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

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

FSC 2375 Present

Biochemistry
Berry, M. Booth, V. Cheema, S. Mulligan, M.

Chemistry
Bottaro, C. Fridgen, T.

Computer Science
Banzhaf, W. Brown, E. Bungay, S. Wareham, T.

Mathematics & Statistics
Merkli, M. Sullivan, S.

Ocean Sciences
Fletcher, G.

Physics & Physical Oceanography
Lagowski, J. Morrow, M. Munroe, J. Plumer, M.

Psychology
Neath, I. Thorpe, C.

Dean of Science
Abrahams, M. Foss, K. Mackenzie, T. Zedel, L.

Economics
Waples, J.

Engineering
Duan, X.

Registrar’s Office
Burry, J.
School of Music
Cook, N.

Faculty of Business
Clift, T.

Marine Institute
Westcott, J.

Undergraduate Students
Diamond, C.

FSC 2376

Regrets
Amy Todd      Andy Foster
Kris Poduska   JC Loredo-Osti

FSC 2377

 Adoption of Minutes
Moved: Minutes of the October 21, 2015, meeting be adopted. (Sullivan/Zedel).
Wording change required to the third paragraph of the Report from the Dean
which stated, “It is his expectation that Shannon will bring the same enthusiasm
and commitment to that position that he brought to his position of Chair of the
Science Committee on Undergraduate Studies.” It should state, “It is his
expectation that Shannon will bring the same enthusiasm and commitment to that
position that he continues to bring to his position of Chair of the Science
Committee on Undergraduate Studies.” Carried. Two Abstentions.

FSC 2378

Business Arising: None

FSC 2379

Correspondence:
a. Letter from Senate regarding Senate Reform, feedback requested on the
   Draft Terms of Reference.

The Undergraduate Studies Committee discussed the Draft Terms of Reference
and did not have many comments. Some felt that the Terms were broadly
defined, but it was agreed that this was probably intentional and similar to the
Terms of Reference for other committees. A comment was made concerning the
composition of the committee and whether there would be former award winners
serving that would be involved in the selection of future award recipients since
one responsibility of the committee is to select winners of teaching awards.
Wording was also questioned that indicated the committee would serve as the
selection committee for “any teaching awards”; if they are going to select all
teaching awards it would mean the dissolution of other committees. These
comments will be included in the Faculty of Science response to Senate.
FSC 2380 Reports of Standing Committees:

A. Undergraduate Studies Committee
   Report presented by Shannon Sullivan, Chair, Undergraduate Studies Committee.
   c. Moved: Department of Chemistry, proposal for two new minors, Minor in Chemistry for Process Engineering Majors, and Minor in Applied Science-Process Engineering for Chemistry Majors and Honours (Sullivan/Fridgen). Xili Duan, representative from the Faculty of Engineering, noted that on October 23, 2015, the Faculty of Engineering discussed and approved the minor. Carried.

B. Graduate Studies Committee: None
C. Nominating Committee: None
D. Library Committee: None.

FSC 2381 Reports of Delegates from Other Councils: None

FSC 2382 Report of the Dean
   Presented by Mark Abrahams, Dean.

Much of the Dean’s time since our last Science council meeting has been devoted to the Canada First Research Excellence Fund Application. The major issue dealt with was overlap between our application and that being developed by Dalhousie University. Ultimately, it was agreed to partner with Dalhousie in developing a joint proposal that also included expertise from UPEI, resulting in a single application from three provinces. At this point, a five page letter of intent has been submitted, with a decision being made in December to determine whether we can proceed to a full application.

The Canada Foundation for Innovation visited the MUN campus on October 28 to seek input on their current programs and new areas that should be considered for support. Issues that were discussed were the use of the John R. Evans Leaders Fund and its relative importance for recruitment and retention, improvements to the application process for the Innovation Fund, the Cyberinfrastructure Initiative, and the role for CFI in insuring infrastructure is useable and affordable.

The Dean has received a request from UQAR to determine whether Memorial University would support their application for a CFI MSI grant for the 50 metre Coriolis II research vessel. Information has been distributed to units inside and outside the Faculty of Science to gauge interest to determine if we are prepared to
do so. If UQAR is successful, this should provide a reduced cost for the use of the Coriolis II.

We continue to have ongoing issues with Grenfell regarding their courses and the ability of students to easily transfer between the St. John's and Corner Brook campuses. The Dean has met with the Provost to discuss this issue but would like to hear from different departments on the extent of the problem and potential resolutions.

Phase One of the Memorial Researcher Portal is scheduled to launch on November 30. The portal is a mechanism whereby faculty can upload applications for external funding online to the university's Research Grant and Contract Services. It will also permit researchers to apply online to the human research ethics boards which is the part that will begin on November 30. Requests for portal accounts began on November 20, and training will be provided beginning the week of November 23. More information is available on the VPR website (www.mun.ca/research/).

A reminder that the December meeting of Science council will be held one week early on December 9 to insure that we meet senate deadlines for the next academic year.

**FSC 2383  Question Period**

The Dean was asked what method of correspondence should be used for forwarding comments regarding the Coriolis II research vessel. Comments should be forwarded via email by Friday, November 20, 2015.

**FSC 2384  Adjournment**
The meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m.