Link: <https://utoronto.zoom.us/j/86531653681>

Present: Beth Ali, Catherine Amara, Andrew Alvarez, Christopher Arnold, Michael Atkinson, Robert Bentley, Jady Brooks, Barb Brophay, Timothy Burkhart, Rowena Cai, Joyce Chen, Bea Calista Chau, Ekanayake Sandakie, Caroline Fusco, Jenna Gillen, Jack Goodman, Paul Handley, Emma Karamanlian, Gretchen Kerr, Jen Krol, Danielle Lawrence, Marius Locke, Tricia McGuire-Adams, Lynda Mainwaring (Chair), Daniel Moore, Amin Mostofinejad, Madeleine Orr, Wendy Pais, Sabrina Razack, Daniel Sailofsky, Luc Simard, Ashley Stirling, Tim Taha, Katherine Tamminen, Scott Thomas, Linda Trinh.

Regrets: Kelly Arbour-Nicitopoulos, Joseph Baker, Simon Darnell, Ira Jacobs, Janelle Joseph, Amy Kirkham, Kaitlyn Merriman, Jessica Muha, Catherine Sabiston, Lucy Tempest, Luc Tremblay.

Guests: Ennis Blentic, Dorian D'Angelo, Terry Gardiner, Sharon Grandison, Maryanne McCormick, Meredith Strong.

1. Call to Order and Introductions

The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:04pm. The Chair briefly reviewed the rules and regulations that must be followed during a formal Faculty Council meeting for attending voting members and guests. For the Council's information, the Chair stated that if members have any comments or questions, they must be addressed directly to the Chair by raising one's virtual hand. In the case of any motions that are on the table, the same rules apply to participate in the discussion regarding the motion, or if members wish to propose a new motion to Council. Before speaking to the Council, members must state their full name, their affiliation and connection with the Faculty of Kinesiology and Physical Education.

Faculty Council is the governing body of the Faculty of Kinesiology and Physical Education. This Council oversees Faculty business and makes decisions about the Faculty in accordance with the Constitution and the accompanying By-Laws of the Council. The Faculty Council meeting exercises the Council's duties and powers under the provision of the University of Toronto Act, as amended, 1971. The Chair of the Faculty Council conducts the meeting and proceedings by following the Bourinot's rules of order. The Chair is a neutral and non-voting member of the Council, and does not set the agenda, make motions or debate any issues. Those who wish to speak must again recognize the Chair and/or be recognized by the Chair. Moreover, the Chair has the final authority on the points of order. Lastly, only voting members, as defined by the By-Laws, are permitted to speak and vote on items, unless they have declared a conflict of interest. A conflict of interest can arise when an item brought before the Council can reasonably be seen to unfairly advance one's personal benefit, involving business or financial interests or employment interests, or family/personal relations.

Any member who has any personal and/or financial interest, directly or indirectly with any matter being considered by the Council, must declare their conflict of interest and the nature and extent, and therefore shall abstain from participating in the discussion with respect to the matter at hand, and also from voting. Furthermore, they must abstain from moving and seconding such motion. Additionally, when a conflict of interest is declared that member must leave the meeting before the discussion.

Lastly, the Chair stated that one presentation request was received with respect to the ODP motion as stated on the agenda for today's meeting. The presentation was not directly connected to the motion being presented today, and the requesters have been asked to speak with the appropriate academic administrators first regarding any new proposal of courses or changes in the curriculum to our existing program.

2. Approval of Agenda:

Professor Locke proposed a motion to move agenda item 4c after agenda item 8.

(**Motion:** Locke/Moore), the motion was not carried.

The original agenda was accepted as presented. (**Motion:** Hutchison/Kerr, Carried).

3. Approval of Minutes

a. Minutes of November 10, 2023

b. Business Arising out of Minutes

Professor Catherine Amara stated that she noted 19 errors on the November 10, 2023 meeting minutes pertaining to the 'Undergraduate Curriculum Committee' section. She noted that most of the errors were minor typos or grammatical errors. However, there were a few substantive errors which had altered the context of the sentence significantly.

Professor Amara also provided the Faculty Council secretary with written revisions of the minutes in advance of today's meeting. Next, Professor Amara highlighted the substantive errors noted on the minutes and provided the corrections.

Firstly, on the second page, the last sentence of the first paragraph, "In the late 1980s, the outdoor projects courses were given the ODP course code (ODP100 and ODP200 which were required courses for the BKin degree and the optional ODP300, ODP400 or ODP401 courses)." The BKin degree needs to be deleted from this sentence, as this is referring to the year 1980s and the BKin degree program did not exist at the point. Also, the sentence should be ending after "...which were required courses.", and rest of the sentence should be deleted. The corrected sentence should be as following, "*In the late 1980s, the outdoor projects courses were given the ODP course code (ODP100 and ODP200) which were required courses.*"

Next, on the same page the first sentence in the last paragraph has two things repeated "The outdoor project courses have gone through many changes since the 1980s, and these changes have directly impacted the outdoor projects.", instead the sentence should read "*The Faculty has gone through many changes* and these changes have directly impacted the outdoor projects."

In the first paragraph on page three, the second to last line reads “Professor Amara stated that the growth in the student body and faculty, as well as the increase in international students, have brought about intentional changes.” Instead, the sentence should be as following “Professor Amara stated that the growth in the student body and faculty, as well as the increase in international students, *have been intentional strategic changes.*”

On page four, the third paragraph, third sentence reads, “The leadership skills and opportunities that the OPD100 course presents also has been noted as a strength of the program.” ODP100 is the incorrect course code, it should be *ODP200*.

On page five, first paragraph, fourth sentence reads “The Committee wanted to ensure that the removal recommendation was in parallel with the other approaches to enhance the strength of outdoor projects across the curriculum.” The correct sentence structure is as following, “*The Committee wanted to ensure that the removal recommendation was in parallel with the other approaches to enhance the recognized strengths of the outdoor projects in other aspects of the curriculum.*”

Lastly, on the same paragraph, the sentence immediately after the one mentioned above states, “The learning outcomes and competencies of the BKin program will remain unaffected and our students will not be impacted by this change.” This should read, “The learning outcomes and competencies of the BKin program will remain unaffected *and our students’ ability to graduate will not be impacted by this change.*”

- c. The recording of the November 10, 2023 meeting will be re-visited to ensure the corrections suggested above match the recording. Lastly, the Chair announced to the Council that the minutes from November 10, 2023 meeting be accepted with the corrections as suggested by Professor Amara. The motion to accept the minutes with corrections was carried by majority vote. (**Motion:** Tamminen/Ali, Carried)

4. Committee Reports

- a. **Executive Committee:**

Dean Kerr stated that the Executive Committee has been working on the review and renewal process of the Faculty Council’s Constitution and By-Laws since last year. Any such review of both the Constitution and By-Laws must go through the Faculty Council for approval. Next, Dean Kerr noted that the approval process of the Constitution and By-Laws will be presented to the Council into two phases. As such, the proposed changes to the Constitution will be presented today for information and the changes to the By-Laws will be presented at a future meeting.

Dean Kerr briefly went over the governance structure of the Faculty of Kinesiology and Physical Education (KPE). The primary functions of governance, in our case, Faculty Council are: (i) to *Approve* specific policies, plans or projects according to established procedures; (ii) to provide *Oversight* by monitoring the quality and substance of institutional decision-making through the receipt and review of reports and information,

and; (iii) to provide *Advice and Input*, sometimes in confidence, on proposed initiatives at various stages of development.

The governance structure of our Faculty is complex because we have two governance pathways, one for the academic degree programs and another for our Sports and Recreation processes. Regarding the latter, under the Faculty Council's purview, is the Council of Athletics and Recreation. This Council is primarily responsible for the budget and the incidental fees paid by all U of T students to access Athletics and Recreation programs and facilities. To address academic matters, our current standing committees consist of Curriculum (undergraduate), Graduate, Admissions (undergraduate), Examinations (undergraduate), and Research. Furthermore, there are four joint Committees within the KPE Faculty Council, and members who serve on these joint Committees are representatives from both the Academic degree programs as well as our Sports and Recreation programs. These four joint Committees are: Awards, Equity, Restricted Funds and Sponsorship Committees.

Next, Dean Kerr mentioned some business items that go through our Faculty Council must also go through the Institutional governance. For example, any major modifications such as the introduction of a new degree program and/or the closure of a degree program must be approved by the Faculty Council and then proceed through Governing Council, for approval. On the other hand, the Council of Athletics and Recreation decision regarding the sport and recreations operating plan and fees is conveyed to the Council on Student Services (COSS). The advice from COSS is then reported to the University Affairs Board. The University Affairs Boards is a body of Governing Council that deals with student services and non-academic programs.

Dear Kerr emphasized that changes to the Faculty Constitution must receive approval from our Faculty Council and Governing Council. However, changes to the By-Laws only require the Faculty Council's approval. The Constitution and By-Laws need to be reviewed every five years as a requirement of the University. During the five-years period there are institutional changes that need to be reflected in the divisional constitutions, which allows us to streamline and identify governance processes and separate them from administrative duties. Dean Kerr stated that changes need to be made to titles as well as gendered language. A new template has been provided by the Office of the Vice-Provost, Academic Programs, and all divisions are being asked to use this template. This is an opportunity to better reflect the integrated Faculty and our mission to create a teaching health unit where education, research, and practice are integrated. Moreover, it's important to review and realign the functions of our various committees and councils, and to ensure that they are consistent with broader governance requirements.

With respect to the process used to revise the Constitution, the new template provided by the Office of the Vice-Provost, Academic Programs was used and principles articulated in the Governing Council's Mandate of Governance to clarify administrative duties from governance, applied. Moreover, the policy requirements have been tailored to the requirements specific to KPE, such as the inclusion of the Council of Athletics and Recreation. Next, Dean Kerr presented some of the Constitutional changes proposed by the Executive Committee. The new Associate Deans of Undergraduate and Graduate Education

have been included, references to broader policies such as policy on certificates for credit and non-credit have been updated and links have been added to the relevant policies. The current version of the Faculty Council Constitution has been revised to include the closure of the programs in addition to the establishment of new programs. The proposed revisions include the addition of a Vice-Chair of Faculty Council. This is a common practice across the University and has added benefits of providing both backups should the Chair not be available as well as facilitating succession planning. This means we will have more than one person during any given academic year who is familiar with the role of Chairing the Faculty Council meetings.

Then, Dean Kerr provided examples of changes to the Faculty Council's membership positions. Although the number of votes doesn't change, the constituents of voting members do. For example, as we no longer have undergraduate practica course instructors, these have been replaced. The Committee suggests changing the current allowance of voting privileges for Emeritus Professors from two to five votes for a term of up to five years following their appointment as Emeritus Professors. In terms of the Ex-officio voting, we have new Executive Directors and a new Director of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, who should be included under the voting membership.

As mentioned earlier, the Constitution of Faculty Council also includes the Council of Athletics and Recreation (CAR) Constitution. The proposed changes to the Council of Athletics and Recreation (CAR) Constitution are similar to the ones proposed to the Faculty Council Constitution, such as ensuring consistency with the new template, clarification of the role and scope of responsibilities, addressing gendered language, and updating titles or positions. These changes will be voted on at the next CAR Council meeting. Lastly, Dean Kerr stated that the changes to the Constitution will be presented to the Faculty Council at the March meeting for approval. In advance of the meeting, the Executive Committee will be circulating written documentation with a summary of changes. Upon approval by CAR, the Council of Athletics and Recreation Constitution will go to the University Affairs Board, and the Faculty Council Constitution, once approved by Faculty Council, will proceed through institutional governance. Dean Kerr concluded her report by stating that we hope to move the Constitutional changes through governance by the end of this term.

Professor Locke inquired about the difference that is seen between the number of undergraduate and graduate students that can vote on matters brought to the Faculty Council. The presentation showed seven undergraduate representatives can vote on the Faculty Council whereas only one graduate student can vote on matter presented to the Council.

Dean Kerr explained that the Executive Committee has reviewed and compared our Faculty's student voting ratios with other Faculty Councils across the University. This number is consistent with other Faculties given the differences in size of the undergraduate student population from the graduate student population.

b. Undergraduate Examinations Committee

The Examinations Committee met on January 15, 2024, and since the full Committee did not meet in the month of December, the members were updated with the number of petitions the sub-committee reviewed since November 20, 2023.

A total of 120 petitions were reviewed, 11 were denied, and 3 were pending as the committee was awaiting the receipt of further supporting documentation. Next, the Committee reviewed the marks for the Fall term BKin courses. The submitted grades were reviewed, as well as the standard deviations across all of the courses. These included both the compulsory and elective BKin courses. The Committee had some good discussions regarding the grades, including comparisons with previous years. There was nothing substantive about the grades that was cause for any concern amongst the members; as such, the members agreed with the approvals of the submitted grades. The Committee also looked at the comparative grades over the last seven years to see if there were any trends, issues or concerns worth noting or sharing with the faculty. The grades looked quite similar in terms of averages to what they have been in the last couple of years. The Committee also looked at the history of the A plus grades, as this is something the Committee has been paying close attention to over the last several years. Nothing remarkable was noted as it was similar to what has been reported previously.

c. Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

Professor Amara stated that the Curriculum Committee did not meet during the month of January. At the December meeting, members continued the discussion on the ODP proposal. At the November Faculty Council meeting, Professor Amara gave a presentation outlining the ODP proposal which included some background information, the process followed by the Committee and the rationale behind the proposal.

In addition, the written proposal was distributed to the Council members last Friday which included the full details of the proposal. Next, Professor Amara briefly highlighted the main features of the proposal. The proposal is to remove all non-credit outdoor project courses, OPD100, OPD200 and ODP 300/301/302, from the degree requirements for the Bachelor of Kinesiology, effective September 2024. The key features of the rationale for the proposal include significant changes to the academic curriculum and students' career interests, which means that many of the ODPs' learning objectives are no longer well aligned with the BKin program learning outcomes. Importantly, ODP100 primarily focuses on orientation and imposing additional fees for a non-credit degree requirement presents a moral dilemma since the university does not recognize orientation as a curricular activity or degree requirement. In addition, the proposal signals our commitment to addressing the growing student and KPE equity concerns related to timing, access, culture, and cost that have not been and cannot be resolved by one-off changes or accommodations.

Finally, these non-credit degree requirements require both increased time and cost to students above the government regulated tuition. With greater numbers of students holding jobs and/or volunteering, greater numbers of students are feeling overwhelmed and seeking support and accommodations than in decades past. Integrating key content and learning outcomes within for-credit courses is in line with the University's broader mandate to

support students' mental health. Again, these are the key reasons the Committee is proposing to remove the non-credit ODPs as currently offered, and instead re-envision equitable outdoor physical education within the BKin program.

Before Professor Amara officially brought forward the motion to the Council, the Faculty Council Chair clarified that due process was followed and appropriate notice regarding this motion was provided to the members. Information regarding this motion is reflected in the November 10, 2023 meeting minutes and the written proposal about this motion was circulated to the members one week prior to today's meeting.

Professor Amara concluded her report by making the following motion to Council: *To approve the removal of all non-credit Outdoor Project courses (ODP 100, ODP 200, ODP 300/301/302) from the degree requirements for the Bachelor of Kinesiology, effective September 2024.*

The above motion was carried by majority vote. (**Motion:** Amara/Orr, Carried)

The Chair opened the floor to Faculty Council's voting members to give them an opportunity to share their thoughts and comments on the motion. The Chair reiterated that there was a full discussion on this proposal at the last Faculty Council meeting as reflected on the November 10, 2023 meeting minutes; therefore, each Council member shall speak only once on this motion and must limit their remarks to a maximum of five minutes. Moreover, the Chair also reminded the members of their responsibility to declare any conflict of interest. One member had already declared a conflict of interest to the Chair in advance of the meeting. Therefore, as articulated in our Constitution and the University's policies, guidelines, and Bourinot's rules of order, that member will not be attending this portion of the meeting. The member will be brought back to the meeting for the announcement of the voting result.

Vice-Dean Stirling informed the Chair that the ODP Director and Professor Emeritus, Jack Goodman emailed immediately before today's meeting with questions and comments regarding the ODP motion. The email contained five comments/questions. Vice-Dean Stirling read each of the questions posed by Professor Goodman to the Council and provided administrative responses to each of them.

The first question posed was regarding the rationale behind the motion. The first comment explained the purpose of the outdoor projects by stating specifically what indeed are the outdoor projects, and emphasized that building community is highly valued and an important by-product of the outdoor project courses. In his perspective, the outdoor project courses, specifically ODP100 and ODP200, involve outdoor education activities such as canoeing, orienteering and wilderness survival. At this point in the meeting, the Chair declared this first comment/question posed to be out of order, as this exact information was conveyed at the previous Faculty Council meeting.

Vice-Dean Stirling relayed the first question 'Can the links to outdoor education be strengthened?' In response, Vice-Dean Stirling stated that the KPE student body has

changed and grown drastically. This includes the diversity of our student population and how the students are using their degree and what students are seeking from the Bachelor of Kinesiology. Then she mentioned that we are leaders in experiential education and widely agree about the value of student experience as well as the opportunities for students to engage in outdoor education experience. However, the motion that is before us today is about whether the students in the Bachelor of Kinesiology program should be required to complete the non-credit outdoor project courses to graduate with a degree. The program learning outcomes that are matched onto our degree learning expectations for the Bachelor of Kinesiology program are indeed achieved by students without the non-credit outdoor project courses.

The second comment provided was again tied to the rationale of the motion specifically about the non-degree requirement element. In this comment it was expressed how incredibly important ODP100 and ODP200 are for supporting the mental health of our students. Vice-Dean Stirling responded to this comment by saying that she agrees that mental health of students is absolutely a consideration across higher education and a priority focus within our Faculty. Our Faculty is committed to supporting students' mental health across all of our academic courses and through various student service support.

The next question was related to the rationale of the motion, regarding student and equity concerns. The question was specifically about the concerns related to the timing of the ODP programming, and consideration of a time shift. In response to this question, Vice-Dean Stirling again highlighted that with the changing student population and what expectations students have of a Bachelor of Kinesiology degree, there are increasing equity considerations that we need to pay attention to, which is aligned with our goals for transformative inclusion. Moreover, the primary driver behind this motion is curricular. This motion has been brought forward as a curricular motion through governance, because the question is whether or not these non-credit bearing ODP courses need to be completed in order for someone to receive a degree in Bachelor of Kinesiology. She then emphasized that the focus here is the curricular requirement of the Bachelor of Kinesiology program and the program learning outcomes of the BKin degree can be achieved by students without completing the non-credit outdoor projects courses at this time.

The fourth question specifically referred to the learning outcomes of the outdoor project courses and recognized that in the proposal the non-credit bearing ODP courses were not included in the curriculum map. Professor Goodman stated that the learning map not including the outdoor project courses was regrettable, but it is hardly a reflection of the limitation of those courses.

Vice-Dean Stirling mentioned that the curriculum mapping occurred during our most recent University of Toronto quality assurance review process. Vice-Dean Stirling stated that the curriculum mapping includes credit bearing academic courses, and again the outdoor project courses are non-credit bearing, which means that after completing these courses, students do not earn an academic credit towards their BKin degree requirements. The learning map is not a reflection of what is quality or where learning can actually occur. The map indicates the degree learning expectations and the program learning outcomes of the

BKin degree which we must prove to the Ministry that our students have achieved, to justify allocating a Bachelor of Kinesiology degree. Additionally, this map showed that those program learning outcomes of the BKin degree can be achieved without us needing the non-credit bearing outdoor project courses.

The last comment was regarding student leadership. The comment stated that the ODP camp leadership experience is unique, and exceptionally strong, so there is a risk in losing this altogether. In response to the last comment, Vice-Dean Stirling highlighted that the proposal before us today is narrow in scope. Again, we are specifically talking about the degree requirement of completing the non-credit bearing courses. Removing these non-credit bearing courses from the degree does not preclude the creation and continuation of outdoor education experiences. The proposal is about removing the non-credit bearing courses as a degree requirement.

The Chair emphasized that all of the concerns and comments identified during the reading of Professor Goodman's email have been addressed and dealt with previously in the process that has come before this motion. As such, this motion comes to the Faculty Council appropriately.

Professor Fusco congratulated the Curriculum Committee and others involved with the process of creating the clear and important proposal. She then mentioned that conversations regarding this topic have been going on for a long time, and this decision and the proposal did not come to light overnight. Professor Fusco stated that her comments are mostly around equity concerns that were discussed at the last Council meeting. One of the four strategic foci of the new academic plan is inclusive movement and transformative inclusivity. The ODP presentation from last meeting and the proposal documentation circulated earlier clearly indicated that there are many students now in our Faculty who do not feel included or do not feel that they belong at the ODP orientation. According to our academic plan, movement with respect to equity, diversity, inclusion and belonging is one of our top guiding principles, as is the reconciliation with Indigenous people. Moreover, Professor Fusco stated that there is much evidence to demonstrate that outdoor education in Canada in general has been critiqued for reproducing settler mythologies. Also, students in our Faculty have expressed that they felt the ODP activities are discriminatory. While some might say that makes up only few students and the majority of the students really enjoy the outdoor activities, even a few is too many. The presentation from the last Faculty Council meeting also stated that more and more of our students are seeking accommodations with regards to the ODP activities. She then emphasized that there is no way to accommodate one's way out of settler colonialism, racism and discrimination in programs that for the most part still remain ableist and colonialist. Even when the programs are not intended to be that way, most of these programs are indeed heteronormative and in alignment with Eurocentric mythologies. Also, this could mean that that many of our queer, trans and future Indigenous students and racialized students who might need accommodations, may feel that such accommodations highlight their differences, causing one to feel like an outsider. In conclusion, Professor Fusco stated that we are actively trying to recruit Indigenous students to our Faculty. If the ODP courses remain as a non-credit degree requirement, then Indigenous students who will come into our Faculty may have to take

non-credit degree requirement courses to learn about outdoor education or outdoor survival on the land that they and their ancestors and their future generations actually have a right to be on. Furthermore, Indigenous people learn about land-based education in their own way and through their own epistemologies, and such Indigenous knowledge and understanding are often missing or absent in the current ODPs.

Professor Tamminen stated that she appreciated hearing about the different perspectives of our faculty, staff and students on this issue. It was evident from the lengthy discussion that this is clearly a complicated issue, and our community has very strong feelings on this matter. She then thanked Professor Amara, the Committee members and all the other individuals who have participated in bringing this motion forward, and for their careful consideration of the varying perspectives. She also said that it was helpful to hear about the rationale around the removal of non-credit degree requirements and knowing that these courses pose an additional financial burden for our students. Lastly, given the equity concerns and the need for accommodations, Professor Tamminen stated that she agreed with the rationale presented by the Curriculum Committee.

Professor Locke stated that our undergraduate students have a togetherness that is not necessarily seen at other universities, and the ODP experience helps bring our students together when they first kick off their undergraduate career at our Faculty. The ODP is a very unique experience, because our students all go to an off-campus location together, where they are not attending lecture inside a classroom and the newness of the experience allow newcomer students to bond and create friendships. Professor Locke also mentioned that he had discussed this motion with a number of UofT alumni, and most of them expressed that they were sad to see the removal of the ODP courses. Former UofT students also mentioned that looking back at their own experiences, it was an anxiety inducing situation, but once students arrived at the location, they quickly overcame their fear and made friends. Next, Professor Locke mentioned that students who do not live on residence do not get the same opportunities to meet as many people during their undergraduate years, and the ODPs help our students meet more of their classmates while learning about outdoor activities. Professor Locke stated that perhaps the elimination of ODP300 is a good idea, but believed that the first year ODP courses require more discussion before it is officially removed from the BKin degree. He then stated that removal of the ODPs would mean that our future students will miss out on the opportunities to establish lasting friendships that eventually help them get through their undergraduate years. Lastly, he also agreed that such outdoors excursions can be stressful, but these activities also help student conquer their fears and ultimately make them more resilient.

Vice-Dean Stirling responded to the concerns raised by Professor Locke. Professor Vice-Dean Stirling stated that during the extensive consultation period regarding this motion, the Committee had acknowledged the value of the non-credit courses for student orientation. As a part of the ongoing consultations, one of the major questions was how the Faculty can continue to support building up culture and community amongst our student population, which both our students and faculty value very much. Vice-Dean Stirling assured the Council that our faculty and administration are supportive of this and are committed to working with student leaders to innovate new orientation programming for our students.

Importantly, this also gives us the chance to think about more equitable and inclusive ways of orienting our students that is welcoming of the diversity of students whom we are now bringing into the programs. Vice-Dean Stirling also highlighted that this is a curricular based decision. While our Faculty values student orientation, that is not considered as a degree requirement for the BKin degree. Lastly, as a reminder, Vice-Dean Stirling emphasized that the decision before us today is about whether or not ODP courses should be required in order for students to receive their degree.

Amin Mostofinejad, CAR student co-chair and KPE graduate student, mentioned that it has been brought up many times during discussions that students feel a sense of togetherness at the ODP excursions. However, this is only true when one fits into the social norms and the culture of the ODPs. Amin mentioned as a racialized minority student and from his own personal experience with ODPs, students who are from a racialized background can easily feel excluded at these ODP outings which they could carry on into their academic years and as a result, some could have a very lonely overall undergraduate experience. While most students feel bonded with each other at these activities, there are also many minority students who feel excluded. Amin also mentioned that the duration of the ODP activities is only three days, but students attend classes almost five days a week, they commute together between classes, and take many similar classes together, all of which provide students with lots of opportunities to bond with each other. Additionally, there are many social events that occur throughout the school year, giving students the chance to meet new people. Amin also expressed students who come from lower socioeconomical background, or students who identify as visible minority, already are faced with many challenges that make them resilient, without the presence of ODP courses. Students who come from low socioeconomical backgrounds, having to pay a few hundred dollars on top of the tuition money is a significant financial challenge for them. Lastly, having ODP courses as optional would mean that students could put the ODP fees towards food, clothing, books instead of participating in an activity which does not count towards their BKin degree credit.

Professor Fusco echoed Amin's earlier comments regarding students' resiliency. Professor Fusco stated students who are marginalized, such as students of color, Indigenous students, queer, non-binary, trans, and students with disabilities; are already resilient through their varied lived experiences, and putting them through activities where they feel that they do not belong or feel out of place is something we should not inflict upon them as a requirement.

Next, the Chair closed the discussion on the motion, and announced to the voting members that the voting on the motion will commence.

There was a 10-minute recess to count the vote.

d. Undergraduate Admissions - No report.

e. Graduate Committee:

The Graduate Committee held its meeting on December 19, 2023. The graduate student representative on the Graduate Committee for the academic year is Amin Mostofinejad. At this meeting, the Committee reviewed course outlines for graduate courses, which involved discussing the assignments and assessments within the courses. The Committee also approved the new KIN course, KIN5548: Athlete Development and Human Performance during this meeting. This new course is being offered in the current winter 2024 term.

Then, the Committee discussed the Graduate student awards and reviewed the processes of awards for the upcoming year, the adjudication process for Canada Graduate Scholarship-Master's awards and the graduate student admission deadlines and graduate student admission processes. Faculty members can expect to receive access to the Doctoral applications for review after today's Faculty Council meeting.

Next, Professor Tamminen provided updates on the graduate program renewal process that is currently underway for the following two program proposals: MKin and MSS. Faculty members received information at the Professoriate meeting on November 6, 2023 and were provided with the program proposal documents on November 16, 2023; individual meetings were offered to answer questions and faculty members were invited to provide feedback on the proposal documents by December 11, 2023. Student consultation meetings were held with student groups across all academic programs on the following dates: November 1, 13, and 20, 2023. A consultation meeting was also held with the current Sports and Recreation professionals on November 7, 2023. Additionally, feedback and comments have been received from several institutional offices, which have been collated by the Office of the Vice-Provost, Academic Programs, including: School of Graduate Studies; The Office of the Vice-Provost, Innovations in Undergraduate Education; Planning and Budget, Office of the Vice-Provost, Strategic Enrolment Management and the Vice-Provost Faculty & Academic Life.

The feedback received from these groups was positive. The Professoriate and Graduate Committee members have provided remarkably creative, thoughtful suggested directions and course descriptions, most of which have been incorporated into the proposal. Current students were highly interested about the structure and contents of the new program. Moreover, the prospective students offered suggestions for how to make the program attractive to varying populations. The revised MKin and MSS proposals have been resubmitted to the Office of the Vice-Provost, Academic Programs expanding on information as requested and using the revised 2024 template for new program proposals. Professor Tamminen concluded her report by stating that the next step regarding the program proposals is the external appraisal which is scheduled at the end of February 2024.

f. Research Committee

Professor Daniel Moore will be providing Research Committee's report to the Council as the current Acting Associate Vice-Dean, Research. Professor Moore stated that the Research Committee met twice since the last Faculty Council meeting on December 18, 2023 and January 15, 2024. At the December meeting, the Committee adjudicated six Tanenbaum Institute for Science in Sport Grants as well as one Internal Faculty Research

Grant, and the decisions have been finalized and announcements regarding these grants will be available soon. At the January meeting, the Committee discussed the process for the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program that is organized every summer as well as the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), Undergraduate Student Research Awards (USRA), Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) and University of Toronto Excellence Award (UTEA) awards. Announcements regarding these discussions will be circulated shortly. Information regarding the allocations will be available in the next month and applications will be opening up sometime in February or March. Professor Moore requested instructors and faculty recommend their students for these summer research opportunities. Lastly, Professor Moore mentioned that the Research Services Office has generated a spreadsheet on research spaces and equipment and faculty are encouraged to sign up and identify what equipment may be sharable. This will ensure that we can maximize the resources available at our Faculty.

Professor Mainwaring, the Chair of the Faculty Council proposed a motion to extend the meeting until 2:30pm. (**Motion:** Stirling/Amara, Carried).

g. Council of Athletics & Recreation

The Council of Athletics and Recreation budget Committee met three times since the last Faculty Council meeting and the 2024-25 KPE Sports and Recreation Co-curricular budget was passed unanimously. The budget was then presented to the Council of Athletics and Recreation (CAR), and it was also approved unanimously. The next step will be to present the budget to the Council on Student Services, which will happen on January 31, 2024. CAR will be doing a presentation along with colleagues and students, and then a vote will take place in February 2024.

h. Equity Committee

The report was presented by Mr. Terry Gardiner, Director, EDI, on behalf of Professor Arbour-Nicitopoulos. The Equity Committee had their first meeting for the 2023-24 academic year on October 19, 2023. During this meeting, committee members shared information on some of the equity-related initiatives they have underway. The second Equity Committee meeting was held on November 23, 2023, and at this meeting Dean Kerr provided the Committee with an overview of the Guiding Principles of the Academic Strategic Plan. The committee followed-up with an initial discussion on possible gaps that can be considered as the Committee plans their work for 2024 winter term.

i. Awards Committee

Professor Tim Taha and Mary Beth Challoner have been appointed as the Co-Chairs of the Committee. As mentioned earlier in the meeting, the Awards Committee is a joint committee and therefore oversees both the Academic degree programs as well as the Sports and Recreation programs. The Committee is currently working on a new award for the football program and anticipates bringing this new award to a subsequent Faculty Council meeting

j. Restricted Funds Committee

The Committee met on January 10, 2024, and at this meeting, members were informed of the various restricted funds applicable guidelines and an example of reports to be reviewed during the meetings were shown to prepare the members for future meetings. The Committee will be arranging the next meeting after the fiscal year ends when year-end reports will be available.

k. Sponsorship Committee – No report

5. EDU Reports

a. Centre for Sport Policy Studies – No report

b. Centre for Motor Control

The report was presented by the Faculty Council Chair Professor Mainwaring on behalf of Professor Tremblay. The Centre for Motor Control hosted their first speaker, who was Professor Kara Patterson, an Associate Professor in the Department of Physical Therapy and a Senior Scientist at the UHN's KITE Research Institute. The title of Professor Patterson's talk was: 'Addressing temporal gait asymmetry post stroke'. The next speaker for the series is Professor Jim Lyons from University of McMaster, who will be presenting on February 2 at 2pm in room BN304 and virtually. The title of Professor Lyons' talk is: 'So...tell me...how does your research actually help anyone: Some reflections on the value of "useless" knowledge'. Everyone is welcome to attend this talk.

c. Mental Health and Physical Activity Research Centre – No report

d. Centre for Sport-Related Concussion Research, Innovation and Knowledge

Professor Hutchison stated that the Centre is working on creating their brand identity and building out an independent website. The Centre hopes to have some updates on this by Spring.

6. Deans' Reports

a. Dean

Dean Kerr wished everyone a very happy and healthy New Year and hoped that the start of the new term has been going well for all.

She expressed her gratitude and appreciation for the respectful manner in which members of the KPE community have offered their perspectives on the ODP revisional process and have listened with care to others who have dissenting views. This was an important issue that our community deeply cares about, and our community has exemplified the kind of respectful debate of diverse views that should characterize a university and particularly our university.

Next, Dean Kerr congratulated Professor Tricia McGuire-Adams on her successful tenure review. This is an important milestone for our Faculty. Our Faculty is delighted to have

Professor McGuire-Adams as a continuing member of our KPE community, and to benefit from her valuable contributions to our teaching and research mandates. Dean Kerr then welcomed Professor Daniel Moore to the position of the acting Associate Dean, Research for the next six months, while Professor Timothy Welsh is on a research and study leave. She thanked Professor Moore for assuming these very important responsibilities.

Additionally, Dean Kerr mentioned that we have a new Provost. Our previous Provost, Professor Cheryl Regehr, was the longest serving Provost in the history of University of Toronto. Our new Provost is Professor Trevor Young who was the former Dean of the Temerity Faculty of Medicine. Professor Young is a psychiatrist whose area of research addresses the biological basis of mood disorders with a specific focus on bipolar disorder. In the very near future, we will be welcoming Professor Young to our Faculty for a tour of our curricular and co-curricular facilities, and a conversation about our priorities. Dean Kerr brought to the attention of Council, the announcement of Professor Randy Boyagoda as a provostial adviser on civil discourse. Professor Boyagoda is a Professor of English. In this position, Professor Boyagoda will establish a working group that will lead consultations and develop a plan for tri-campus events, resources, and other initiatives for students, faculty and librarians to engage in and promote productive and respectful dialogue on all kinds of topics. The goal is to create the conditions inside and outside of the classroom for members of the university community to have the willingness and capacity to engage productively with people who hold viewpoints opposite to their own.

Lastly, Dean Kerr mentioned the recently released Blue-Ribbon panel report, entitled 'Ensuring financial sustainability for Ontario's post-secondary sector'. A year ago, a group was established to provide advice and recommendations that would ensure the long-run financial sustainability of Ontario's post-secondary education sector. While the financial crisis of University of Laurentian contributed to the establishment of this group, there are many other universities across this province that are facing dire financial situations. Government funding per student has been frozen since 2019. Also, in 2019, a ten percent reduction in tuition was implemented, leaving universities with less revenue to carry out its responsibilities, while expenses increased. Post-Covid inflation has also contributed to this difficulty, and Ontario has ranked last in government funding for post-secondary education for the last 38 of the past 40 years. The panel's recommendations include a one-time increase in student funding from the government, a one-time increase in tuition of 5%, and the demonstration of maximized efficiencies by universities. Dean Kerr concluded her report by stating that the Blue-ribbon panel report is a very interesting and important piece, and she encouraged Council members to read this report.

b. Vice-Dean, Programs

Vice-Dean Stirling stated that she will be sharing some mid-year updates on the progress towards the strategic priorities of the new academic plan with the Council.

Our Faculty was the recipients of the Access Programs University Fund. This fund will support our new Indigenous Youth program, which is an outreach program running over the March Break alongside our usual reach ahead to Kinesiology Black Youth outreach program. The reach ahead outreach program is created to intentionally highlight the value

of kinesiology and attract high school students to our university broadly and to our program specifically. These initiatives will help in terms of advancing our goals toward transformative inclusivity, specifically attracting students to our programs from a wider range of places and backgrounds. A few other new outreach events will be rolling out throughout the term, such as: inclusive physical activity day, mental health and physical activity day, sports sciences day, and exercise as medicine day. Vice-Dean Stirling then thanked our faculty members, staff and students in advance for their involvement in making these events happen.

In terms of meeting our strategic goal of activating partnerships and collaborations, Vice-Dean Stirling mentioned that we have extended KPE course offerings to non-KPE students to try and highlight the value of kinesiology more broadly. The first-year course, KPE162H1: Physical activity and healthy lifestyles was successfully open to Arts and Science students in the Fall 2023 term. We did not receive as many Arts and Science students in that course as anticipated, but we are working in close partnership with the leadership team in the Faculty of Arts and Science to improve communication about this opportunity across the various colleges and Registrarial offices. Next, Vice-Dean Stirling stated that in response to our new BKin Certificates, there has been some interest expressed from other divisions in working in partnership with us. Specifically, the Faculty of Applied Sciences and Engineering is interested in partnering with our Faculty on a new potential certificate for their undergraduate students with the goal of integrating some course offerings for our Kinesiology students and their Engineering students. Although this potential partnership is at the beginning consultation stages, it is still exciting to see that other Faculties are recognizing the value of our courses, and are looking to partner with us.

Additionally, a new BKin experiential course, KPE255, is being offered this term to the first and second year students. This course includes an embedded career chat activity, where over 50 staff and friends of the Faculty will be engaging with the students. Currently, 200 students are enrolled in the class. This course will also serve as a precursor for the upper year elective in-field learning courses KPE355 and KPE455.

Furthermore, in addressing the goal of elevating health and wellness, Vice-Dean Stirling stated that we are working to ensure that every student, particularly every first-year student, engages in at least one student service by the end of their first year. Additionally, our Faculty has submitted an application to the Passport to Success to receive funding via the International Student Experience Fund. This fund would augment support services specifically tailored for international students. However, receiving such funding would benefit both our domestic and international student support programming. Fortunately, this year our application has moved past the first phase of the review process, and we have been invited to submit a full submission, and hopefully we will be the recipient of this funding. Vice-Dean Stirling concluded her report by sharing with the members of the Faculty Council that the Student Recognition event is scheduled for January 25, and faculty and staff are welcome to come out and celebrate our students' success.

c. Associate Dean, Research

Professor Daniel Moore stated that an e-mail was sent regarding updates to the Tri Council Research Security Requirements and these updates will be effective from 2024 spring competition. This is in response to the Government of Canada's new policy regarding Sensitive Technology Research and Affiliations of Concern. This deals with any collaborations that involve institutions or individuals who are linked to potential security concerns. The updates are still being reviewed by the Research Services Office. Professor Moore encouraged everyone to familiarize themselves of this new policy and if anyone has any questions, they can be directed to the Research Services Office.

The Science Café on November 22, 2023 was a success and the topic of the discussion was on the latest research on concussion. Professor Moore thanked Professor Doug Richards and Professor Michael Hutchinson, who were the panelists at the event as well as graduate student Kyla Pyndiura for moderating the event. Over 200 people attended this online event. Professor Moore also extended thanks to Nina Hemou from the Research Services office, Gareth Jasper from Information Technology office, and Makeda Marc-Ali, Public Relations and Communications Officer, for their efforts and assistance with the event. The link to the full video can be provided upon request if anyone would like to learn about the topic. The next Science Café will be organized for the month of March, details will be shared closer to the event date. Lastly, the Research Report is almost complete and will be released in the next few months.

d. Executive Director, Athletics & Physical Activity

The winter term has arrived, and Sports and Recreation programs and services are up and running with the usual intensity that comes with a New Year and those ever-present resolutions.

The Lane Swims and open recreation sports are very busy. Intramurals have also restarted as has the Tri-Campus League and both programs have almost reached capacity.

Vogue classes and the Black Kiki Ball are back this term as are the MoveU Skates which are very popular with our international students. Skate and helmet rentals allow first time skaters the opportunity to join in with the fun. She Moves, an annual program to encourage participation in sport and physical activity for women has opened registration and there are 100 spots available. Fitness and Performance reports a significant number of students in both the strength and conditioning centres, and personal training bookings are on the rise. Lastly, the Varsity Blues returned to action after the break and play-off and championship season will soon be upon us.

e. Chief Administrative Officer – No report

7. Student Governments' Reports

a. KPEUA – No report

b. KPEGS

Ms. Rowena Cai stated that the Bodies of Knowledge Conference will be held on May 10, 2024. This is a full day event, from 9:00 to 4:00pm and registration for this event is free. Abstract submission will be opening up on January 29, 2024, and students will have until April 19, 2024 to submit their abstract. In terms of the presentation formats, there are three proposed formats. The students can either submit a three-minute thesis, a ten-minute oral presentation, or they can submit a poster presentation. Students can have more than one presentation, for example students can do a three-minute thesis and a poster. Then, Rowena requested faculty and instructors to inform their graduate students about this upcoming conference.

8. Other Business/Announcements - None

9. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 14:16 (Motion: Fusco/Orr, Carried)