FACULTY OF SCIENCE
FACULTY COUNCIL OF SCIENCE
MINUTES OF MEETING OF FEBRUARY 20, 2013

A meeting of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Science was held on Wednesday, February 20, 2013, at 1:00 p.m. in room C-2045.

FSC 2158 Present
Biochemistry
Mulligan, M

Chemistry
Merschrod, E. Pickup, P.

Computer Science
Bungay, S. Kolokolova, A. Yu, G.

Earth Sciences
Hanchar, J.

Mathematics & Statistics
Loredo-Osti, J.C. Radford, C. Sullivan, S. Haynes, R.

Ocean Sciences
Fletcher, G.

Psychology
Malsbury, C.

Dean of Science Office
Abrahams, M. Foss, K. Foster, A. Hopkins, J. Rideout, J.

Economics
Waples, M.J.

Geography
Catto, N.

DELTs
Hickey, R.
Library  
Alcock, E.

Engineering  
Zhang, H.

Registrar’s Office  
Burry, J.

School of Music  
Cook, N.

FSC 2159  
Regrets  
Donna Stapleton    Brad de Young  
David Pike        Dorothy Vaandering  
Bill Schipper     Yanqing Yi

FSC 2160  
Adoption of Minutes  
Moved: Minutes of the December 12, 2012, meeting be adopted as circulated (Sullivan/Fletcher). Carried.

FSC 2161  
Business Arising: None

FSC 2162  
Correspondence  
a. Amrutha Paladugu has been appointed as the new GSU representative on the Faculty of Science Faculty Council (memo, November 20, 2012).

FSC 2163  
Reports of Standing Committees:  
A. Undergraduate Studies Committee:  
Report presented by Shannon Sullivan, Chair, Undergraduate Studies Committee.

a. Moved: Department of Ocean Sciences, proposal for new course, OCSC 3002, Aquaculture and Fisheries Biotechnology (Sullivan/Fletcher). Carried.

b. Moved: Department of Biology, calendar change (Sullivan/Mulligan). Carried.

c. Moved: Department of Biology, proposal for amended course, BIOL 4122 (Sullivan/Mulligan). Carried.

d. Moved: Response to Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, Approval for Common Courses (Sullivan/Foster). Carried.

e. Moved: Response to Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, Review of Transfer Credit Evaluation (Sullivan/Foster). Carried.
B. Graduate Studies Committee:
Report presented by J. C. Loredo-Osti, Chair, Graduate Studies Committee.
   a. Moved: Department of Biology, proposal for new course, BIOL 6131 (Loredo-Osti/Mulligan). Carried.

C. Nominating Committee: None

D. Library Committee: Report by John Lewis rescheduled for next meeting of Faculty Council.

FSC 2164 Reports of Delegates from Other Councils: None

FSC 2165 Faculty of Science Strategic Plan - Annual Approval
Presented by Dr. Mark Abrahams, Dean.

The Faculty of Science Strategic Plan has served the faculty well during the past year. It provided a strong rationale for the funding received for lab equipment and the Science Undergraduate Research Awards. Faculty were asked if they felt anything in the plan should be changed or updated at this time but all were in agreement that the document was still relevant. The Dean confirmed that changes could be accommodated if necessary before next year’s review meeting. The suggestion was also made that new faculty be asked for feedback on the plan so as to obtain a fresh perspective on the document.

Moved: The Faculty of Science Strategic Plan remain as written (Foster/Pickup). Carried.

FSC 2166 Report of the Dean:
Presented by Dr. Mark Abrahams, Dean.

Science Building
We are now midway through the functional space planning analysis. This process is designed to determine the space requirements, and how best to use the space within the new Science building and the Chemistry-Physics building. However, this process will also have ramifications throughout the Faculty of Science and the Dean strongly encourages all faculty to stay engaged.

Student Concern
Dr. Andy Foster and the Dean have been meeting regularly with students from all departments within the Faculty of Science. One of their concerns is the new senate regulation requiring 20% of the grade be assigned prior to the date for withdrawal without academic penalty. The problem is that it compresses the midterm examination schedule into a very short period of
time. They are seeking some change to this regulation to alleviate this issue, and the Dean is curious about concerns from faculty around this issue.

Discussion took place regarding this student concern. It was mentioned that there is already a regulation stating that appropriate feedback be provided by this date and that this should be enforced. Many felt that any request for change to the new regulation should be student led. Faculty Council agreed that it would support a motion, if presented, to amend this regulation.

**New Director of Bonne Bay Marine Station**
The Faculty of Science will soon be announcing the new Director of the Bonne Bay Marine Station. As many will know, Dr. Robert Hooper has been the director of this facility since its construction in 2002, and has a 34-year history teaching and conducting research at Norris Point. The new director will be Dr. Robert Scott from Grenfell Campus who will take over from Dr. Hooper in the Spring.

**FSC 2167**  
**Question Period**

**FSC 2168**  
**Teaching and Learning Framework Update:**
Presented by Doreen Neville

Activities over the last year under the umbrella of the Teaching and Learning Framework have included the launch of the Teaching and Learning Website and the First Year Success Program. Several student gathering spaces throughout the university have also been furnished. Although there have been a few issues with various implementations in the first year, these are being addressed and it is hoped improvements will continue.

**FSC 2169**  
**Learning Activities Available for Faculty:**
Presented by Ruth Hickey, DELTS

Faculty were encouraged to avail of learning activities being offered by DELTS. Efforts have been made to ensure activities are accessible to faculty and have been proving worthwhile as evidenced by high attendance at offerings thus far. Please email Ruth at rhhickey@mun.ca with any suggestions of content that can be integrated into teaching plans.

**FSC 2170**  
**Adjournment:**
The meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.