



Faculty of Science

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**FACULTY OF SCIENCE
FACULTY COUNCIL OF SCIENCE
MINUTES OF MEETING OF JUNE 17, 2020**

A meeting of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Science was held on Wednesday, June 17, 2020, at 1:00 p.m. using Webex.

FSC 2756 Present

Biochemistry

M. Berry, R. Bertolo, V. Booth, S. Harding

Biology

T. Chapman, S. Dufour, E. Edinger, Y. Wiersma

Chemistry

E. Merschrod

Computer Science

E. Brown, Y. Chen, L. Peña-Castillo

Earth Sciences

G. Dunning, G. Layne

Marine Institute

Mathematics & Statistics

I. Booth, R. Haynes, T. Sheel, S. Sullivan, A. Variyath

Ocean Sciences

Physics & Physical Oceanography

S. Curnoe, J. Munroe

Psychology

K. Fowler, A. Swift-Gallant, C. Thorpe, C. Walsh

Dean of Science Office

S. Bungay, K. Foss, T. Fridgen, G. Jackson, G. Kenny, T. Mackenzie, R. Newhook, L. Zedel

Staff

M. Bromerek, J. Burke, C. Hyde, A. Langille, S. Malek, J. Pittman, B. Power, T. Stuckless, E. Whelan

Graduate Students

A. Alfosool

Guests

C. Andersen, P. Banahene, N. Kuzmochka

FSC 2757

Regrets

G. Fletcher

FSC 2758

Adoption of Minutes

Moved: Minutes of the meeting of May 20, 2020, meeting be adopted (Berry/Merschrod).
Carried.

FSC 2759

Business Arising: None

FSC 2760

Correspondence: Draft Strategic Framework for Indigenization 2020-2025. Presentation by Catharyn Andersen, special advisor on Indigenous affairs. C. Andersen briefly went through the report and noted that it is important for those reading the report to be familiar with the language provided in the glossary before reading the document. Consultations such as this one are important for the entire university community. Adding indigenous content and indigenization are two different things. It is important not to work at indigenization of courses on your own, but seek out supports and consult with those who have those skills and knowledge.

FSC 2761

Reports of Standing Committees:

A. Undergraduate Studies Committee: None

B. Graduate Studies Committee

Presented by Graham Layne, Chair, Graduate Studies Committee.

a. Department of Computer Science, Request for Approval of a Graduate Course: COMP 6934, Introduction to Data Visualization (Layne/Munroe).
Carried.

b. Department of Computer Science, Special Topics Course, COMP 6980, Special Topics in Artificial Intelligence, approved by the committee and presented to Faculty Council for information only.

- c. Department of Computer Science, Special Topics Course, COMP 691A/B, Special Research Project, approved by the committee and presented to Faculty Council for information only.
- d. Department of Physics and Physical Oceanography, Special Topics Course, PHYS 6061, Applications of Classical and Quantum Formalisms in Finance and Other Social Sciences, approved by the committee and presented to Faculty Council for information only.

C. Nominating Committee: None

D. Library Committee: None

FSC 2762 Report of the Dean

Presented by Travis Fridgen, Acting Dean

1. Faculty Hires

The Acting Dean has made both a verbal and written request to the Vice-President (Academic) to continue renewing faculty and advised that departments are willing to hold fully remote interviews from start to finish. The VPA is well aware of the needs of the faculty and I am confident that we will be able to continue recruiting for absolutely necessary positions.

2. Course Equivalencies

The Acting Dean reminded everyone to please look at the draft interim report on equivalencies on D2L and participate in the survey which will be available until June 22, 2020.

3. Beyond Level 4 Access to Campus

It is understood that we are currently experiencing Level 3, and beyond, access to campus. Vice-Presidents' Council has decided to allow faculty members access to the campus building by building. As of today, the Dean's Office has received less than 20 requests by faculty to access their offices and labs, and many of these already had access at level 4 or 5. At a meeting of the Heads yesterday, it was decided that the Acting Dean would request that VPC look at allowing graduate students and postdoctoral fellows access to campus sooner. Receipt of the memo was acknowledged by the VPA and I am sure it will be given full consideration by VPC.

FSC 2763 Question Period

The committee working on the course equivalencies had not considered a window with which supervisory credits could be used. The two-year window within which the credits could be used meant to limit long term banking of supervisory credits. This will be resolved once the committee completes its work.

The Fall 2020 semester will be a strictly remote-only semester, but there will probably be an opportunity for those Honours students who have to be on campus to be given that permission. The communication to students about this must be very clear and the university has to focus on getting that message out to everyone.

Laboratory instruction is a departmental issue, and, as such, departments have the responsibility to work out the remote delivery of labs. There will be specific challenges for specific labs, such as liability issues or first aid requirements. The Acting Dean will communicate to everyone any information he receives regarding these issues.

FSC 2764

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:54 p.m.