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

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

FSC 2280 Present
Biology
Innes, D.J.

Chemistry
Bottaro, C. Fridgen, T. Pickup, P.

Computer Science
Brown, E.

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

Ocean Sciences
Fletcher, G.

Physics & Physical Oceanography
Morrow, M.

Psychology
Martin, G.

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

Geography
Catto, N. Ecinger, E.

Library
Alcock, E.

Education
Penney, S.
Registrar’s Office
Burry, J.

School of Music
Cook, N.

Undergraduate Students
Doyle, K. Southall, T.

FSC 2281 Regrets
Sukhinder Cheema Wolfgang Banzhaf Leah Robertson

FSC 2282 Adoption of Minutes
Moved: Minutes of the September 17, 2014, meeting be adopted as amended (Sullivan/Battaro). Carried.

FSC 2283 Business Arising: None

FSC 2284 Correspondence:
a. Call for consultations, Firearms on Campus regulation review. A committee has been established to review the change in policy that has already been approved by Senate. Faculty members are asked to provide feedback to Brian Hammond, Office of the Registrar at bhammond@mun.ca.

FSC 2285 Reports of Standing Committees:
A. Undergraduate Studies Committee
   Report was presented by Shannon Sullivan, Chair, Faculty of Science Undergraduate Studies Committee.

   a. Department of Chemistry, revisions to Computation Chemistry major and honours major programs. This item was not motioned and will be tabled until a future meeting of Faculty Council.
   b. Moved: Department of Ocean Sciences, new minor program in Oceanography (Sullivan/Fletcher). Carried. One abstention.

B. Graduate Studies Committee: None

C. Nominating Committee:
   Report presented by Aimee Surprentant, Associate Dean (Undergraduate and Administration)
   a. Moved: Approval of committee matrix with amendment to add Annie Mercier as a representative from the Faculty of Science to the School of Graduate Studies Faculty Council, and Patrick Gagnon as a representative from the Department of Ocean
Sciences to the Faculty of Science Library Committee (Surprenant/Loredo-Osti). Carried.
Moved: Authorization for nominating committee to add further names to the committee matrix to complete representation (Surprenant/Fletcher). Carried. Dr. Surprenant was asked to list the representatives still being sought.

D. Library Committee: None

FSC 2286 Reports of Delegates from Other Councils: None

FSC 2287 Report of the Dean
Presented by Mark Abrahams, Dean.

Members of Council were reminded that this week is Fall convocation week. For those able to attend, the convocation of B.Sc. and B.Sc. (Honours) degrees will take place on Friday, October 17, at 3:00 pm in the Arts and Culture Centre. Extra tickets are available, and faculty are encouraged to attend and take the time to acknowledge the accomplishments of their students.

As some might know, our Vice-President (Research), Dr. Richard Marceau, is away on medical leave. We are hoping that he will return to work early in the new year; but in the interim, Dr. Ray Gosine will serve as the Acting Vice-President (Research) and Dr. Carrie Dyck will be the Acting Associate Vice-President (Research).

There has been considerable attention paid to policy regarding Canada Research Chairs and particularly a new policy regarding the Financial Arrangements of Canada Research Chairs. Given Dr. Marceau’s absence and the fact that the Dean’s and Dr. Marceau’s positions diverge significantly on certain aspects of the policy, the Dean has been asked to draft a revised policy which he intends to complete this week.

Dr. Marceau is anxious to implement his Strategic Research Intensity Document. One of the key issues is the goal to double our research productivity. To accomplish this, he is seeking a mechanism to track research productivity in order to assess whether new policies will have any impact upon this metric. The Vice-President’s (Research) office is working on that measure; so when asked, the Dean will request that you please provide detailed information on your research output for the 2012 calendar year. They are also seeking suggestions for appropriate referencing tools so they can measure research productivity without requiring input from all faculty.
FSC 2288  Question Period

Several questions were raised regarding the Strategic Research Intensity Document. A specific question was whether publications and other forms of communication should be combined when reporting on research intensity. The Dean felt this would cause a loss of diversity. There was also concern about the time commitment required to double research productivity and the fact that faculty members are already working at capacity. The Dean commented that some of the increased productivity should come from an increase in the number of graduate students and their subsequent publications, although space availability for these students is a factor that has not yet been discussed. The Associate Dean (Graduate & Research) and the Dean mentioned that the Vice-President’s (Research) office is aware that some units are more research intensive than others and the Faculty of Science probably won’t be expected to double in research intensity since we are already a leader in this area.

FSC 2289  Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 1:22 p.m.