



Faculty of Science

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**FACULTY OF SCIENCE
FACULTY COUNCIL OF SCIENCE
Minutes of Meeting of March 17, 2021**

A meeting of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Science was held on Wednesday, March 17, 2021, at 1:00 p.m. using Webex.

FSC 2824

Present

Biochemistry

M. Berry, R. Bertolo, V. Booth, J. Brunton, D. Hunt, M. Mulligan

Biology

J. Burke, T. Chapman, S. Dufour, E. Edinger

Chemistry

C. Bottaro, H. Grover, M. Katz, S. Pansare, B. Power

Computer Science

Y. Chen, C. Hyde

Earth Sciences

P. Belley, G. Dunning, G. Layne, S. Strowbridge

Mathematics & Statistics

I. Booth, R. Haynes, J.C. Loredó-Osti, S. Mantyka, D. Pike, T. Sheel, T. Stuckless, S. Sullivan, H. Usefi

Ocean Sciences

A. Mercier, C. Parrish

Physics & Physical Oceanography

C. Deacon, E. Demirov, M. Evstigneev, E. Hayden, M. Morrow, J. Pittman, K. Poduska

Psychology

D. Hallett, A. Swift-Gallant, C. Thorpe, C. Walsh

Dean of Science Office

D. Bennett, J. Blundell, S. Bungay, K. Foss, T. Fridgen, G. Jackson, G. Kenny, T. Mackenzie, R. Newhook

Engineering and Applied Science:

X. Duan

FSC 2825

Regrets:

K. Hadden, F. Kerton, D. McIlroy, J. Rash, N. Ryan

FSC 2826

Adoption of Minutes

Moved: Minutes of the meeting of January 20, 2021, will be voted on in April.

FSC 2827

Business Arising: None

FSC 2828

Correspondence: None

FSC 2829

Reports of Standing Committees:

A. Undergraduate Studies Committee:

Presented by Shannon Sullivan, Chair, Undergraduate Studies Committee

a. Department of Biology, proposal to amend BIOL 4710 and cross-list with OCSC 4500 (changed number from that initially proposed by the department) (Sullivan/Mercier) **Carried.**

b. Department of Ocean Sciences, proposal to amend pre-requisites for OCSC, 3002, 3600 and 4200 (Sullivan/Mercier) **Carried.**

B. Graduate Studies Committee: No business.

C. Library Committee: No business.

FSC 2830

Reports of Delegates from Other Councils: None

FSC 2831

Report of the Dean

Presented by Travis Fridgen, Acting Dean

1. Congratulations

Congratulations to Dr. Chris Kozak in the Department of Chemistry for leading the successful CFI proposal for \$6,773,058 for the Atlantic Canada Environmental and Sustainable Chemistry Centre (ACESCentre), which will be located in the Core Science Facility.

Dr. Uta Passow of the Department of Ocean Sciences was also successful in \$3.5 M project in collaboration with Dalhousie to install an array of biogeochemical-Argo floats.

James LeBlanc of the Department of Physics and Physical Oceanography was also successful in a collaboration led by McMaster for \$14.2M to Build a Future for Canadian Neutron Scattering.

Successful JELF applications were also announced earlier for:

- Dr. Cheema in Biochemistry, a collaboration for a Supercritical extraction system to develop innovative bioproducts from fisher and forestry biomass residues;
- Dr. Malcolm from Earth Sciences, a collaboration for Advanced Measurement and Characterization for Microstructures and Microsystems Research;
- Dr. Katz of Chemistry, Breaking Through to a Cleaner Tomorrow;

- Drs. Hargan and Lang of Biology, Application of molecular biomarkers and genomics to track environmental change.

Drs. Jamieson and Bihlo of Earth Sciences and Mathematics and Statistics, respectively, have been renewed for a second term as CRC Chairs.

2. **EDI Discussion – special meeting**

I have asked Dr. Jennifer Simpson, currently the Dean of HSS, to chair our next discussion on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion which is slated for a special meeting of Faculty Council on Monday, May 3 from 10-12 pm.

3. **New Provost announcement**

The Board of Regents has approved the appointment of Dr. Florentine Strzelczyk as Provost and Vice-President (Academic) and Pro Vice-Chancellor, effective August 16, 2021.

FSC 2832

Question Period

The University is currently operating under Level Yellow, or low, on MUN's COVID-19 Impact Scale. For access to campus, faculty and staff will have to request approval from their supervisor and fill out the Memorial University Activity Form for campus access. The Dean's Office will clarify the process and communicate this information via email to the departments.

There are currently no updates on the Pas/Fal option for the Winter 2021 semester. The President was clear at student town hall that this option would not be instituted as it was in the Winter 2020 semester. The Dean's Office is waiting on clarification from the Registrar's Office.

The Acting Dean clarified that the Faculty of Science would not require staff to return to campus until after the current term is finished for instructors, at least.

Memorial has seen an increase of 18% in the numbers of applications for admission. It is unclear how Faculties will deal with the increase in class sizes.

There were concerns expressed about the urgency of the University communicating a decision for students to return to campus in Fall 2021. It is critical that labs be offered in-person, as much as is possible. The hope is that in-person classes and field courses will be held, also.

FSC 2833

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.