



Faculty of Science

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**FACULTY OF SCIENCE
FACULTY COUNCIL OF SCIENCE
MINUTES OF MEETING OF DECEMBER 4, 2019**

A meeting of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Science was held on Wednesday, December 4, 2019, at 1:00 p.m. in room C-2045.

FSC 2720

Present

Biochemistry

R. Bertolo, J. Brunton, M. Mulligan

Biology

S. Dufour

Chemistry

S. Pansare, P. Warburton

Computer Science

S. Bungay, Y. Chen

Earth Sciences

G. Dunning, G. Layne

Mathematics & Statistics

A. Bihlo, C. Cigsar, D. Dyer, Z. Fan, A. Hatefi, R. Haynes, J. Loredó-Osti,
S. MacLachlan, A. Variyath, Y. Yilmaz

Ocean Sciences

G. Fletcher

Physics & Physical Oceanography

M. Morrow, K. Poduska

Psychology

K. Fowler, C. Thorpe

Dean of Science Office

M. Abrahams, K. Foss, G. Jackson, T. Mackenzie, L. Zedel

Registrar's Office

T. Edmunds

Marine Institute

S. Caines

Staff

C. Deacon, A. Langille, B. Power

Graduate Students

K. Hall

FSC 2721

Regrets

A. Bates, M. Berry, H. Elazab, S. Mantyka

FSC 2722

Adoption of Minutes

Moved: Minutes of the November 20, 2019, meeting be adopted (Fowler/Dyer). **Two Abstentions. Carried.**

FSC 2723

Business Arising: None

FSC 2724

Correspondence: None

FSC 2725

Reports of Standing Committees:

The Graduate Committee presented prior to the Undergraduate Committee.

A. Undergraduate Studies Committee:

Presented by Shannon Sullivan, Chair, Undergraduate Studies Committee

- a. For information only, Department of Computer Science, special topics course COMP 4820, Modern Cybersecurity & Applied Cyber Defense, approved by the committee and presented to faculty council for information only.
The Dean commented on the proposal since it indicated that instruction would be completed by a Per Course Instructor. The Department of Computer Science confirmed that this course will be taught by existing faculty.
- b. **Moved:** Department of Biochemistry, calendar proposal for new course BIOC 4231, Molecular Biology of the Bacterial-Human Interface.
(Sullivan/Mulligan). **One abstention. Carried.**
- c. Department of Biology
 - i. **Moved:** Calendar proposal for new course, BIOL 4005, Biology of Islands.
(Sullivan/Dufour). **Carried.**
The proposal indicated no additional resources were required, which includes extra teaching, Per Course Instructor, and teaching term appointments. The Department of Biology confirmed this was the case and this course will be rotated with the other extra courses.
 - ii. **Moved:** Calendar proposal for new course, BIOL 4052, Fundamentals of Plant Pathology. (Sullivan/Dufour). **Carried.**

- iii. **Moved:** Amend usage limitation on BIOL 1001 and 1002. (Sullivan/Dufour). **Carried.**
- iv. **Moved:** Amend course description – BIOL 4620. (Sullivan/Dufour). **Carried.**
- d. Department of Chemistry
 - i. **Moved:** Amend program requirements for General and Honours in Computational Chemistry. (Sullivan/Warburton). **Carried.**
 - ii. **Moved:** Amend program requirements for General and Honours in Chemistry (Biological). (Sullivan/Warburton). **Carried.**
 - iii. **Moved:** Amend program requirements for General and Honours in Chemistry. (Sullivan/Warburton). **Carried.**
- e. Department of Computer Science
 - i. **Moved:** Amend pre-requisites to COMP 3200, 3202, 3401 and 4766. (Sullivan/Bungay). **Carried.**
 - ii. **Moved:** Amend pre-requisites to COMP 2510. (Sullivan/Bungay). **Carried.**
 - iii. **Moved:** Amend pre-requisites to COMP 3100. (Sullivan/Bungay). **Carried.**
 - iv. **Moved:** Amend pre-requisites to COMP 4750. (Sullivan/Bungay). **Carried.**
 - v. **Moved:** Amend co-requisite to COMP 2006, 2007 and 2008. (Sullivan/Bungay). **Carried.**
 - vi. **Moved:** Amend course title to COMP 3200. (Sullivan/Bungay). **Carried.**
 - vii. **Moved:** Amend program requirements to Applied Mathematics and Computer Science Joint Major. (Sullivan/Bungay). **Carried.**
 - viii. **Moved:** Amend program requirements to Computer Science and Geography Joint Honours, Computer Science and Physics Joint Honours (B.Sc. Only), Computer Science and Pure Mathematics Joint Honours, and Computer Science and Statistics Joint Honours. (Sullivan/Bungay). **Carried.**
 - ix. **Moved:** Amend program requirements to Co-operative Internship in Computer Science (CICS). (Sullivan/Bungay). **Carried.**
 - x. **Moved:** Amend admission program requirements to Admission to Major Programs. (Sullivan/Bungay). **Carried.**
 - xi. **Moved:** Calendar proposal for new course, COMP 3602, Introduction to the Theory of Computation. (Sullivan/Bungay). **Carried.**
 - xii. **Moved:** Calendar proposal for new course, COMP 3600, Algorithm Design and Analysis. (Sullivan/Bungay). **Carried.**
 - xiii. **Moved:** Delete COMP 3719, 4740, 4756, 4762 and amend pre-requisites to COMP 4711, 4712, 4741, 4742, 4743 and 4750. (Sullivan/Bungay). **Carried.**
- f. **Moved:** Department of Mathematics and Statistics, amend laboratory hours to STAT 1510. (Sullivan/ Loredo-Osti). **Three opposed. Carried.**
- g. Department of Ocean Sciences
 - i. **Moved:** Amend course descriptions to OCSC 1000, 4000, 4100 and 4122 (Sullivan/Fletcher). **Two abstentions. Carried.**
OCSC 4122 is cross-listed with BIOL 4122 and this proposed amendment will not affect the description for BIOL 4122. This is precedent-setting since these cross-listed courses will have different prerequisite requirements. The discussion by the departments indicated there is no intention to remove the cross-listing designation.
 - ii. **Moved:** Amend program requirements to Minor in Sustainable Aquaculture and Fisheries Ecology, Major in Ocean Sciences, Ocean Sciences

(Environmental Systems) and Honours in Ocean Sciences. (Sullivan/Fletcher). **Carried.**

- h.** Department of Psychology
 - i. **Moved:** Amend program requirements for Major in Psychology. (Sullivan/Thorpe). **Carried.**
 - ii. **Moved:** Amend program requirements for Honours in Behavioural Neuroscience (B.Sc. Only). (Sullivan/Thorpe). **Carried.**
 - iii. **Moved:** Amend program requirements for Honours in Psychology. (Sullivan/Thorpe). **Carried.**
 - iv. **Moved:** Calendar proposal for new course, PSYC 2740, Domestic Animal Behaviour. (Sullivan/Thorpe). **One abstention. Carried.**
 - v. **Moved:** Calendar proposal for new courses, PSYC 2505, Planning for a Successful Career in Psychology I; PSYC 3505, Planning for a Successful Career in Psychology II; PSYC 4505, Planning for a Successful Career in Psychology III. (Sullivan/Thorpe). **Carried.**

B. Graduate Studies Committee:

Presented by Graham Layne, Chair, Graduate Studies Committee

- a. Moved:** Department of Mathematics and Statistics, proposal for new program, Master of Data Science (MDS), special fee proposal pending. (Layne/Loredo-Osti). **Carried.**

In section 1.5, Requirements for admission, the Dean queried that students have to complete three online non-credit propaedeutic courses before starting the program. If these are required courses, should it be a part of the program or should it be assumed the students have the required knowledge. The Department of Mathematics and Statistics is hopeful that this program will attract a wide audience and all of the students may not have a background in programming in R or Python, so this will essentially be a review for students and an opportunity for them to self-learn. The program is already packed with courses and it is felt that, if another course is added, it will take longer to complete than one year, and the timeline is an important part of the program.

In section 4, Resource Implications, the proposal references office space for course-based graduate students. Currently, the Department of Mathematics and Statistics is struggling with space for its current thesis students, and the Dean of Science cannot commit to providing space for this group of students. The Head of the department will remove the space commitment from the proposal and the Department of Mathematics and Statistics will attempt to find one common space for the students of this new program. Also in the resource implication section of the proposal, it indicates that there will be a proposal written to request funding for infrastructure needed for the program. The Dean queried that if we do not have appropriate infrastructure, should the program proceed. The Department of Mathematics and Statistics will remove this aspect of the proposal.

In section 4.2, Additional teaching resources required, it references providing teaching credit to faculty members advising or supervising MDS students. The Dean pointed out that this is a part of the Departmental Teaching

Equivalency document and it cannot be included in this proposal. This reference will be removed from the proposal.

The Special Fee proposal is pending; this program will not cost the Faculty of Science additional money since fees generated will sustain the program.

The program will be administered through the Dean of Science Office Interdisciplinary Programs and the Dean confirmed that there is capacity to do so.

C. Nominating Committee: None

D. Library Committee: None

FSC 2726 Report of the Dean

Presented by Mark Abrahams, Dean

1. Teaching equivalency committee has now met. My understanding is the meetings have been productive and committee members are optimistic they will be able to make a recommendation.
2. I have had further meetings with academic departments and I am appreciative of the faculty and staff for the input that they have provided. My last scheduled meeting is with Biology next week, but as I told all of you, I am more than happy to come back and meet again.
3. I congratulate those faculty who have retired or left MUN this past year. I still have not yet heard back on the outcome of the faculty complement meeting but do hope that most of these positions will be replaced. On a related note, Dr. Margaret Brosnan from Biochemistry will be retiring on December 31 after 48 years of service. The Biochemistry Department will be hosting a retirement celebration in her honour on Friday, January 10 at 3 pm in the Feltham Room (SN4015).
4. I am continuing to work with my fellow deans on drafting a submission to the Postsecondary Education Review Commission and am planning on having this completed by the end of the month.
5. As this is our last meeting of 2019, I wish you all a very happy Holiday season and all the best in the New Year.

FSC 2727 Question Period

FSC 2728 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.