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**FACULTY OF SCIENCE**
**FACULTY COUNCIL OF SCIENCE**
**Minutes of Meeting of May 20, 2026**

A meeting of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Science was held on Wednesday, May 20, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. using a hybrid model of WebEx and in-person (A-1046).

**FSC 3166 Present**

**Biology**
D. Bignell, K. Tahlan

**Human Biosciences**
M. Berry, S. Harding, S. Mayengbam

**Chemistry**
C. Bottaro, L. Cahill, H. Grover, E. Merschrod, J. Stockmann

**Computer Science**
S. Bungay, J. Henderson, C. Hyde, T. Tricco

**Earth Sciences**
P. Morrill

**Mathematics & Statistics**
T. Baird, I. Booth, C. Cigsar, R. Haynes, K. Nirmalkanna

**Ocean Sciences**
D. Boyce, P. Gagnon, J. Wroblweski

**Physics & Physical Oceanography**
D. Coombs, E. Hayden, H. Neilson, K. Poduska, L. Zedel

**Psychology**
S. Blandford,D. Hallett, K. Hourihan, C. Sullivan, A. Swift-Gallant, C. Thorpe, C. Walsh

**Dean of Science Office**
D. Bennett, J. Blundell, J. Bowering, J. Ceha, M. Fitzpatrick, L. Frizzell, S. Garasym, C. Hussey, P. MacCallum, J. Kavanagh, R. Newhook

**Student Representatives**
C. Cruz, M. LaSaga, M. Kocela, L. Sacrey

**Other Departments**

B. Misiuk

**FSC 3167 Approval of the Agenda**

**Moved:** Approved. (*Berry, Bungay*) **Carried**

**FSC 3168 Adoption of the Minutes of February 25, 2026**

**Moved:** Approved.

The motion was carried with the following minor amendments:

- Addition of M. Hatcher
- Removal of R. Newhook
- Amendment to section FSC 3162 (A.b.) the word "offered" to "approved"
- Amendment to section FSC 3164 changed "15 years" to "17 years"

(*R. Haynes, M. Berry)* **Carried.**

**FSC 3169 Business Arising from Faculty Council:** No business arising.

**FSC 3170 Reports of Standing Committees**:

**A. Undergraduate Studies Committee**:

J. Blundell, Associate Dean (Research and Graduate) presented the undergraduate calendar changes

a) Department of Earth Sciences; Calendar Changes, Amended Course, EASC 2917 *Gems: The Science and Politics,*

(*S. Harding, R. Haynes)* **Carried.**

b) Department of Ocean Science; Calendar Changes, Amended Course, Ocean Science and Marine Biology admission requirements,

Vote: 1 Abstention
(*S. Bungay, S. Harding)* **Carried.**

c) Faculty of Science; Calendar Changes, Dietetics Calendar Change

*(S. Harding, M. Berry)* **Carried.**

d) Faculty of Science; Calendar Changes, New Course Approval, Science 2155 *Indigenous Astronomies and Worldviews,*
*Note: a discussion happened around the science courses*

*(L. Zedel, J. Stockmann)* **Carried.**

e) Faculty of Science; Calendar Changes, New Course Approval, Science 3155 *Outer Space and Society,*

*(M. Berry, K. Hanorhan)* **Carried.**

**B. Graduate Studies Committee:**

T. Tricco, Faculty of Science Graduate Committee member, presented the Graduate Studies calendar changes.

a) Master of Data Science; Proposed Changes to Degree of Master of Data Science,
*(T. Tricco, C. Cigsar)* **Carried.**

**C. Library Committee:** No business

**FSC 3171 Dean's Report**

In the Dean's absence, J. Blundell, Associate Dean (Research and Graduate), chaired the Faculty of Science Faculty Council meeting.

J. Blundell thanked all those who contributed to supporting students at this year's SEA Conference, which featured 167 student presentations across undergraduate, graduate, and postdoctoral levels, as well as 53 awards.

A survey on research supports within the Faculty of Science will be distributed by email on May 20 and will remain open for two weeks. The survey will take approximately 3–5 minutes to complete and will assist the grants team in providing improved information and support moving forward.

J. Blundell reminded all faculty members to be considerate of Faculty of Science grant deadlines, which are established to ensure sufficient time for thorough review of applications.

The NSERC Discovery Grant deadline is August 4. The Grants team will host information sessions in mid-to-late June and again in late August to early September. Additional details will be shared via upcoming notifications.

**FSC 3172 Questions**

A request to include a discussion on Indigenous Science as an agenda item at the next Faculty of Science Faculty Council meeting.

An additional request was made to add an item to the next Faculty Council agenda, asking the Faculty of Science Undergraduate Studies Committee to consider whether General Science courses should be recognized as a subject area.

A question was raised about whether there had been a budget update following the release of the government budget. The Associate Dean indicated that, to her knowledge, there had been no update and advised contacting the Dean for further information.

**FSC 3173 Adjournment:**

Meeting adjourned at 1. 40 p.m.