

Faculty Council Minutes

March 1, 2024 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Virtual Meeting, Zoom

Link: <https://utoronto.zoom.us/j/89339848375>

Present: Beth Ali, Catherine Amara, Kelly Arbour-Nicitopoulos, Chris Arnold, Robert Bentley, Barb Brophy, Timothy Burkhart, Rowena Cai, Joyce Chen, Simon Darnell, Danielle Dobney, Caroline Fusco, Jenna Gillen, Paul Handley, Ira Jacobs, Jen Krol, Danielle Lawrence, Marius Locke, Lynda Mainwaring (Chair), Tricia McGuire-Adams, Daniel Moore, Amin Mostofinejad, Jessica Muha, Madeleine Orr, Wendy Pais, Catherine Sabiston, Daniel Sailofsky, Ashley Stirling, Merrily Stratten, Tim Taha, Katherine Tamminen, Luc Tremblay, Linda Trinh, Tim Welsh, Fatima Zahra

Regrets: Joseph Baker, Michael Hutchison, Emma Karamanlian, Lucy Tempest

Guests: Ennis Blentic, Terry Gardiner, Maryanne McCormick, Meredith Strong

1. **Call to Order and Introductions** - The meeting was called to order at 12:04pm by the Chair.

2. **Approval of Agenda**

Dean Kerr informed the Council that the motion “*to recommend for approval to the Academic Board, the amendments to the Faculty of Kinesiology and Physical Education Faculty Council Constitution*” will be removed from the meeting agenda. The agenda with the amendment as proposed by Dean Kerr was accepted as presented. (**Motion:** Beth/ Stirling, Carried)

3. **Approval of Minutes**

a. **Minutes of January 19, 2024**

b. **Business Arising out of Minutes**

Professor Caroline Fusco stated that she noted two minor errors on the January 19, 2024 minutes, on pages 9 and 11. The Chair stated that the minutes from January 19 meeting will be revised as suggested. The minutes from January 19, 2024 meeting were accepted with the corrections suggested by Professor Fusco. The motion to accept the minutes with corrections was carried by majority vote. (**Motion:** Arbour-Nicitopoulos /Stirling, Carried)

4. **Committee Reports**

a. **Executive Committee**

Dean Kerr presented the proposed changes to the Faculty Council’s By-Laws for information, and updated the Council on the Faculty Council’s Constitution revision process.

Dean Kerr stated that the proposed changes to the Constitution were presented at the January Faculty Council meeting, and a summary of those changes were distributed to the Council members on February 7th. Dean Kerr thanked the Council members who offered their feedback after the proposed changes were circulated. The Executive Committee met on February 20th, and at this meeting the committee recommended that the amendments to the Constitutions be presented for approval at the April 5th Council meeting. Similarly, at the February 26th meeting the Council of Athletics and Recreation also recommended that the amendments to the CAR Constitutions be presented at the April 5th Council meeting for approval. The approved Council

University of Toronto - Faculty of Kinesiology & Physical Education of Athletics and Recreation Constitutions will go to the University Affairs Board, and the Faculty Council Constitution, once approved by the Faculty Council, will be presented to the Academic Board.

Next, Dean Kerr presented the proposed changes to the By-Laws for information. These proposed changes will be circulated after today's meeting and members are invited to provide their feedback.

Dean Kerr stated that the Standing Committees are established by and report to the Faculty Council. These Committees have very specific functions, and have not been established to do administrative work. The purpose of Standing Committee is to provide oversight, advice, and approval (where delegated) by the Faculty Council. Moreover, consultation remains a core principle of the Standing Committees. Thus, one of the proposed changes is the development of administrative working groups, and one example is the awards group. These administrative working groups will inform the Dean and will provide reports for information to the Council, but they will not represent the ongoing work of the Standing Committees. She then also noted that the proposed working groups will remain the same in terms of representation - comprised of diverse representation in terms of faculty, staff, and students, as well as other indicators of diversity. Dean Kerr noted the editorial revisions, such as updated titles, removing gendered language, and documentation and display of information in alignment with the template provided by the Office of the Vice-Provost, Academic Programs.

One of the proposed substantive revisions is to remove the Equity Committee, and instead, embed the work of the Equity Committee into the mandates of all Standing Committees. Each committee will report back to Faculty Council at the end of each academic year, and through such reports we will see the equity work displayed. The Examination Committee's functions will be assigned to administration. Reports to the Faculty Council in terms of academic standings and marks distributions will continue but the Examination Committee, as it currently stands will no longer exist. Similarly, the Awards Committee's work will be assigned to an administrative group. However, any changes to criteria, policy, or records will still require Faculty Council approval. Furthermore, the Restricted Funds and Sponsorship Committees will be removed as they represent administrative work and have embedded accountability measures within the nature of that work. Another change will be to move the Graduate and Curriculum Committee meetings to open sessions. The current By-Laws indicate that these meetings occur in closed session, unlike the other Standing Committees. As indicated above, Awards, Equity, Restricted Funds and Sponsorship Committees will be removed as Standing Committees, and the work from these Committees will be shifted to administration or administrative working groups. These removals have been proposed to limit the work of the Standing Committees to tasks that require governance approval. Some examples of the items that need governance approval include: i) establishment or closure of academic programs and proposals of major or minor modifications to existing program, diploma or certificates, ii) terms and conditions of new awards and changes to existing awards iii) policy creation and changes – curriculum, course delivery, grades, research, iv) proposals concerning Extra-Departmental units, v) standards of admission of students to the Faculty. Next, Dean Kerr presented examples of the administrative tasks that would be handled by administrative working groups once removed from the Standing Committees. For example, working groups would review course outlines at the undergraduate and graduate level, awards working group, internal research awards working group, and Undergraduate and Graduate Admission working groups.

As an example of a proposed change, Dean Kerr provided details regarding current course outline reviews. Currently, the entire committee at the undergraduate level (Curriculum Committee) or graduate level (Graduate Committee), reviews and discusses the course outlines, and then the feedback is communicated to the instructor. The proposed revised process will still mean that the course outlines will be reviewed, but it will be done by a smaller working group. This group will make recommendations to the respective Associate Deans, who will then communicate the feedback to the instructor. Next, Dean Kerr provided examples of proposed changes to the functions of the Standing Committees. The Executive Committee during the summer months (i.e., following the last meeting of the Council of one academic year and until the first meeting in the subsequent academic year), will have the authority to make decisions on behalf of Council on matters of urgency which cannot be deferred until the next regular Council meeting. Any decisions made during the summer months by the Executive Committee will be reported at the first Faculty Council meeting. The Undergraduate Curriculum Committee will not recommend addition, deletion or revision of courses to the Council. The committee will not approve detailed course outlines or calendar material, and will not administer and review course evaluations. Lastly, the committee will not make recommendation to the Dean about complement planning. These tasks will be moved to the administrative working groups. In term of the Graduate Committee, the Executive Committee recommended having more specificity in terms of descriptions of its functions, such as ensuring that *establishment and closure of graduate academic programs* and proposal regarding major modifications to existing academic program, *diplomas and certificates* are clearly indicated in the committee's functions. Moreover, the proposal includes a recommendation to remove allocation of financial resources and spaces from the Research Committee, as the allocation of resources remains the domain of the Dean, in consultation with the senior leadership. Additionally, there is a recommendation to add the Director of Equity, Diversity, Inclusion to our Standing Committees, and lastly, to update some of the language and specificity around the Undergraduate Appeals Committee, which is a required Standing Committee.

The Executive Committee will continue the consultation process on the proposed changes. Information presented today will be shared, as well as a summary of all the proposed changes to the By-Laws. The changes to the By-Laws will come forward for approval at the May Faculty Council meeting.

Professor Caroline Fusco asked if Research Committee will be having open session meetings, and if EDI director Mr. Terry Gardiner will be joining the Research Committee meetings. Lastly, she also inquired if the working groups will be expected to do administrative work during the summer months.

Dean Kerr noted that the Research Committee meetings have always been open, and as such, it was not mentioned during the presentation. She then stated that Professor Fusco's comments about administrative work taking place during summer months will be taken under advisement. Also, her comment about Director of EDI being part of the Research Committee will be noted as feedback for the Executive Committee.

b. Undergraduate Examinations

Professor Amara stated that the full committee did not meet during the month of February. The Executive Committee continued to meet on a weekly basis to review the petitions. The Executive

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Committee reviewed 67 petitions, most of which were regarding term work accommodations, some were about late enrollment, and course withdrawal requests. The Committee also wants to take a closer look at the use of the absence declaration tool on ACORN at the end of the year, and see if this tool has any impacts on the petitions received.

c. Undergraduate Curriculum – No report

d. Undergraduate Admissions

Professor Locke stated that the Committee met twice since the last Faculty Council meeting. Professor Locke noted that there has been an increase in the number of applications to our program, around 2500 applications were received, which is about 100 more than last year. The first round of admission offers were sent during the month of February. The Committee met before today's Council meeting, and at this meeting the Committee decided on the number admission offers that will go out during the second round.

e. Graduate Committee

The Graduate Committee met on February 12th and the meeting focused on discussion of Doctoral applications and admissions. The Committee has sent out 19 Doctoral offers of admission, and also reviewed the applications for the MA and MSc programs. The Tanenbaum Institute for Science and Sport conducted a separate review of the eligible Doctoral applications and made offers for Doctoral Scholarships to two students who were offered admissions to the program. One doctoral application has been forwarded to the School of Graduate Studies for the Connaught International Scholarship program; the committee is awaiting results from the School of Graduate Studies. Since the last report to Faculty Council, the Graduate Committee has also been reviewing scholarship applications for the Canada Graduate Scholarships Master's program for the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), and the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC). The committee is still awaiting the results of the scholarship applications which should be announced in early April from the School of Graduate Studies.

Associate Dean, Professor Tamminen presented the new program proposals for Master of Sport Sciences, MSS, and Master of Kinesiology, MKin to the Council for information. Associate Dean, Professor Tamminen stated that she will be giving a brief presentation about the background, the structure of the programs, the progress and next steps.

The templates used for the new program proposals are designed and developed through the University of Toronto to ensure that the new programs are aligned with the objectives of the academic division, the University, as well as to ensure that it is aligned with the current priority statements and academic plans, thereby advancing the mission of the University and the academic division. The process of bringing forward program proposals is also designed to ensure that the educational experiences offered to students are engaging, rigorous and that the approved programs are routinely monitored and revised as necessary, and consistent with the Quality Assurance Framework objectives. The development of these new graduate programs is consistent with KPE's Academic Plan 2022 to 2027, *Transformation in motion*. The vision statement of the KPE's Academic Plan is *Excellence in Advancing Healthy Living Through Inclusive Movement*. As such, the purpose of these programs is to advance this vision as we enable and encourage KPE students to become leaders in supporting healthy, safe, and inclusive development of sport performance and expertise, and to become leaders in making movement inclusive and seeing

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physical activities as essential to human health. In addition, these programs align with the University of Toronto's statement of institutional purpose, specifically in relation to graduate education and lifelong learning which states that graduate units and universities should ensure the provision of a broad range of graduate programs, as well as provide individuals in professional practice and members of the community at large the opportunities to study.

Typically, we see two types of graduate degrees: research-based and professional, course-based graduate degrees. Research-stream degrees are Master of Arts, Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy degrees. Professional stream degrees, are typically course-based Masters programs, or more highly structured professional programs, such as Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy. The new programs fit into the Professional course-based Master's degree category. The academic rationale for these programs is to advance graduate education and prepare students to understand at an advanced level Kinesiology-related aspects of health and wellness, exercise, medicine, and inclusive physical activity, along with preparing graduates to work as members of sport sciences teams in a variety of roles related to sport coaching and performance, sport integrity, and sport analytics. These course-based programs focus on professional and career preparation for jobs within the field of Kinesiology, specifically the application of research to inform practice within the professional fields. The programs will also provide embedded graduate level placements and opportunities for experiential education. The aim here is to prepare graduates to work in a variety of careers that will help to improve health and wellness of the world's population through movement and exercise.

Two labour market assessments were conducted to assess the need and demand for the two new programs. The first assessment was conducted by the Higher Education Strategy Associates (HESA), and they conducted a labour and student market Review in September of 2023, which was supplemented by a second labour market demand assessment by KPE faculty members as part of the proposal development process. As stated in the proposals, both the HESA and the supplementary labour market review suggested that the types of jobs that would be fulfilled by individuals graduating from these programs are growing faster than average. Some of the data from HESA also suggest that there are increasing areas of job and labour demand. The supplementary job and labour market analysis also identified that a Master's degree is either required or a preferred credential for individuals who will be entering the types of jobs that are identified in these programs.

The Master of Kinesiology (MKin) program will help graduates advance health through inclusive movement, and the aim is to prepare students for a variety of professional careers, such as registered kinesiologists, health promoters, occupational health and wellness programmers. In this program, students have the option to choose from one of three concentrations; Health & Wellness, Exercise as Medicine, and Inclusive Physical Activity. Students enrolled in this program must successfully complete a total of five full-course equivalents, and two of these courses will be core courses in evidence supported practice in Kinesiology and program evaluation. Students must complete at least two full-course equivalents in addition to the MKin designated courses, and then at least one placement and/or capstone course. Furthermore, in order to choose a concentration, students will need at least 1.5 full-course equivalents from the designated concentration options.

The Master of Sport Sciences, (MSS) program is designed to develop sport professionals who can lead teams and support individuals with care, expertise and a strong ethical core. The

University of Toronto - Faculty of Kinesiology & Physical Education program aims to prepare students for a variety of professional careers, including coaching, athletic director or administrator, athletic trainer, safe sport officers, sports science expert, sport data analyst, sport/exercise physiologist etc. The three concentrations within this program are Sport Coaching and Performance, Sport Integrity, and Sport Analytics. Students in the MSS program must successfully complete a total of five full-course equivalents courses, including core courses in evidence supported practice in Sports Sciences and program evaluation, and at least two full course equivalents in MSS designated courses. Lastly, students will also complete either a placement and/or a capstone course. If students want to apply for one of the three concentrations, then students must take 1.5 full-course equivalents from within the designated concentration options.

The length for these programs has been designed as three-terms. Students would start in the fall and complete four courses, and then they would complete another four courses in the winter, and then finish with a summer placement or capstone. Students who want to participate or sign up for these programs on a part-time basis, would then complete the program over nine sessions. In terms of enrolment projections, it is anticipated that twenty students will enrol full time in the MSS program, and six students on part time basis. The MKin program anticipates twenty-five students as full time, and two students on part-time basis.

The consultation process for these two program proposals have been occurring for over a year. The development of these programs and courses was a key part of the Faculty retreat last year (May 2023). There have been ongoing consultations with the Professoriate, and discussions at the Graduate Committee meetings. Last November, various focus group meetings and consultations with undergraduate and graduate students were conducted. Furthermore, sport and recreation professionals and institutional offices and the Provost's Advisory Group were consulted regarding these programs in January of this year. Most recently, external reviewers met with faculty, staff, and students to conduct a review of the programs from February 26 to February 29, 2024 and the report from the reviewers should be available in the following week. Associate Dean, Professor Tamminen concluded her presentation by stating that the proposals are currently at the KPE Governance level, and a motion will be brought forward to the Graduate Committee meeting regarding these two proposals. Then the Committee hopes to bring forward a motion to Faculty Council at the April meeting. Once approved by the Faculty Council, the approved proposals would move forward to University's Governance, and the aim is to launch the programs in Fall 2025.

Professor Timothy Welsh thanked Associate Dean, Professor Tamminen for providing a very thorough and clear presentation, and appreciated the strength of these new programs and the opportunities that these programs will bring to our Faculty. Professor Welsh expressed his concerns about how these new programs will impact some faculty members' workload, and inquired if there will be another phase of consultation, to further discuss the course structure, the content of the courses, course titles and course objectives before the proposals are brought forward for voting.

Associate Dean, Professor Tamminen thanked Professor Welsh for his positive comments. She then stated that the programs have been developed based on the current strengths of our faculty members and based on the current capacity that we have to offer and deliver the courses outlined in the proposals. These proposals do not require major modifications to the workloads of individuals, and discussion regarding workload have occurred with the Vice-Dean and the Dean.

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The courses will be developed in a way that will meet the learning demands and needs of students within these programs as well as within our research stream programs. Moreover, there will be opportunities for professional development for faculty to ensure that the assessments and the pedagogical approaches within these courses will help students from both streams meet their individual learning outcomes. The specific course outlines for the slate of courses outlined in the proposals have not been discussed. However, once the proposals have been approved through governance, our focus will shift to details such as course outlines, specific assessments formats, etc. At that stage, faculty members would be consulted to discuss how each course can be fashioned to help us to meet the objectives for this program, while also maintaining the rigour of education for students in research stream programs as well.

Professor Tricia McGuire-Adams thanked Associate Dean, Professor Tamminen for her presentation. Professor McGuire-Adams inquired about the external review process, and asked what would be the course of action if the external reviewers have major comments or revisions to the proposal.

Associate Dean, Professor Tamminen stated that the Committee is expecting the external reviewer's report by March 7th, and then changes to the proposal will be made where required or where the Committee feels is appropriate. Then, those revisions and any changes to the proposals would come forward in an updated proposal at the next Graduate Committee meeting on March 25, and the updated proposal would include all of the revisions made in response to the comments received from the external reviewers.

Professor Joyce Chen thanked Associate Dean, Professor Tamminen for the comprehensive presentation. Professor Chen stated that she has some concerns about the workload and class capacity, as it is anticipated that each graduate course would have about twenty-five students. Currently, most of the graduate courses have five or less students. She then mentioned that this increase in class capacity might not drastically change one's workload when it comes to the content being delivered. But from a capacity and engagement perspective, there might be some differences which could impact the experiences of students from the research-stream programs. An advantage of having smaller classes is that the content can be delivered in a seminar format, students can get to know each other, and have in depth discussions. This aspect might change with growing class sizes, and her concerns were about how to optimize learning experiences for students from both the research and course-based streams. However, she was pleased to know that faculty would have opportunity to engage with professional development, which will help them determine how to juggle delivering content, while maintaining engagement.

Associate Dean, Professor Tamminen addressed Professor Chen's comments by stating that although the enrolment projections shown during the presentation stated that the courses maybe have twenty-five students, it is unlikely that every course will have an enrolment of twenty-five students. The core courses would likely have higher numbers of students, but this trend is already seen amongst some of our course-based MPK programs. We have faculty members who are successfully delivering those courses and we can learn from their experiences. We might see growth in the enrollment in some of the other courses, but this will not be the case for all classes. Lastly, the diverse course offering and the diversity in the types of learning experiences will also help to enrich students' learning.

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Furthermore, Dean Kerr also provided a response to Professor Chen regarding increase class size and projected enrolment. Dean Kerr noted the current challenge of having no enrolment or only two or three students in some graduate courses. Moreover, she noted that students in research-stream programs will still have the one-to-one supervision with the faculty member, opportunities to learn from the journal clubs or lab meetings. As such, in-class learning is just one aspect of how students in the research-stream learn. The proposed courses with both research-stream and course-based students will involve a universal design approach to teaching that supports diverse learning styles, students from diverse backgrounds, and with diverse career aspirations. Furthermore, professional development for faculty members will be an important piece of ensuring that these programs are successful.

Professor Kelly Arbour-Nicitopoulos stated that she was pleased to see the focus on professional development for instructors. She also stated that bringing research stream and course-based masters programs together is a unique approach, one she appreciated. But she also wanted to comment on the importance of marketing this unique approach to prospective students and incoming instructors. Students enrolling in the research-stream program might be expecting the traditional smaller classes for a variety of reasons. As such, she hopes that the Committee will be mindful about marketing this new approach to graduate level learning.

Professor Moore inquired if there have there been any considerations or discussions regarding the use of research space for teaching, and what constrains these new programs might put on the research spaces and equipment.

Associate Dean, Professor Tamminen responded to Professor Moore's comments and noted that the potential use of research spaces has been taken under consideration, and discussions have been underway to determine how to manage the spaces, the equipment, and more detailed discussion will continue as the proposal moves forward.

f. Research Committee

Associate Dean, Research Professor Moore reminded the Council that the Summer Undergraduate Research Opportunity program is officially open and currently accepting applications. This initiative will support undergraduate students with their research placements throughout the summer months. Students can submit their application for the following three program and awards: Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP), University of Toronto Excellence Award (UTEA) and Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council – Undergraduate Student Research Award (NSERC USRA). Moreover, additional awards are available for students who identify as Black or Indigenous. Professor Moore also mentioned that the University of Toronto Excellence Awards (UTEA) have been allocated for each of the three Tri-council positions. An email regarding the Summer Undergraduate Research Opportunity went out last week Monday. Undergraduate students interested in working with KPE faculty members have been instructed to approach faculty members to gain their approval on their applications. Faculty members will be required to complete a section on the form and sign it prior to submission. These forms are due next Friday, March 8. Professor Moore requested instructors and faculty members to promote these opportunities in their classes, and to recommend any students they think would benefit from this opportunity.

g. Council of Athletics & Recreation

Executive Director, Co-Curricular Athletics and Physical Activity Programs, Ms. Beth Ali stated

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that the 2024 - 2025 KPE Sport and Recreation Operational Budget has been approved by the Council of Athletics and Recreation (CAR), the Council on Student Services (COSS) and University Affairs Board (UAB). The final step for the KPE Sport and Recreation budget is to be presented to Governing Council for information. Lastly, Ms. Ali thanked student Co-Chairs, Jessica Muha and Amin Mostofinejad for their support and assistance with the budget approval process.

h. Equity Committee

The Equity Committee met on February 27th, the group continued discussions from the January meeting related to topic of accessibility awareness, particularly in relation to the Accessibility for Ontarians Disability Act (AODA) within KPE. During the February meeting, the committee had a chance to learn from Ben Poynton, the Director of UofT's Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act office (AODA), and what accessibility initiatives have been occurring across the University, such as the adoption of new facility accessibility design standard for post-secondary institutions. The Equity Committee is exploring education opportunities for faculty, staff and students and the possibility of partnering with the AODA office in these efforts. It is hoped that some of these training opportunities can be made available close to National Accessibility Week, which this year takes place the week of May 27th to May 31st.

i. Awards Committee

Professor Taha stated six awards will be presented at the next Faculty Council meeting.

j. Restricted Funds Committee – No report

k. Sponsorship Committee – No report

5. EDU Reports

a. Centre for Sport Policy Studies

The inaugural Peter Donnelly lecture in Sports Policy Studies will be taking place on March 21st at the Innis Town Hall. The event is open to all, and will also be livestreamed, but registration is required. The keynote speaker at this event will be Dr. Parissa Safai.

b. Centre for Motor Control

Professor Tremblay stated that Professor Jim Lyons from University of McMaster was the speaker for the Centre for Motor Control (CMC) talk series on February 2nd. Professor Lyons spoke about the perennial question of the value of “useless” knowledge in Motor Control. It was a very engaging talk, enticing us—amongst many of the philosophical topics discussed—to duly consider both inductive and deductive reasoning processes in Motor Control research. The next speaker of the CMC talk series was recommended and accepted for the upcoming Graduate Seminar. Professor Tremblay thanked Associate Dean, Professor Tamminen for showcasing Professor Campos' research in this Faculty-wide forum. Professor Campos is from the Toronto Rehabilitation Institute, and is also a Canada Research Chair in Multisensory Integration and Aging. Professor Campos will be speaking next Wednesday, March 6, at 12pm (noon), specifically on multisensory interactions supporting mobility in aging.

c. Mental Health and Physical Activity Research Centre

Professor Sabiston stated that the MoveU.HappyU program is being delivered as usual. The Centre is currently in the second term of a randomized controlled trial and working in close

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capacity with Sport and Recreation to deliver group and individual sessions to help-seeking students on campus.

The Centre is in the second year of delivering the foundation of MoveU.HappyU program that was adapted to a community program at Jane and Finch called Talkitout Workout in collaboration with colleagues and trainees from social work. This program also has six MPK students working as exercise facilitators. The Centre will also be adapting the MoveU.HappyU program for cognitive health and wellness, working in collaboration with the [Kimel Family Centre for Brain Health and Wellness](#)

In collaboration with Sport and Recreation, the Centre recently installed a wellness wall in the weight lifting zone at the Athletic Centre. This is part of a partnership with Meditation Works to explore the synergies of using mindfulness and exercise. Professor Sabiston thanked Lucy Simard, Alana Coulson, and Alex Vickers for their assistance with the wellness wall. Lastly, MPARC continues with the work commissioned by the Ministry of Education to explore school sport, physical activity, movement, and games in Ontario.

d. Centre for Sport-Related Concussion Research, Innovation and Knowledge – No report

6. Deans' Reports

a. Dean

Dean Kerr stated that our Faculty is bustling with activities, particularly at this time of the year. Students are moving through their programs as we enter the latter half of the term, researchers are gaining incredible accolades for their work both within and outside of the University, and athletes are nearing the end of their competitive seasons. At the same time, we are also preparing for the next Academic year. Dean Kerr expressed that today she will be sharing the achievements of many members of our KPE community with the Council.

Last month various activities were conducted by individual unit and departments to celebrate Black History Month. Dean Kerr highlighted two important Faculty wide initiatives that garnered University wide recognition. First, the 'Black history here and now' a virtual tour was one of the initiatives that received University wide positive feedback. Student, staff, faculty and community members were able to access this virtual tour through QR codes. This virtual tour shared Black Canadian athletes' experiences in dance, gymnastics, hockey, swimming and track and field. Also, it highlighted how Black Canadians have played integral roles in shaping sport and physical activity in this country. This initiative was recognized by the University through its Central Publications. Dean Kerr thanked the Director of EDI, Mr. Terry Gardiner, for his vision and leadership, and also extended thanks to the wonderful team of faculty, staff and students, including our communications team for their very insightful and impactful work. Second, Dean Kerr applauded the in-person discussion that took place earlier this week with Valerie Jerome about her book, 'Races: Trials and Triumphs of Canada's Fastest family'. Ms. Jerome, an accomplished athlete (sprinter), competed at the 1960 Summer Olympics, and is the sister of the multiple Olympian and World record holder, Harry Jerome, as well as the granddaughter of John Howard, the first Black Olympian in the 1912 Olympic games. She shared with us very inspirational and impactful stories about racism, highlighting that despite this family's stunning athletic accomplishments, their story represented the under discussed intersection of race and athletics in Canada. Dean Kerr thanked the Alumni and Advancement Director Mr. Ennis Blentic and his team for their work on this initiative.

Dean Kerr noted that March 8th is the International Women's Day, a global day celebrating the achievements of women and calling for more action to accelerate women's equality. Our Faculty will be collaborating with Hart House to present a short film titled, 'She Carries on' centering Indigenous women in sport and physical activity. This will be hosted by KPE's Professor Caroline Fusco and Hart House's Senior director, Michelle Brownrigg. The screening will be followed by a discussion with a panel of academic and organizational leaders.

Some of the awards and programming grants that have been obtained by our KPE community members in the last few weeks were acknowledged by Dean Kerr. The Excellence Through Innovation Award, was given to the project that centers on student advising systems. This was awarded to KPE's Registrar and Director of Student Services, Ms. Wendy Pais and members of her team, including Student Advisor Mr. Darryl McSherry and Assistant Registrar: Registration and Records Mr. Timothy Linden. The Northrop Frye Team Award was recently announced, and Ms. Alison Scully, Manager of Student Experiential & Academic Advising in the Registrar's Office was the recipient of this award. This team developed and delivered a centralized holistic advising training program for student advisors across all three campuses. The Office of the Registrar and Student services has also received an International Student Experience Fund for a project titled 'Passport to Success'. This is designed to provide proactive outreach and learning support for international undergraduate students at KPE. Additionally, our Faculty received an Experiential Learning University Fund for a program titled 'Impact, Innovative Movement, Programming, Advancing Community Engagement and Transfer of Knowledge to Practice'. This program will expand the diversity of community engaged experiential learning opportunities and will be used to help support the upcoming KPE401H1 - International Development through Sport summer course led by Professor Simon Darnell, in partnership with the University of West Indies. This funding will help to support students who will travel to Kingston, Jamaica for two weeks this summer to deliver physical activity programming. The recipients of this award include Vice-Dean Stirling, Associate Dean, Undergraduate Education Professor Catherine Amara, Executive Director, Strategic Initiatives Ms. Meredith Strong and Registrar and Director of Student Services, Ms. Wendy Pais.

In conclusion, Dean Kerr stated that our Faculty's nomination of Wilton Littlechild for an U of T honorary degree was accepted. Dr. Littlechild was a keynote speaker at last year's National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. He was an outstanding athlete and lawyer and was one of the first person with Treaty Indian status to be called to the Alberta Bar. He is also a residential school survivor, and served as a commissioner of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC). He was instrumental in securing an apology from Pope Francis on Canadian soil for the harms caused to Indigenous peoples in Catholic run residential schools. He helped found the National Indian Athletic Association, the North American Indigenous Games, and the World Indigenous Nations games, and it is evident that he is a very well deserving candidate for this award. Dean Kerr concluded her remarks by noting that it will be wonderful that KPE will have an honorary Doctorate in our forthcoming Convocation.

b. Vice-Dean, Programs

Vice-Dean Stirling identified Faculty activities for this month and a number of March Break activities in the Faculty from March 11 to March 15. We will be hosting Reach Ahead to Kinesiology, including our Black Youth program and our new Indigenous youth outreach programs. Student ambassadors will be conducting daily campus tours. As such, this month we

University of Toronto - Faculty of Kinesiology & Physical Education will be seeing many High School students walking through our buildings.

Vice-Dean Stirling mentioned that the National Undergraduate Research Conference is scheduled to take place on Friday, March 22nd and the abstract deadline for this conference is next week Monday, March 8, 2024. The Keynote Speaker for the National Undergraduate Research Conference this year is Dr. Gerome Manson, who is also an alum of our Faculty. Dr. Gerome Manson, will be speaking on, "Hold my Hand": Exploring the planning and online control of movements to the body.

c. Associate Dean, Research

Associate Dean, Research Professor Moore mentioned that the 2022-23 Research Report was recently published. The report catalogues all the great things that our Faculty has achieved in terms of research over the year, including some key stories and publication records. Professor Moore thanked Professor Timothy Welsh, the Research Services Office, Sarah Baker and the Public Relation and Communications team for their contributions and hard work in creating the Research Report. Professor Timothy Welsh also thanked the following individuals for their support with the Research Report: Joel Jackson, Catharine Heddle, Jelena Damjanovic, Jason Small and Kay Li. Next, Professor Moore highlighted few upcoming deadlines for the Council. The Tanenbaum Institute for Science in Sport – the Research Accelerator Fund letter of intent is due on March 17th. The Provost's Postdoctoral Fellowship Program, which provides funding and support to underrepresented groups, specifically Indigenous and Black researchers, the internal deadline for that fellowship is March 15th. Professor Moore requested that if faculty or instructors know any strong candidates who would benefit from this very prestigious award, to consider reaching out to them and connecting with the Research Services office.

d. Executive Director, Athletics & Physical Activity

The intramural program is getting close to the end of the regular season and play-offs will start in March. These programs continue to have significant number of participants and the student leaders in the Faculties and Colleges and those who are part of the intramural sport council have done an incredible job in supporting the 15,000 + participants. The MoveU program will be holding the annual She Moves Conference on March 8 at 5pm. In celebration of the International Women's Day, this event invites participants to cycle through a variety of fun physical activities, followed by dinner with a panel of fantastic speakers. The link to the event, as following:

<https://kpe.utoronto.ca/fri-03082024-1700/she-moves-conference-motion>. The open recreation and drop-in programs are busy as are activities in the equity and instruction programs. Returning for its second year and by popular demand, the Metis Jigging event will be held on March 4 at 4:30pm at the Goldring Fitness Studio. This is presented in partnership with the First Nations House. Link to the event as following: <https://kpe.utoronto.ca/mon-03042024-1630/move-culture-metis-jigging>.

The David L. MacIntosh Sports Medicine Clinic is located on the 4th floor of the Goldring Centre. There you will find Sport Physicians, Orthopedic surgeons, a Sport Psychiatrist, a Registered Dietician and Physio, Massage and Athletic Therapists. University of Toronto students have full access to the clinic and visits to the physicians (doctors, psychiatrist and surgeons) are covered by OHIP or UHIP. Due to the current construction of the Academic Wood Tower, the reception area for the clinic has been relocated to the south end of the 4th floor. In terms of Varsity Blues, the 2023-24 season is slowly winding down. The programs still competing are Women's Hockey who are in the Ontario University Athletics (OUA) semi-finals vs Guelph. It is a must win situation tonight at the Varsity Arena as the Blues lost the first game

1-0 in the best of three series. Track and Field and Swimming have completed their OUA seasons and are preparing for the National Championships. Ms. Ali offered congratulations to the men's and women's swimming teams who won their respective OUA Championships two weeks ago.

In conclusion, Ms. Ali highlighted few upcoming events dates:

March 27, 2024	Intramural Recognize Banquet
April 1, 2024	President Gertler hosts his annual celebration of varsity sports
April 3, 2024	Dean's Student Leadership Awards
April 6, 2024	Intercollegiate Banquet

e. Chief Administrative Officer

Mr. Handley stated that the Benson Pool Gallery - Student lounge project is moving toward completion, and the Goldring Centre fourth floor office renovations are also largely complete. The project will come to completion once the new door is delivered and installed. The Academic Wood Tower project is also progressing as planned. Mr. Handley mentioned that the lights in the Varsity Stadium will be replaced. This is an initiative to decrease the impact of the lights on our neighbors, and also to reduce our energy consumption by installing energy efficient LED lights. Additionally, new projectors are in the works with regards to the maintenance of the Back Campus field and Varsity Stadium. Lastly, a green wall will be installed by the circular staircase in the Warren Stevens building. Green walls are living walls or plant walls, that thrive in indoor environments.

7. Student Governments' Reports

a. KPEUA – No report

b. KPEGS

Rowena Cai stated that the annual Bodies of Knowledge Graduate Research Conference (BOK) will be taking place on May 10th. The conference is a whole day event, from 9am to 4pm and will be held at the Clara Benson building. This conference is organized by graduate students at the KPE Faculty. The conference provides an opportunity for graduate and undergraduate students at any stage of their program to present their research, and learn from and network with peers. The theme for this year's conference is 'Moving Research Forward', and some changes have been made to this year's conference to increase participation and engagement. To improve the accessibility of the conference, the registration fee has been removed, and the conference is free for both the presenters and attendees. Two new presentation formats have been added. Previously, students were given the opportunity to do a 10-minute oral presentation, followed by Q and A session. This year students have the option to present a 3-minute thesis styled presentation followed by Q and A and a poster presentation. Students can choose to present their work via one of the three formats, or they can choose two different formats. This will allow students to submit a poster presentation, and they can also do an oral presentation. Prizes will be given out to the best presentation for each format. Ms. Cia also added that there are accommodations available at the New College residents for students who are coming out of town. Moreover, this conference is not only limited to U of T students, students from other institutions can also attend and present at the conference. Lastly, the deadline for abstract submission is April 19th and students can submit their abstracts through the Bodies of Knowledge website. Students interested in attending and presenting at this conference, can find information about abstract submission deadline and other relevant information at the [Bodies of Knowledge](#) (BOK) website.

8. Other Business/Announcements

Professor Sabiston announced to the Council that the Eastern Canada Sport and Exercise Psychology Symposium will be held at University of Toronto – Hart House on March 15 and 16. This conference provides an opportunity for undergraduate and graduate students to present their research as well as proposed applied work. Professor Kelly Arbour-Nicitopoulos and Mr. Terry Gardiner are keynote speakers at the event. Detailed information about the conference, and registration are available at the official [ECSEPS](#) site.

9. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 13:42 (**Motion:** Stratten/Stirling, Carried)