



Faculty of Science

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**FACULTY OF SCIENCE
FACULTY COUNCIL OF SCIENCE
Minutes of Meeting of October 20, 2021**

A meeting of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Science was held on Wednesday, October 20, 2021, at 1:00 p.m. using Webex.

FSC 2868

Present

Biochemistry

M. Berry, D. Hunt, M. Longjohn, S. Mayengbam, M. Mulligan

Biology

E. Edinger, E. Vander Wal, Y. Wiersma

Chemistry

C. Bottaro, H. Grover, M. Katz, F. Kerton, C. Kozak, S. Pansare, D. Stirling

Computer Science

S. Bungay, C. Dohey, M. Emshey, C. Hyde, O. Meruvia-Pastor

Earth Sciences

J. Alsafwani, G. Dunning, A. Langille, G. Layne, M. Miskell

Economics

K. Chu

Mathematics & Statistics

C. Evans, D. Harvey, R. Haynes, J.C. Loredano-Osti, D. Pike, T. Sheel, M. Strong, S. Sullivan, H. Usefi, A. Variyath

Ocean Sciences

D. Nichols, C. Parrish

Physics & Physical Oceanography

V. Booth, S. Curnoe, E. Demirov, M. Geng, E. Hayden, M. Morrow, J. Munroe, I. Saika-Voivod, A. Yethiraj, L. Zedel

Psychology

J. Lamarre, C. Thorpe, C. Walsh

Dean of Science Office

N. Bishop, J. Blundell, S. Dufour, K. Foss, T. Fridgen, G. Jackson, J. Kavanagh, G. Kenny, T. Mackenzie, V. MacNab, R. Newhook,

Guests:

A. Farrell

Student Representatives:

A. Alfosool, A. Meyer

FSC 2869

Regrets:

D. Boyce, L. Dunn, S. MacLachlan, A. Malcolm, S. Mantyka, K. Poduska, N. Ryan, R. Sipler, N. Vanasse, J. Whalen.

FSC 2870

Adoption of Minutes

Moved: Minutes of the meeting of September 15, 2021, be adopted. (Sullivan/Berry)
Carried

FSC 2871

Business Arising: None

FSC 2872

Committees of Science Faculty Council – Matrix

Suzanne Dufour: Composition of the committees circulated with agenda.
(Dufour/Sullivan) **Carried**

Updates on the staff, graduate and undergraduate representatives to FSFC is being worked on will be presented at the next meeting of Faculty Council.

FSC 2873

Research Data Management – Presentation by Alison Farrell, Research Data Management and Public Services Librarian, Health Sciences Library

Correction to the agenda: Alison Farrell presented, not Alison Randell. Ms. Farrell gave a very brief overview of research data management at Memorial. Tri-council agencies will require institutional strategies on RDM by March 1, 2023, and will require data management plans for some specific grant applications by Spring 2022. The goal is to ensure proper processes are in place and data is stored appropriately.

FSC 2874

Communities of Practice

An email will be coming soon that will introduce communities of practice on approaches with learners. One will be on indigenization and decolonization, and another will be on laboratory instruction.

FSC 2875

Research Week Activities

The Faculty of Science will have 3MT (Three Minute Thesis) for graduate students on Monday, Nov. 22, and this will be in person this year. The Faculty of Science will be participating in the research forum by the VPR targeted around Mental Health research. On Wednesday, November 24, the Faculty of Science will host an On The Menu on Mitacs.

The Mitacs group has been invited, as well as RGCS and the Grants Facilitation team from the Dean of Science Office to answer questions. There will also be a faculty-wide social, the details of which are being finalised.

FSC 2876 **Correspondence:** None

FSC 2877 **Reports of Standing Committees:**

A. Undergraduate Studies Committee:

Presented by Shannon Sullivan, Chair, Undergraduate Studies Committee:

a. Department of Physics and Physical Oceanography, calendar change to amend pre-requisites for PHYS 1021 (Sullivan/Zedel) **Carried**

B. Graduate Studies Committee:

a. Department of Computer Science, proposal for a new course-based M.Sc. route (Layne/Sheel) **Carried** with 3 abstentions (2 plus James Munroe)

C. Library Committee:

FSC 2878 **Reports of Delegates from Other Councils:** None

FSC 2879 **Report of the Dean**

Presented by Dr. Travis Fridgen, Acting Dean

1. Dean's Award Ceremony

Last night we hosted the Dean's Awards ceremony in the Whale Pavilion. I think it was a great success, and it was really nice to see so many students again in one place. It was live streamed through Facebook live and the recording is on the Faculty of Science webpage. I think the ceremony went off very well thanks to everyone in the Dean of Science office, but especially Melanie Fitzpatrick and Kelly Foss who took the lead on organizing the entire evening.

2. Special Meetings of Faculty Council

We will probably be calling two special meetings of faculty council. One to approve a pair of joint programs in Computer Science and Computer Engineering and a second to have the VPA and Provost, Dr. Florentine Strzelczyk, come and address council.

3. Strategic Planning

In order to begin the consultation process, I have forwarded to departments a draft strategic plan, as well as a Powerpoint slide, that was presented at a strategic planning retreat with Heads and Deputy Heads from each department. Another important document to look at is the University's strategic plan. I look forward to discussing ideas with faculty and staff in each of the departments over the next month or so. As we discuss and eventually propose a forward-thinking strategic plan, I would like us all to keep open minds so we don't limit ourselves to the way we have approached education and programming in the past.

4. A Whale of a Time

You may have seen on social media that the Faculty of Science and Landwash Brewery are collaborating on a special product. The brew is a Dry Hopped Saison that is hopped

with Saaz and an Experimental Hop, HC 586. This project is aimed at bringing Science and Science is Everything to the forefront and will be called Whale of a Time. There should be more social media communications soon, with the label being announced and canning occurring mid-November. Hopefully this will coincide with some of our activities that are being planned for research week.

5. Winter Semester

As you have undoubtedly seen, the University has announced that the Winter Semester will be back to more normal operations. This simply means that there will be no restrictions on class sizes and that we go back to two broad modes of instruction, in-person and online. That means that we will have face-to-face contact time with our students. I would like to encourage people to evolve their modes of teaching by using techniques that worked during the pandemic. One mode of instruction is a blended model that has been around for decades, where content is delivered to students through short recordings or readings and then class time is used to work with the content, i.e. problem solving and class discussions. I really urge people to not fall back to simply lecturing to deliver content to our students.

FSC 2880

Question Period

There was discussion about the challenges experienced by researchers who were scheduled to move to the CSF. If, as a result of the commissioning process of CSF, researchers are experiencing delays that impact research and graduate student research, the Acting Dean encourages them to speak with their department Head about the specifics of those delays. With regard to space in the Science and Chemistry/Physics buildings, HSS departments will move into the Chemistry/Physics building permanently. The timing for these moves is unknown, but the renovation tenders for Chemistry/Physics have been done.

FSC 2881

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:01 p.m.