



Faculty of Science

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**FACULTY OF SCIENCE
FACULTY COUNCIL OF SCIENCE
MINUTES OF MEETING OF MARCH 1, 2017**

A meeting of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Science was held on Wednesday, March 1, 2017, at 1:00 p.m. in room C-2045.

FSC 2500

Present

Biochemistry

Booth, V. Mulligan, M.

Biology

Chapman, T. Staveley, B.

Chemistry

Fridgen, T. Kerton, F. Kozak, C. Rowley, C.

Computer Science

Bungay, S.

Mathematics & Statistics

Alam, J. Bihlo, A. Booth, I. Haynes, R. Loredó-Osti, J.C.
MacLachlan, S. Pike, D. Radford, C. Sullivan, S.

Physics & Physical Oceanography

Curnoe, S. Evstigneev, M. Lagowski, J. Saika-Voivod, I.

Psychology

Thorpe, C.

Dean of Science Office

Courage, M. Foss, K. Foster, A. Jackson, G. Rideout, J.
Zedel, L.

CITL

Todd, A.

Library

Ambi, Alison

Engineering

Duan, Xili

Faculty of Business

Clift, T.

FSC 2501

Regrets

Danine Farquharson

Paul Marino

FSC 2502

Adoption of Minutes

Moved: Minutes of the January 18, 2017, meeting be adopted (Sullivan/Haynes).

Carried.

FSC 2503

Business Arising

An error was noted in the December minutes – FSC 2481 A.j. The motion that was carried approving the joint major in Marine Biology was ascribed to Earth Sciences rather than Ocean Sciences.

FSC 2504

Correspondence: None

FSC 2505

Reports of Standing Committees:

A. Undergraduate Studies Committee:

Report presented by Shannon Sullivan, Chair, Undergraduate Studies Committee

Senate met yesterday, February 28, 2017, and approved all changes proposed by the Faculty of Science Faculty Council. Also, a draft revising the Faculty of Science regulations has been circulated and feedback is requested by March 17, 2017. After feedback has been reviewed, a formal draft will be circulated.

B. Graduate Studies Committee:

Report presented by J.C. LoredO-Osti, Chair, Graduate Studies Committee

a. Moved: Interdisciplinary Programs, new Graduate program proposal, PhD in Scientific Computing (LoredO-Osti/Haynes). **Carried.**

b. Department of Mathematics and Statistics, special topics course, MATH 6261, Geometric Numerical Integration, already approved by the committee and presented to Faculty Council for information only.

c. Moved: Department of Psychology, calendar changes, Psy.D. Program (LoredO-Osti/Thorpe). **Carried.**

C. Nominating Committee: None

D. Library Committee: None

FSC 2506

Reports of Chair in Teaching & Learning and Embedded Teaching Consultant

There was no report by the Chair in Teaching & Learning.

Report presented by Amy Todd, Embedded Teaching Consultant

Departments are reminded to provide nominations for upcoming awards. It is hoped that Heads can nominate at least one individual for each of the awards. The deadline for the Dean of Science Distinguished Teacher Award is Friday, March 3, 2017. The deadlines for the President's teaching awards are March 15, 16, and 17, 2017.

FSC 2507 **Reports of Delegates from Other Councils:** None

FSC 2508 **Yaffle Presentation – Jennifer Adams, Office of Public Engagement:**
Presentation was cancelled due to illness.

FSC 2509 **Report of the Dean**
Presented by Mary Courage, Interim Dean.

Tenders are due for the new core Sciences building March 2, 2017. It is hoped that costs will be in line with original estimates and that the opening date will continue to be the year 2020.

Tri-council conducted a review of financial procedures, and a large number of findings were noted. Dave Miller from RGCS and Deborah Collis from FAS met with the Dean's Office to discuss changes being required in future. There were no illegitimate uses of spending discovered but many lapses in process. Researchers will now be required to provide greater justification for many purchases. Another thing noted was that Travel Requests were not being completed and dated before travel occurred. A third problem was that some faculty were beginning to collect data before ICEHR and Animal Care approvals were in place. Financial and Administrative Services will be providing training that all staff and faculty involved in research will be expected to attend. They will provide video training as well.

We have received the expected budget cuts for the next three years. The Faculty of Science will be required to reduce its base budget by about \$544k in the 2017/18 fiscal year, by about \$360k in the 2018/19 fiscal year, and about \$392k in the 2019/20 fiscal year. Department Heads have received information about possible options and are currently discussing this within their departments. Two main options are being discussed.

FSC 2510 **Question Period**

With regards to the new core Sciences building, it was asked what changes were made to the building plans to ensure that the new tenders come in on budget. The Dean said that changes were made to the tendering process so as to open up the bidding to a wider range of applicants, allowing for more competition. There were also minor changes made to the building.

The Tri-Council review generated considerable discussion. Specific items that have been questioned were discussed, such as computers. Items that have dual purpose, for research and daily use, are the type of items being questioned. The Dean confirmed that the scrutiny is originating from the Tri-Council, not from FAS. Also, responsibility for repaying purchases that have been deemed ineligible after the transaction has occurred was mentioned. There were 80 items selected for testing during the review, and 12 of these resulted in a repayment. These were paid by FAS, but it will be the responsibility of departments to ensure purchases are eligible in future.

Regarding the budget cuts, it was asked what the two options being considered are. Option 1 is to not fill vacant faculty positions. The total number of positions that would not be filled over the three year period is approximately 10. Option 2 is to distribute the cuts to departments based on their percentage of the overall Faculty of Science budget.

FSC 2511

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:41 p.m.