

## **FES COUNCIL/COMMITTEE GESSA MEMBERSHIP**

### **FES Faculty Council**

- This committee is the primary governing body in FES which means that all academic business of the Faculty moves through Council (e.g. changes to curriculum, policy and program changes, Faculty legislation, etc.).
- There are 12 seats for MES students on this committee.
- For dates, locations and agendas for Faculty Council can be found at: <http://fes.yorku.ca/gov/council>

### **Executive Committee**

- This committee discusses issues that may come to Council, either directly or through the various standing committees. This membership includes the Chair of Council, the Vice-Chair, the Dean, both Associate Deans, Graduate Program Director and the Undergraduate Program Director.
- The student seats on this committee are designated for the Chairs of each of the three FES student associations (BESSA, GESSA, and PhESSA). If the Chair's class schedule does not permit her/him to attend, s/he may designate another BESSA/GESSA/PhESSA Executive Committee member who may attend instead.
- The regular meetings of the FES Executive Committee are scheduled on Thursdays from 12:45 to 2:25 p.m. in 138 HNES, meeting dates can be found at: <http://fes.yorku.ca/gov/exec>

### **Committee of Instruction**

- All full-time and part-time faculty members belong to this committee which acts in the same fashion as a departmental meeting would in larger Faculties that have separate academic units (e.g. departments like Political Science and History in the Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies).
- This committee is advisory to the Dean on all matters pertaining to the implementation of the academic programs of the Faculty.
- One MES student is needed.
- The regular meetings of this committee have been set for the academic year on Thursdays from 12:45 to 2:25 p.m. in 142 HNES, meeting dates can be found at: <http://fes.yorku.ca/gov/cofi> There may be additional special meetings that are called but notice of these meetings is normally provided in advance.

### **MES Program and Curriculum Subcommittee**

- This committee deals with program and curriculum issues related to the MES program. This includes approving new course proposals and other academic initiatives and facilitating major exercises like the Graduate Program Review.
- There are two vacancies on this committee elected by GESSA.

### **MES/JD Program subcommittee**

- This committee deals with program issues related to the MES/JD program. This includes discussing new course proposals and other academic initiatives.
- There is one vacancy on this subcommittee to be filled by a MES/JD student.

### **Planning Programs subcommittee**

- This committee deals with program and curriculum issues related to the Planning program. This includes discussing new course proposals and other academic initiatives.
- There is one vacancy to be filled by a student member of OPPI elected by GESSA.

### **Tenure and Promotions Committee**

- This committee considers and makes recommendations on all applications for tenure and promotion by faculty members holding appointment in the Faculty of Environmental Studies, in accordance with Senate policies and procedures.

- One MES student is needed.
- It is highly recommended that this student be someone who has been at York for more than one year so that they have some perspective on the Faculty, its programs and faculty members.
- These meetings are generally ad hoc insofar as the committee meets when there is work to be done. The first meeting is generally in mid-September, with the bulk of the work being done in the month of October and early November because of the Senate deadlines for candidate file preparation and adjudication.
- All members of the committee are usually polled for their respective availability and we try very hard to work around the class schedules of our students, if possible. This is one of two Faculty committees where we require full attendance and participation for all meetings so that we can adjudicate files by the Senate deadlines.
- Files for promotion to Full Professor are done in either January or May which means there may be meetings in those months if we have Full Professor files to be prepared. The preparation for each meeting (lots of confidential reading!!) MUST be done in advance, so that the candidate files can be fully discussed and adjudicated when the committee actually gets together.

### **Faculty Appointments Advisory Committee (FAAC)**

- This is an advisory committee to the Dean and is responsible for discussing issues related to academic hiring, including the hiring requirements for new faculty members, and coordinating tenure-stream and contractually limited faculty hires.
- There is one MES seat on this committee.

### **Appeals Committee**

- This committee hears student appeals of matters related to the Faculty's academic regulations. Original petitions are initially heard at the program level and unsuccessful petitions may be heard by this committee if there are sufficient grounds for a hearing. The issues range from grade appeals, to dropping courses from one's record, to debarment from the university.
- One MES student is needed.
- These meetings are scheduled as the need arises. All members of the committee are polled for their respective availability. In the past few years, there have been very few appeals received at this level.

### **Research Committee**

- This committee recommends to Council the policies of the Faculty with respect to research issues and planning. Its primary mandate is to promote a vibrant research culture among faculty and students. One of the new responsibilities that was assumed in the last year is the adjudication of Risk Assessments and Human Participants (ethics) Reviews for FES student academic research. Please note that this function is only carried out by faculty members on the committee.
- One MES student to be elected to participate in discussion of other research issues.
- The meetings are all coordinated by the FES Research Officer, Rhoda Reyes, who can speak to the frequency of meetings as she is the one who supports this committee. She can be reached at [reyes@yorku.ca](mailto:reyes@yorku.ca). From past years, members are polled for their availabilities before meetings dates and times are set.

### **Equity Committee**

- This committee identifies and raise equity issues in the Faculty in order to promote the commitment to equity by all members of the Faculty.
- One MES student is to be elected.

### **FGS Council**

- This committee is the primary governing body in FGS which means that all academic business of the Faculty moves through Council (e.g. changes to curriculum, policy and program changes, Faculty legislation, etc.).
- The GESSA Chair sits on this committee