



## Faculty of Science

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# FACULTY OF SCIENCE FACULTY COUNCIL OF SCIENCE Minutes of Meeting of October 18, 2023

A meeting of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Science was held on Wednesday, October 18, 2023, at 1:00 p.m. using a hybrid model of WebEx and in-person (C-2045).

## FSC 3029 Present

### Biochemistry

M. Berry, R. Bertolo,

### Biology

A. Chaulk, E. Edinger, D. Harvey, J. Purchase, M. Rise, Y. Wiersma

### Business Administration

M. Eghbali-Zarch

### Chemistry

H. Grover, F. Kerton, C. Kozak, S. Pansare, N. Ryan, S. Smith, T. Stockmann

### Computer Science

S. Bungay, A. Fiech, C. Hyde, K Liu

### Earth Sciences

A. Langille, K. Welford

### Economics

K. Chu

### Mathematics & Statistics

J. Alam, I. Booth, R. Haynes, J.C. Loredano-Osti, T. Sheel, T. Stuckless, S. Sullivan

### Ocean Sciences

I. Fleming, P. Gagnon, D. Inkpen, C. Parrish, M. Rise, J. Wroblewski

### Physics & Physical Oceanography

D. Coombs, E. Hayden, H. Neilson, I. Saika-Voivod, L. Zedel

**Psychology**

S. Blandford, K. Hourihan, C. Thorpe,

**Dean of Science Office**

J. Blundell, C. Hussey, S. Dufour, M. Fitzpatrick, T. Fridgen, T. Mackenzie, R. Newhook, R. Temple

**Student Representatives**

S. Akter, H. Butt, S. Duglas, J. Dwyer, J. Lamarre, A. Ullah, N. Vadood

**Guests**

Dr. Lee Ann McKivor,  
Dr. Svetlana Barkanova

- FSC 3030**      **Adoption of Minutes**  
**Moved:** Minutes of the meeting of September 20, 2023, be adopted. (Sullivan/Loredo-Osti) **Carried.**
- FSC 3031**      **Business Arising:** No Business
- FSC 3032**      **Correspondence:** No Report
- FSC 3033**      Benefits of Senate involvement and of how faculty members can get involved:  
Presented by Dr. Lee Ann McKivor, University Registrar and Interim Secretary of Senate
- Dr. McKivor shared information about senate and its role at Memorial. On Senate, there are 9 seats currently vacant. If you are interested in becoming involved with Senate, please email [senate@mun.ca](mailto:senate@mun.ca). Responsibilities of Senate committees include (but are not limited to): Curriculum and Academic Policy matters, Convocation, and Academic Governance; through their work, these committees provide input and make recommendations to the Board of Regents. (.pdf of presentation attached)
- FSC 3034**      **NSERC CISE:** Dr. Svetlana Barkanova, NSERC Chair for Inclusion in Science and Engineering (Atlantic)
- This program builds on the NSERC Women in Science and Engineering (WISE) program that supports 5 chairs in 5 regions of Canada. Through the new CISE (Chair for Inclusion in Science and Engineering) program, Atlantic Canada has the first chair through a 2-year pilot program. This will support underrepresented groups across the region, including but not limited to women, Indigenous peoples, and persons with disabilities, racialized groups, and members of LGBTQ2+

communities. For more information or questions, contact Dr. Barkanova at [sbarkanova@grenfell.mun.ca](mailto:sbarkanova@grenfell.mun.ca)

There are upcoming summer projects including summer camps and the total solar eclipse, which will be visible from several parts of our province on April 8, 2024.

### **FSC 3035 Reports of Standing Committees:**

#### **A. Undergraduate Students Committee:**

Presented by Shannon Sullivan, Chair, Undergraduate Students Committee

a. Department of Mathematics and Statistics - Calendar Change, Amend Course – MATH 2000, (Sullivan/Booth) **Carried.**

b. Department of Chemistry - Special Topics course CHEM 4391, Approved by FOSCUGS and presented to Faculty Council for information only.

c. Department of Biochemistry - Calendar Changes BIOC 4242 Special Topics in Nutrition –HUBI 4700 Field Stud Nutr Health, (Sullivan/Bertolo) **Carried.**

d. Department of Biochemistry – Calendar Changes – Human Biosciences 4701 Culture, Food and Health -HUBI 4701 Culture Food Health, (Sullivan/Bertolo) **Carried.**

**B. Graduate Students Committee: No Business**

**C. Library Committee: No Business**

### **FSC 3036 Committee Matrix:**

Presented by Suzanne Dufour, Associate Dean (Undergraduate and Administration):

The Committee Matrix is updated and posted on-line ([Committees | Faculty of Science | Memorial University of Newfoundland \(mun.ca\)](#)). (Dufour/Sullivan) **Carried.**

### **FSC 3037 Report of Dean:**

#### **Carbon Capture Utilization and Storage**

Yesterday the Premier announced the carbon capture, utilization, and storage challenge with up to \$6M in funding for modelling, lab work, and engineering related to getting to net zero carbon emissions by 2060. \$3M is to support research and development to advance CCUS and \$3M to support studies of the feasibility of NL's offshore to store locally and externally-produced carbon dioxide. Proposals must be joint between industry and academia to promote cooperation and there needs to be at least a 50% match for funding of projects.

#### **Policy on Research Involving Indigenous Groups**

A draft of Memorial's revised Research Involving Indigenous Groups policy is available for review and to provide feedback from the university community.

Major revisions include

- alignment with the Tri-Council Policy on ethical conduct for research involving humans
- Clarifying the policy's principle and scope, the definition of Indigenous research, and a change in the title from Research Impacting Indigenous Groups.
- Replacing the term 'agreement in principle' to 'evidence of community engagement' to better reflect the relationship building intent of the policy.
- Emphasizing the importance of engagement with Indigenous communities during the concept development phase of the project
- Removing complexities and barriers

Feedback on the draft policy should be sent via email to the policy office by December 31. Would it be useful for the FoS to hold a meeting to discuss the draft policy? Maybe a special Faculty Council meeting with Dr. Adjei?

### **Questions Raised During Last Question Period**

**Terra Nova Young Innovator Award:** Unbiased Data is a requirement of the granting agency, not the Faculty of Science or the VPR.

**Student Travel:** We have an amount of funding for student conferences that is obviously limited, and therefore, we need to distribute the funding among our undergraduate and graduate students who are presenting at conferences. The need to present at conferences is so that PIs can also contribute travel funding.

**USRA/SURA applications:** We have a finite number of USRA/SURA awards that are provided to students. Students can take their USRA awards wherever they like (i.e. medicine), and for SURAs, the award can be taken up with any supervisor in the FoS. We have been basing these awards on grades. It has always been that students from every department get awards and the numbers do not deviate that much from numbers of applications and numbers of majors. There was a concern as to whether EDI was considered when solely using grades to adjudicate these awards. I presume that would be for students who need to work etc. to pay for school etc.. Suzanne is looking into ways to try to account for that including asking students for a statement and to keep a seat or award for students who meet the requirements and who have special circumstances.

**Teaching retreat funding:** I believe that question was answered. The teaching retreat was very well attended, the presentations were on point and very interesting and the food, based a new partnership between MUN catering and an Indigenous chef, was delicious.

## **FSC 3038**

### **Research Week**

Presented by Jacqueline Blundell, Associate Dean of Graduate and Research

Research week is November 20-24. The Faculty of Science will be hosting 3MT (Three Minute Thesis) for graduate students on November 21st. If the departments

have any initiatives for Research week, please contact [science@mun.ca](mailto:science@mun.ca). During Research Week there will be a special session called Research Exchange, which is an update on the types of grants that Faculty of Science have applied for and have been successful in obtaining. Whale of a Time will be held on November 24 from 5:00 – 7:00 pm in the Whale Atrium in the Core Science Building. Please RSVP your attendance to [science@mun.ca](mailto:science@mun.ca).

**FSC 3039 Question Period:**

Ron Haynes asked to provide any information about a new computer machine room at OFI at Memorial, including the justification for this space. Travis Fridgen couldn't provide any information on this and will look into it.

**FSC 3040 Adjournment:**  
Meeting adjourned at 2:00pm