



Faculty of Science

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**FACULTY OF SCIENCE
FACULTY COUNCIL OF SCIENCE
Minutes of Meeting of February 16, 2022**

A meeting of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Science was held on Wednesday, February 16, 2022, at 1:00 p.m. using Webex.

FSC 2917

Present

Biochemistry

M. Berry, J. Brunton, M. Longjohn, S. Mayengbam

Biology

A. Chaulk, Y. Wiersma

Chemistry

C. Bottaro, H. Grover, M. Katz, F. Kerton, C. Kozak, S. Pansare, H. Therien-Aubin

Computer Science

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

Earth Sciences

G. Dunning, D. Guzzwell, A. Langille, G. Layne, P. Morrill, K. Welford

Mathematics & Statistics

I. Booth, C. Evans, D. Harvey, R. Haynes, J.C. Loredó-Osti, S. MacLachlan, E. Martínez-Pedroza, T. Stuckless, S. Sullivan, H. Usefi, Y. Yilmaz-Cigsar

Ocean Sciences

I. Fleming, E. Ignatz, D. Nichols, C. Parrish, J. Santander,

Physics & Physical Oceanography

D. Coombs, E. Demirov, R. Goulding, E. Hayden, M. Morrow, L. Zedel

Psychology

A. Anand, F. Bambico, C. Fitzpatrick, D. Hallett, J. LaMarre, C. Quinn-Nilas, C. Thorpe, C. Walsh

Dean of Science Office

S. Dufour, T. Edmunds, M. Fitzpatrick, K. Foss, T. Fridgen, L. Frizzell, G. Jackson, J. Kavanagh, G. Kenny, P. MacCallum, T. Mackenzie, J. Major, R. Newhook, J. Whalen

Student Representatives:

T. Durgut, W. Kinden, A. Meyer,

- FSC 2918 Regrets:**
M. Abrahams, D. Boyce, D. McIlroy, M. Miskell, K. Poduska, N. Ryan, T. Sheel, D. Smith, N. Vanasse
- FSC 2919 Adoption of Minutes**
Moved: Minutes of the meeting of January 19, 2022, be adopted. (Sullivan/Yilmaz-Cigsar)
Carried.
- FSC 2920 Business Arising:**
- FSC 2921 Correspondence:** None
- FSC 2922 Reports of Standing Committees:**
- A. Undergraduate Studies Committee:**
Presented by Shannon Sullivan, Chair, Undergraduate Studies Committee:
- a.** Department of Chemistry, proposal to amend pre-requisites and/or co-requisites for CHEM 2400, Introductory Organic Chemistry I, and CHEM 2401, Introductory Organic Chemistry II (Sullivan/Pansare) **Carried**
- 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 6935, Computer Vision (Layne/Bungay) **Carried**
 - b.** Department of Computer Science, Request for Approval of a Graduate Course, COMP 7000, Masters Project II (Layne/Bungay) **Carried**
- C. Library Committee:** None.
- FSC 2923 Reports of Delegates from Other Councils:** None
- FSC 2924 Report of the Dean:** None
- FSC 2925 Question Period**
There was some discussion about the Faculty of Science Academic Program Officer position that was advertised recently. The person hired will work on prescreening applications, and providing the usual academic service similar to other APOs for the Master of Data Science and the interdisciplinary graduate programs. Once the MDSc program is up and running, the hired person will offer support to the departments.

There has been no communication from the President regarding the recent call for funding initiatives.

The Faculty has been working with The Blundon Centre to offer low density settings for those students who have requested accommodations for this semester. For situations where students cannot come to campus, ProctorU will be used. Dr. Dufour has been working to find places for immunocompromised students to write exams so that they are safe, and she will continue to work to resolve any issues around this question.

R. Haynes expressed concern that the facilitation of online exam invigilation has not been dealt with well by the university, and he feels there have been few supports for departments who are dealing directly with the students. Specifically, he feels the University has had two years to put together a plan and no one's bothered to do it, and he suggested that departments have been left to cobble together solutions on their own and that is not good enough and it is not practical.

Students who indicate to their instructor that they need an accommodation because of either being immunocompromised or living with someone who is immunocompromised do not have to provide documentation to that effect. Instructors can insist that they write the exam in person, and then the student can request a deferred exam. This is the accommodation.

If a student misses tests or has not completed assignments, instructors can ask for documentation in the form of a doctor's note. However, if the student has COVID, documentation is not provided for that 14 day period of isolation. For any other illness, in principle, after five days instructors can ask for a note.

Concerns were expressed about the lack of clear communication from the PMO regarding deficiencies in the new Core Science Facility, and how and when these significant deficiencies will be addressed. Departments are being asked to identify deficiencies and provide this information to the PMO, and this has been done multiple times since the move to the building.

A reminder to everyone of the upcoming SEA conference. This will be a three day, in person conference. Please encourage your students to sign up and faculty should consider participating as well. Details will be posted on the website.

Our next On the Menu is Wednesday, March 23, and the topic is "How do I partner with industry". The Science Scoop will have more information.

FSC 2926

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:34 p.m.