

**Minutes of Faculty Meeting held on Friday, January 26, 2024  
at 10:15 am to 11:30 pm in Room B104/Zoom**

**Present:** Please see the attached attendance list of those who attended the meeting in person or via Zoom and signed/checked out their names.

**1. Welcome and Land Acknowledgement (A. Anis)**

The meeting commenced with a warm welcome and acknowledgement of the unceded Musqueam territory. The chair noted that it was great to see many faculty members in attendance in person for the first meeting of the year.

**2. Approval of Agenda – approved.**

**3. Approval of Minutes of December – approved.**

**4. Director's Report**

- a) Aslam indicated that the meeting would end at 11:30 a.m. due to a leadership retreat in the afternoon. The retreat will focus on discussions regarding teaching, priorities, and divisional structures. More updates will be presented at the next full faculty meeting.
- b) Congratulations were extended to Professor Susan Cox for her appointment to the Biomedical Ethics Chair facilitated by combining various endowments. This funding enables support for ongoing recruitments in biomedical ethics.
- c) Additionally, two recruitments in senior ethics and public health were made possible by another endowment that supported Dr. Michael Burgess.
- d) The chair welcomed Dr. Khumbo Kalua as the newest faculty member, appointed to an associate professor position with tenure.
- e) Positive reviews for the Centre for Applied Ethics (CAE) and the Centre for Health Services and Policy Research (CHSPR) were acknowledged.
- f) Emphasized the limited flexibility in salary negotiations for new hires and expressed gratitude for the positive turnout at recent recruitment talks, showcasing promising candidates for CRC Anti-racism and Global Environmental Health positions.

**5. Associate Directors Updates**

**- *Research – Rachel Murphy, report attached***

- a) The seminar series schedule was slightly adjusted as we had a lot of seminar talks this month. The seminar will resume with Dr. Greyson and Dr. Meza slated to present in the upcoming months.
- b) A reminder was issued regarding grant competitions, particularly CIHR, emphasizing the importance of early coordination for signatures, considering challenges faced when last-minute requests coincide with FoM sign-offs.

It is recommended that five to six (5-6) business days be given for signatures inclusive of SPPH signature and the Deans/ORS. **E.g., two (2) days for SPPH, two (2) days for Dean's Office, and two (2) days for ORS.**

- c) Two new partner assistant professors, Dr. Heather Palis and Dr. Cheryl Peters, were welcomed.
- ***Education – Trevor Dummer, report attached***
  - a) Trevor emphasized the university process regarding academic misconduct cases detailing the prescribed process, documentation, and templates for addressing instances like cheating or plagiarism. There is a canvas link in the report, and please reach out to Trevor if you do not have access to the page.
  - b) Trevor shared concerns regarding student evaluation of instruction, emphasizing the need for routine review of student feedback within the school.
- ***Faculty Affairs and Partnerships– Louise Masse, report attached***
  - a) Louise, Craig and Ameer are working on teaching loads and workload guidelines, including evaluating existing models, adapting language based on the new faculty agreement, and addressing concerns. More fulsome presentation would be presented in the next full Faculty Meeting.
  - b) Louise expressed gratitude for the attendance at candidate presentations for Global Environmental Health and CRC Anti-racism positions, emphasizing the importance of feedback from the six evaluations received and encouraging further input.
- ***Clinical Faculty Affairs – Trevor Corneil***
  - a) Trevor mentioned the upcoming deadline for clinical faculty annual reports and improvements in the processes of the Clinical Appointments Requirements and Promotions (CARP) Committee.
  - b) Trevor addressed issues related to professionalism, citing a relevant policy from 2013 that offers clarity on professional conduct, especially in the context of social media. Link to: [Professional Standards for Learners and Faculty Members in the Faculties of Medicine and Dentistry at UBC \(2013\)](#)

## **6. Advisor to the School Director**

- ***Indigenous engagement; Alumni and student engagement activities; Directions for SPPH EDI Lead– Craig Mitton***
  - a) Craig provided updates on the two recruitment committees for the Data Science/Data Sovereignty Indigenous Health position and Indigenous Health Services position, emphasizing the significant effort invested in ensuring balanced representation and unique considerations for Indigenous recruitment.
  - b) Craig mentioned collaboration with Sue on a November 30th Community Forum follow-up and emphasized the importance of actively listening to and addressing student concerns, encouraging ongoing support for students.
- ***REDI Lead, Sue Mills, report attached***

Sue prepared a summary report for the community forum with a focus on specific areas relevant to SPPH. The REDI committee is active, and efforts are underway to understand student perspectives, reshape committee activities, and gather input from staff and faculty. Additionally, there is an upcoming SPPH workshop, monthly sessions related to dialogue sessions, and work towards establishing a system for best practice development.

It was noted by a faculty member that January 27 is the International Holocaust Remembrance Day, emphasizing the importance of remembering the Holocaust as a commitment for all. Also noted were the ongoing concerns about a potential genocide in Gaza, and mentioned the upcoming discussions with students on how to voice their concerns.

## **7. Student Representatives – Amarildo Ceka, PhD program & Negar Asli, MPH program**

Lisa indicated that no student reps will attend faculty meetings until we clarify how their time will be compensated. The discussion revolved around the issues of student compensation for their involvement in committees and other activities within the school. Shermila indicated a guideline for graduate students' representation on SPPH committees was being developed. There were several points raised including the need for clear guidelines, the importance of viewing involvement as a valuable learning experience, and suggestions for developing terms of reference to outline responsibilities and benefits for student representatives. Shermila also mentioned that she checked with other FoM departments/schools and found out that units typically do not compensate students.

The draft proposed guidelines will be presented at the senior management committee (SMC) and thereafter forwarded to program directors to review before a formal approval.

## **8. Program Directors Updates**

### **- MGH – Daniel Steel, report attached**

In January 2024, the MGH proposal was fully approved through the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies governance pathway as well as several Senate standing committees. The program is ahead of schedule at the moment and actively working with various UBC-level units to maintain this momentum. Next steps of the UBC approval pathway include Full Senate and Board of Governors. A number of concurrent activities are underway to support both current and upcoming processes as the MGH prepares for Ministry submission.

### **- MSc/PhD – Susan Cox, report attached**

### **- MPH – Paul Kershaw**

Paul mentioned record-high applications to the MPH program and acknowledged the dedicated educational team. Paul expressed gratitude for efficient management. Additionally, the recruitment for the MPH Admissions team was discussed, and thanks were extended to those who volunteered.

### **- MHA – Nick Bansback, report attached**

Nick discussed a positive meeting with senior leadership at PHSA regarding funding for MHA slots. A budget request is being considered, and further outreach to other health authorities is planned. Trevor Corneil highlighted the potential to leverage support from other health authorities once PHSA is on board, expressing enthusiasm for the opportunity and offering assistance in negotiations.

### **- MSc OEH – Chris McLeod**

The program has received over 70 applicants, and efforts are underway to expedite assessments, including interviewing international students to ensure resource availability and address visa-related challenges.

- **MHSc – Jason Sutherland**

The MHSc program, in collaboration with a faculty member has successfully resolved a significant academic misconduct case spanning two cohort years. Additionally, a new collaboration between MHSc and the Department of Psychiatry will introduce courses focused on psychiatry health within the MHSc program open to all students. This collaboration allows clinical departments to offer specialized courses and have their own MHSc specialization within SPPH program. The program is expecting only two or three students.

- **PHPM – Trevor Corneil, report attached**

- **Accreditation & Quality Improvement – Patty Janssen, report attached**

The documents for the program are currently under review by the Faculty of Medicine. After approval, the docs will be forwarded to the President's Office for signatures. In regards Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI), the focus is on establishing benchmarks, assessing how to reach and collaborating with the Center for Teaching and Learning Technology (CTLT) to consider the student experience and develop benchmarks accordingly.

## 9. Centre Directors Updates

- **HELP – Mariana Brussoni, report attached**

- **CHSPR – Jason Sutherland**

Jason received the draft report from the external review of CHSPR and is in the process of confirming technical accuracy with the faculty before publication. Following the assessment of technical inaccuracies, a response will be provided, and the report will be published.

- **Applied Ethics – David Silver – no report.**

- **CEIH – Nadine Caron – none.**

- **Affiliated Centres – C2E2, BCCDC, CHEOS – none.**

## 10. Division Heads Updates

- **OEH – Chris McLeod, report attached**

The Cascadia conference was held at the beginning of the year with representatives from various universities. The conference was highly successful with over 150 attendees, setting a record. The conference served as an opportunity to build community and enthusiasm. The division and program are planning an alumni recognition and engagement events with an upcoming event in February to recognize Moira Chan, an OEH alum, for her significant contributions as a graduate, adjunct, and professional supporting the program over decades.

- **EBPHP – Ameer Manges, report attached**

- **HSP – TBC**

- **HIP – Martin Guhn**

## 11. Administration (Operations, HR & Finance) – Shermila Salgadoe

New HR Assistant, Katherine Du was onboarded replacing Martin Li. Shermila thanked Amanda and Taryn for this recruitment.

## 12. Communications – Gabrielle Price

SPPH Instagram account will be launched on February 1st, aiming to enhance communication with students. The focus will be on interactive and engaging content, particularly featuring

students. Gabrielle expressed enthusiasm for the platform and encouraged sharing the information with students, mentioning plans for communication materials and a lobby slide on the TV. The initiative aims to address feedback from students and serve as a primary communications channel.

**13. Announcements/Celebrations**

- Craig Mitton reaching the 20-year mark at SPPH.
- The smartphone program was accepted into the Hatch Venture Program, highlighting the significance of this achievement as fewer than 10% of applicants were accepted.

**14. Other Business Arising**

There will be three (3) public presentations scheduled for February 12, 14 and 16. This is for the recruitment of Associate Professor, tenure in Global Health Ethics. Invitations will be going out soon.

There being no other business the meeting adjourned at 11:32 p.m.

**Next SPPH Faculty Meeting: Friday, February 23, 2024**