FACULTY OF SCIENCE
FACULTY COUNCIL OF SCIENCE
MINUTES OF MEETING OF JANUARY 15, 2014

A meeting of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Science was held on Wednesday, January 15, 2014, at 1:00 p.m. in room C-2045.

FSC 2234 Present
Biochemistry
Mulligan, M.E.

Biology
Leroux, S.

Chemistry
Pickup, P.

Computer Science
Banzhaf, W. Kolokolova, A. Pena-Castillo, L.

Earth Sciences
Hanchar, J.

Math & Stats
Loredo-Osti, J. Pike, D. Radford, C. Sullivan, S.

Ocean Sciences
Fletcher, G.

Physics & Physical Oceanography
de Young, D. Yethiraj, A.

Psychology
Martin, G.

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

Education
Vaandering, D.
Arts Council
Bishop, N.

School of Music
Cook, N.

Graduate Students
Adeniyi, Balogun

Undergraduate Students
Grant, Devin
Kennedy, Sean
Murphy, Ryan

FSC 2235 Regrets
Erin Alcock
Donna Stapleton

FSC 2236 Adoption of Minutes
It should be noted that Neil Bishop was present at the last meeting but was not listed as being present. Moved: Minutes of the December 11 meeting be adopted as amended. (Sullivan/Fletcher). Carried.

FSC 2237 Business Arising
It was asked whether any discussion had occurred regarding offering combined graduate and undergraduate courses. Unfortunately, a meeting could not be convened due to the holiday period.

FSC 2238 Correspondence: None

FSC 2239 Reports of Standing Committees:

A. Undergraduate Studies Committee:
Shannon Sullivan, Chair of the Committee, noted that departments should begin the process of initiating calendar changes for the 2014/15 academic year.

B. Graduate Studies Committee: None

C. Nominating Committee: None

D. Library Committee: None

FSC 2240 Reports of Delegates from Other Councils: None

FSC 2241 Faculty of Science Strategic Plan - Annual Approval
It was decided that a vote would not occur at this meeting to approve the Faculty of Science strategic plan. Department Heads will seek feedback from
members of their department and will then be in a better position to vote at
the next meeting of Faculty Council. Kelly Foss, Communications
Coordinator for the Faculty of Science, commented that departments should
advise her if links to departmental strategic plans aren’t included in the
Faculty of Science strategic plan. The Dean noted that the assumptions
underlying the strategic plan have proven accurate and the plan itself is an
important tool to guide decision making.

**FSC 2242**

**Faculty-wide Teaching Equivalencies**
The Dean announced that when a new MUNFA collective agreement is signed
he will be asking Faculty Council to vote on whether they agree to proceed
with a faculty-wide teaching equivalency document. The vote has to occur
within 60 days of the signing of the collective agreement. The next step
would be to establish a committee to draft a teaching equivalency document
which has to be presented to the Dean for approval within 100 days of the
signing. There was considerable discussion on this matter, and it was agreed
that it would become an item for consideration at the next Heads’ meeting.

**FSC 2243**

**Report of the Dean:**
Presented by Mark Abrahams, Dean.

During the blizzard and resulting power outage over the holidays, the
university did suffer some damage, primarily due to pipes freezing, bursting
and creating extensive water damage. Fortunately, damage within the
Faculty of Science was limited.

On Friday, January 10, the contract for the architectural and engineering
design for the new Science building was awarded to HOK architects in
Toronto and their local partner, Hearn Fougere architects. These companies
are the primary consultants on the project and will include other companies
with expertise in architectural design, lab planning and educational design,
interior design, furniture, LEED & sustainability, lighting, flooring, signage,
mechanical & electrical systems, structural engineering, civil engineering,
cost consultants, IT/communication systems, geotechnical analysis, code
issues, environmental components, traffic, and EMF/RFI.

In December, the Dean was approached by Hebron to submit a proposal on a
public education building to be based out of Logy Bay. As this will impact
Ocean Sciences more than any other unit, they prepared a draft proposal.
However, given the scale of the potential project it was felt that this proposal
needs to be a pan-university initiative. The Dean convened a meeting of
representatives from throughout the Faculty of Science, Arts, Engineering
and MI. All are now submitting components that they would like to see
within this proposal. The Dean and Dr. Garth Fletcher will consolidate this
information into a final proposal to be forwarded to Hebron for its
consideration next week.
Video conferencing equipment was recently installed in four locations within the Faculty of Science: Bonne Bay, Ocean Sciences, the Dean of Science Boardroom and the Biology Department seminar room. This equipment is available to all faculty, and it is hoped that it will facilitate conferencing in such areas as graduate student supervisory committee meetings.

There will be a town hall meeting for all undergraduate Science students to meet with the Dean in IIC 2001 on Wednesday, January 22 at 1 pm. The purpose of the meeting is to give undergraduate students the opportunity to get direct information on the new core Science building and to solicit their financial support for a Science Endowment Fund to insure that we properly maintain and equip our undergraduate teaching labs.

**FSC 2244  Question Period**
Mike Morrow noted that there was also water damage over the holidays to labs on the first floor of the Chemistry building. This type of damage has occurred in the past when FM turns down the heat in the building during closures. The Dean will discuss this concern with FM.

**FSC 2245  Adjournment:**
The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.