FACULTY OF SCIENCE
FACULTY COUNCIL OF SCIENCE
MINUTES OF MEETING OF MARCH 18, 2015

A meeting of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Science was held on Wednesday, March 18, 2015, at 1:00 p.m. in room C-2045.

FSC 2331  Present
Biochemistry
Booth, V.  Cheema, S.  Mulligan, M.

Biology
Innes, D.

Chemistry
Bottaro, C.  Merschrod, E.

Computer Science
Byrne, R.

Earth Sciences
Hanchar, J.

Mathematics & Statistics
Sullivan, S.

Ocean Sciences
Fletcher, G.

Physics & Physical Oceanography
Morrow, M.

Psychology
Malsbury, C.

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

Geography
Edinger, E.
DELTS
Todd, A. Hajek, A.

Registrar’s Office
Nolan, R.

School of Music
Cook, N.

Undergraduate Students
Doyle, K.

FSC 2332 Regrets: None

FSC 2333 Adoption of Minutes
Moved: Minutes of the February 18, 2015, meeting be adopted.
(Sullivan/Hanchar). Carried. One abstention.

FSC 2334 Business Arising: None

FSC 2335 Correspondence: None

FSC 2336 Reports of Standing Committees:

A. Undergraduate Studies Committee:
Report presented by Shannon Sullivan, Chair, Undergraduate Studies Committee. Council was notified that a proposal to amend Faculty Council by-laws will be circulated shortly for voting at the next meeting in April.

   a. Moved: Department of Chemistry, calendar changes, amendment to the Chemistry major and honours programs: deletion of the language recommendations (Sullivan/Booth). Carried.

B. Graduate Studies Committee:
Report presented by Mark Abrahams, Dean, and Charles Malsbury, Psychology.

   a. Grenfell Campus, new program proposal, Agriculture, Forest, and Environmental Science (MSc AFES), motion passed via email by Science Faculty Council, included for information only.
   b. Moved: Department of Psychology, calendar changes, comprehensive exam process (Malsbury/Suprenant). Carried. Discussion occurred related to the timing of comprehensive exams. SGS requires such exams to occur within seven months of the start of a program whereas the Department of Psychology conducts the
exams within the first year so the exam can form part of the screening process and also to allow students to begin their research earlier.

C. Nominating Committee: None

D. Library Committee: None

FSC 2337 SGS new program proposal:
Moved: Faculty Council does not support the proposed regulations governing 4+1 Accelerated Master’s Programs (Mulligan/Edinger). Carried. Discussion took place about the pros and cons of such a program.

FSC 2338 Reports of Delegates from Other Councils

FSC 2339 Report of the Dean
Presented by Mark Abrahams, Dean.

As an update on the Science building, the design and development phase has passed the 90% point, meaning that our design criteria are sufficient to begin issuing tenders for the initial phase of construction. This means that this project is currently on schedule and on budget with construction scheduled to begin this spring.

The Bonne Bay Marine Station in Norris Point was recognized at the Hospitality Newfoundland and Labrador’s Annual Conference in late February with the Sustainable Tourism Award. The Bonne Bay Marine Station is part of the Faculty of Science and operates in cooperation with the Gros Morne Cooperative Association. It receives approximately 10,000 visitors every year.

The VP (Finance and Administration) is investigating the feasibility of a campus shuttle system that should make it easier to physically get to and from locations such as Tiffany Court, the Marine Institute, the Battery Hotel, and Ocean Sciences.

The Dean participated in a debrief exercise of the fire that occurred in the Chemistry Physics building in November of last year. His concern was that decision-making associated with the recovery phase of that incident took place at a very senior level and did not include any dialogue with the Faculty of Science or the Departments of Chemistry and Physics. Kris Parsons, the Chief Risk Officer, has conceded that has to change.

On February 20, a federal senate committee led by Fabian Manning travelled to Newfoundland to learn more about aquaculture in this province. Their tour included federal and provincial government facilities, the Department of Ocean Sciences, and the Marine Institute. During their visit at Ocean Sciences, the President and the Dean made brief presentations that preceded their tour of the

At the March meeting of Senate, a proposal was presented for the creation of three Deans and Schools at the Grenfell campus. While both the Faculty of Arts and the Faculty of Science opposed the proposal, Senate approved it. We understand that the proposal approved was notional so we look forward to working with our colleagues at Grenfell as they develop the details.

We are currently in the early phase of work with our colleagues in the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science to develop reciprocal minors. This has the benefit to the Engineering Students of more options in earning minors within the Faculty of Science while simultaneously providing our students with access to courses within the Engineering Faculty.

The Dean met recently with DELTS to discuss how the Faculty of Science can make better use of their resources. They want faculty to know that they are available to provide resources for use in not only distance courses, but also material for blended learning courses, supplementary teaching material such as Lightboard and wiz. With the library, they also maintain the learning object repository, known as stor that is meant to provide information that is freely available within the learning commons. Links to all these resources are below:

lightboard: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NlI4Afti6XE
WizTeach: http://www.wizteach.com
stor: http://www.explorestor.mun.ca

FSC 2340 Question Period

FSC 2341 DELTS Professional Development Focus on Teaching, the teaching dossier
Presented by Allyson Hajek

Allyson Hajek, Instructional Design Specialist with DELTS, presented on the teaching dossier to promote awareness of how to document teaching activity and effectiveness.

FSC 2342 Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 1:37 p.m.