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

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

FSC 2213  Present
Biology
Mulligan, M.

Biology
Leroux, S.  Marino, P.

Chemistry
Pickup, P.

Computer Science
Batten, D.  Fiech, A.  Gong, M.

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

Ocean Sciences
Fletcher, G.

Physics & Physical Oceanography
de Young, B.  Poduska, K.

Psychology
Martin, G.

Dean of Science
Abrahams, M.  Foss, K.  Foster, A.  Rideout, J.  Zedel, L.

Geography
Simms, E.

Education
Vandenber, D.
FSC 2214 Regrets
Nathan Cook

FSC 2215 Adoption of Minutes
There was one amendment to the October 16 minutes. At the October 16 meeting of Faculty Council, it was asked that academic units not submit electronic versions of calendar changes directly to the Registrar’s Office but rather to the Dean’s office for onward submission to the Registrar’s Office. In fact, the directive was to be that if changes were approved at Faculty Council, units must ensure the changes are included in their electronic submission as well. Moved: Minutes of the October 16 meeting be adopted as amended. (Pickup/Mulligan). Carried.

FSC 2216 Business Arising: None

FSC 2217 Correspondence
A. Secretary, Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies has provided two memos regarding the process for considering calendar changes.
B. Notification was received of a representative to Faculty of Science Faculty Council, Nathan Cook from the School of Music.

FSC 2218 Reports of Standing Committees:
A. Undergraduate Studies Committee:
   Report presented by Shannon Sullivan, Chair, Undergraduate Studies Committee.
   b. Moved: Department of Computer Science, proposal for new course, COMP 4750, Introduction to Natural Language Processing (Sullivan/Batten). Carried.
c. **Moved:** Department of Computer Science, calendar changes, to be treated as an omnibus package (Sullivan/Batten). **Carried.**  
**Moved:** Department of Computer Science, calendar changes (Sullivan/Batten). **Carried.**  
**One abstention.** Concerning a new attendance requirement in COMP 4770, there was discussion about whether students could be deregistered for a course for not attending. It was concluded that this language was consistent with that of other courses.

d. **Moved:** Department of Earth Sciences, proposal for new course, EASC 3700, Geomorphology (Sullivan/Marino). **Carried.**

e. **Moved:** Department of Earth Sciences, proposal for new course, EASC 4703, Environmental Change and Quaternary Geography (Sullivan/Marino). **Carried.**

f. **Moved:** Department of Earth Sciences, calendar changes, to be treated as an omnibus package (Sullivan/Marino). **Carried.**

**Moved:** Department of Earth Sciences, calendar changes (Sullivan/Marino). **Carried.**

g. Department of Mathematics and Statistics, calendar changes, item deferred to the December meeting of Faculty Council.

B. **Graduate Studies Committee:**
Report presented by J.C. Loredo-Osti, Chair, Graduate Studies Committee

a. **Moved:** Computational Science, calendar changes, (Loredo-Osti/Mershrod). **Carried.**

b. **Moved:** Department of Psychology, proposal for new courses, PSYC 6623, Child Psychopathology, Assessment and Diagnosis, and PSYC 7022, Practicum in Child Assessment and Diagnosis (Loredo-Osti/Martin). **Carried.**

c. Department of Chemistry, proposal for new course, COMP 6500, Advanced NMR Spectroscopy, item deferred to the December meeting of Faculty Council.

C. **Nominating Committee:** None

D. **Library Committee:** None

FSC 2219  **Reports of Delegates from Other Councils**
It was noted that a Faculty of Science Faculty Council representative was not present at the last Faculty of Arts Faculty Council meeting to present the calendar changes being requested by the Department of Computer Science.
FSC 2220  Report of the Dean:
Presented by Mark Abrahams, Dean.

The Dean will be devoting a large amount of time in the coming weeks as part of the team that will select the firm to do the architectural and engineering design work for the new science building. Bids on this tender close on Friday of this week and the selection process will begin next week.

The Provost has been very concerned about the number of undeclared undergraduate students and is proposing that we permit direct entry of first year students directly into the Faculty of Science, rather than requiring they make that decision after they enroll. The Dean has consulted with the Department Heads who were of the opinion that the Faculty of Science would support such an initiative.

The university has agreed to be a partner with the Conference Board of Canada's Centre for Skills and Post-Secondary Education. The purpose of this centre is to "... address the advanced skill and education challenges facing Canada today". If you want to learn more or become engaged in the process, you can download the draft report from the Conference Board website (www.conferenceboard.ca).

On a related note, the Faculty of Science and the Marine Institute signed an MOU with the Oceans Learning Partnership at Holy Spirit High School, the purpose being to promote careers associated with marine research to students in grades K - 12.

FSC 2221  Question Period:  None

FSC 2222  CEQ Participation
Presented by Paul Chancey, Director, CIAP

The CEQ is now presented in an electronic format and it appears that more meaningful information is being gathered. However, participation rates are down and course instructors are being asked to promote completion of the forms. There was discussion about evidence of bias due to the decreased numbers of questionnaires completed but it seems there is no statistical difference between the paper and on-line methods. There was also discussion about possible methods for increasing participation rates. The slides presented are attached.

FSC 2223  Adjournment:
The meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.
November 20th, 2013
Faculty of Science
On-line CEG at Memorial
Series of pilot semesters...

Winter, 2013 after a review by the SCC and a

Evaluation was moved to on-line version in

• CIRA is responsible for implementation.

Committee on Course Evaluation.

Process and policy is guided by the Senate.

Course Evaluation Instrument for Memorial.

CFO was first implemented in 2001 as standard.

Background
In time, the new system will allow CIAP to get results back to faculty more quickly.

- It ensures anonymity of students, particularly in the day a paper-based form is administered.

- All students have an equal opportunity to respond, not just the students who are in class on the day.

- Students can complete the CEA at their convenience and provide more thoughtful feedback.

The Benefits of Online CEAs
• Winter 2013 (full implementation): 33%
• Fall 2012 (open pilot): 29%
• Winter 2012 (select units pilot): 28%

Rates
Short-coming: Lower Response
enhanced with the online system.
and quality of student-generated comments are
Preliminary information suggests that quantity
Generated by on-line and paper-based CEO's.
There are no appreciable differences in the scores
Improve over time.
Implemented similar systems show that the rates
Information from other institutions who have
Lower response rates were anticipated.

However......
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response Rate</th>
<th>Number of Sections</th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>37.3%</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>Graduate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35.8%</td>
<td>193</td>
<td>4000+ Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38.6%</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>3000 Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33.6%</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>2000 Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27.0%</td>
<td>218</td>
<td>1000 Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33.4%</td>
<td>781</td>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

St. John's (Winter 2013)
Response Rates by Course Level
(undergraduate, St. John's, for Winter 2013)
Average Response Rates for Faculty of Science
And...

Awareness campaign... a work in progress.

@mun.ca accounts

Invitation email with two follow-up reminders to students

Messaging through student unions

Messaging on media screens

Messaging on Twitter and Facebook

News item on main page of D2L

Linking to CEG web page

Banner on main MUIN web page targeted to students and

the online CEG to students

Promotional video (with the support of DERTS) to promote

Response rates?

What is being done to try and address
Your help is critical.

If you have had a good level of success with on-line response rates, we would really like to hear about learn what has worked for you.

Put a message up in the D2L shell for your course.

Tell your students about the CEA.

Please help us promote the use of CEA by your students in class.

Of course.
Website: www.mun.ca/ceg

Email contact:
- spippy@mun.ca
- paulc@mun.ca

Thank you