ARTS STAFF ADVISORY COUNCIL
Thursday, Sep 19, 2019
1:30 p.m., PAS 2438

Present: Tawnessa Carter, Angela Christelis, Shelby Davies, Jessica Jordao, Tammy Neal, Janine Ouimet (notes), Kathryn MacDonald, Sara Robertson, Elizabeth Rogers, Jameson Schildroth, Michael Wagoner.

Regrets: Sheila Ager, Andri Efstathiou

Notes

1. Sub-committee Reports and Membership

ASAC Executive
- Jessica is the chair.
- Janine is the secretary.
- Post-meeting update: Andri Efstathiou has agreed to become the vice-chair.

Communications and Web Sub-committee
- **ACTION:** Michael will send out the call for new ASAC members.
- **ACTION:** Tawnessa to review webpages and resource links, and provide feedback. Wendy Philpot is a good resource if assistance is needed.
- **ACTION:** Janine to connect with Inside Arts and inquire about possible ASAC update.
- **ACTION:** Jessica to connect with IST to get ASAC Communication Sub-committee inbox access.
- All future ASAC events will be communicated in the form of an email calendar invite.

Staff Relations Representative
- **ACTION:** Janine and Elizabeth to review the UW Staff Relations Committee mandate and determine if relevant for an ASAC representative to attend the public portion of meetings. Rationale: The same issues may be covered at University of Waterloo Staff Association (UWSA) Meetings, which are attended by an ASAC representative.

Social and Community Outreach Sub-committee
- Three events being planned for Fall 2019: (1) Fall Coffee Social (early October), (2) De-stress Coloring Event (November), (3) Cookie Exchange & Fundraiser (December).
- Update on summer events: 70 people attended the staff barbeque in July 2019, and there was also a pick-your-own strawberries event. Feedback from both events was positive.
- **ACTION:** Shelby and team to organize coffee, colouring, and cookie exchange events. Location for coffee break to be determined; Shelby will check into the Art Gallery (ECH 1239).
- Members discussed the United Way campaign, which kicks off in October. The Arts Undergraduate Office has worked with ASAC and other units on United Way events in the past. ASAC could take initiative for managing the United Way Campaign, if a member is interested in leading the campaign.
Learning and Development Sub-committee
- This sub-committee was planning a mental health event previously, but lost momentum with staff changes.
- Members discussed workshop topics that have garnered interest from staff. These included: Career Action Centre-related topics, self-care, and student care. Events could be brown bag over the lunch hour, or include a pizza.
- Members agreed that a winter term event may be good. Relevant topics of interest include learning about the new student cohorts (e.g., what they talk about, what media tools they use, preferred communication styles, etc.).
- A 2017 ASAC Survey included questions to staff about what types of events would be most useful. ACTION: Jessica will review the 2017 ASAC Staff Survey.

2. UWSA Report (Tammy Neal)
- Accepting nominations for UWSA president.
- UWSA has a lot of vacancies.
- The UWSA President, Rose Voight strongly encourages UW staff to read the proposed Bill 124, which proposes a wage cap for all public sector employees of 1%. Rose has met with local MPPs, i.e., Katherine Fife, Mike Harris. Katherine Fife is willing to work with UWSA; Mike Harris will vote in favour of the bill. Tammy recommends all staff read the Bill and talk to their MPPs. The Bill gives the Minister a lot of control over public sector salaries.
- UW costs are increasing 5% a year, but revenues are not increasing due to tuition freeze.

3. Deans Office Report (Kathryn)
- With respect to the Faculty of Arts fiscal situation, the Faculty is interested in maintaining costs, by increasing international recruitments and increasing class sizes.
- The Faculty will be sharing data with chairs about balance for new hires.
- Enrollments in past 5 years have been flat, but 2019 enrollments were above target by 10%.
- Coming up with programs that cut across departments is difficult, given the structure of being set up in departments.

4. Other business arising
- Coming up with programs that cut across departments is difficult, given the structure of being set up in departments.

ASAC Sub-committee Members
- Communications and Web: Janine, Michael, Tawnessa
- Staff Relations Representative: Elizabeth, Janine (back up) - position under consideration
- Staff Association Representative: Tammy, Angela
- Social and Community Outreach: Angela, Sarah, Shelby
- Learning and Development: Elizabeth, Jameson, Tammy

Next Meeting Next meeting: Thursday, October 24, 2019 at 1:30 in PAS 2438