FACULTY OF SCIENCE
FACULTY COUNCIL OF SCIENCE
MINUTES OF MEETING OF APRIL 15, 2015

A meeting of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Science was held on Wednesday, April 15, 2015, at 1:00 p.m. in room C-2045.

**FSC 2343**

**Present**

**Biochemistry**
Booth, V. Mulligan, M.

**Biology**
Innes, D.

**Chemistry**
Fridgen, T. Pickup, P.

**Computer Science**
Banzhaf, W. Batten, D. Mata-Montero, M.

**Earth Sciences**
Hanchar, J.

**Mathematics & Statistics**
Loredo-Osti, J.C. Pike, D. Radford, C. Sullivan, S.

**Ocean Sciences**
Fletcher, G.

**Physics & Physical Oceanography**
Curnoe, S. Evstigneev, M. Morrow, M.

**Psychology**
Martin, G.

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

**Education**
Penney, S.
Registrar's Office
Nolan, R.

FSC 2344 Regrets
Erin Alcock

FSC 2345 Adoption of Minutes
Moved: Minutes of the March 18, 2015, meeting be adopted as amended. March minutes should reflect that for item 5.B.b Dr. Cheema also voted in favor of the change to the comprehensive exam process in Psychology. (Sullivan/Mulligan). Carried. One abstention.

FSC 2346 Business Arising: It was noted by Shannon Sullivan that the Faculty of Arts Faculty Council also did not approve the 4+1 Accelerated Master’s Program. Their concerns were similar to those of the Faculty of Science Faculty Council.

FSC 2347 Correspondence: None

FSC 2348 Reports of Standing Committees:

A. Undergraduate Studies Committee:
   Report presented by Shannon Sullivan, Chair, Undergraduate Studies Committee.
   a. Moved: Department of Ocean Sciences, new course proposal, Ocean Sciences 4100 (Sullivan/Fletcher). Carried.
   b. Moved: Department of Physics and Physical Oceanography, calendar change, proposal to eliminate supplementary exams (Sullivan/Morrow). Carried.
   c. Moved: Department of Biology, calendar changes, BIOL 3640 and 3710 (Sullivan/Innes). Carried.
   d. Moved: Faculty of Science, new course proposal, Science 1807 (Sullivan/Surpremante). Carried.
   e. Moved: Response to Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, Medical Certificates (Sullivan/Morrow). Carried.

B. Graduate Studies Committee: None

C. Nominating Committee: None

D. Library Committee:
   Report presented by Stephanie Curnoe, Faculty of Science representative to the Library Faculty Council.

   Several items arising from the Library Faculty Council that are of interest to the Faculty of Science Faculty Council were highlighted:
There is a search underway for a new Head Librarian.

There is also a new open access policy from NSERC that will be implemented in the near future. This policy will require grant recipients to place articles in an open access repository. The Library can assist faculty members with this requirement.

There will be changes in what journal subscriptions are maintained by the Library due to budget constraints. Faculty of Science members will be polled to ascertain which journals should be sustained; it is important to respond to the poll to ensure that the appropriate journal subscriptions are renewed.

FSC 2349 Moved: Proposed change to calendar change process in departments offering programs in both the Faculties of Arts and Science (Sullivan/Surprenant). Carried.

FSC 2350 Moved: Annual approval of the Faculty of Science Strategic Plan, with amendment (Banzhafl/Pickup). The suggestion was made to have the area of Biomedical Health included in the plan for the next iteration. This will be discussed by Department Heads before the plan is brought to Faculty Council for approval next year. It was also noted by the Dean that the strategic plan is meant to be a web document with links to the departmental strategic plans. Carried.

FSC 2351 Reports of Delegates from Other Councils: None

FSC 2352 Report of the Dean
Presented by Mark Abrahams, Dean

The design phase of the Core Sciences Building is nearing the end. The first tenders for site preparation have been awarded with that work scheduled to begin in early May.

Dr. Noreen Golfman has been appointed as the next Provost & Vice-President (Academic). Dr. Golfman brings a wealth of experience at Memorial University to this role. She is the seventh Provost in just under eight years at this institution. Dr. Richard Marceau has returned to his position as Vice-President (Research) after an extended medical leave. It is hoped that the period of frequent turnover amongst senior administration is now coming to an end.

Dr. Marceau released a call for Expressions of Interest for the Canada First Research Excellence Fund. This competition has $950M available nationally, and the internal deadline for EOs is Friday, May 29 at 4 p.m. There is currently a team made up of researchers from Science, Arts, and the Marine Institute developing a marine focused proposal.
The province is expected to announce its budget towards the end of April. In anticipation of the university receiving its budget at that time, academic units are working towards a mid-May deadline for their budget submissions.

Now is the time of year that our undergraduate and graduate students organize their annual symposia. The Dean urges faculty to support our students and would like to remind units that the Faculty of Science has poster boards available if they are required.

Convocation will be occurring in May so there are some important dates and times to know. On May 26, from 7 to 9 p.m. the Faculty of Science will once again hold a reception for our graduating students and their parents. It is hoped that staff and faculty will be on hand to join in congratulating our graduates. Convocation for Science students will take place on May 27 at 3 p.m. for B.Sc. students and May 28 at 10 a.m. for B.Sc. (Hons.) students.

This is our last Science council meeting of the academic year. Dr. Aimée Surprenant has served as the Acting Associate Dean (Undergraduate and Administration) this academic year and will continue to do so until August 31. This was her last Science Council meeting in this role, and the Dean publicly thanked her for her significant and ongoing contributions.

**FSC 2353**  
**Question Period**  
Attendance at Faculty Council meetings was discussed along with possible methods for increasing the attendance. One suggestion was to have one meeting during the year that received more emphasis than others at which refreshments were served. The Dean asked that over the summer months members consider options for improving attendance. He mentioned that faculty engagement is a fundamental issue that is apparent in other areas as well, such as committee involvement.

**FSC 2354**  
**Adjournment**  
The meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m.