A meeting of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Science was held on Wednesday, April 27, 2016, at 1:00 p.m. in room C-2045.

**FSC 2431**

**Biochemistry**
Berry, M.

**Chemistry**
Flinn, C.  Fridgen, T.  Merschrod, E.

**Computer Science**
Banzhaf, W.  Hu, T.

**Earth Sciences**
Hanchar, J.

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

**Physics & Physical Oceanography**
Lagowski, J.  Saika-Voivod, I.

**Psychology**
Neath, I.  Thorpe, C.

**Dean of Science**
Abrahams, M.  Foster, A.  Harding, S.  Mackenzie, T.  Wall, M.  Zedel, L.

**DELTs**
Todd, A.

**Medicine**
Kendall, E.
School of Music
Cook, N.

FSC 2432 Regrets
Xili Duan  Joel Finnis  Marco Merkli  Jillian Westcott

FSC 2433 Adoption of Minutes
Moved: Minutes of the March 16, 2016, meeting be adopted (Sullivan/Berry). Carried.

FSC 2434 Business Arising: None

FSC 2435 Correspondence: None

FSC 2436 Reports of Standing Committees:

A. Undergraduate Studies Committee
Report presented by Shannon Sullivan, Chair, Undergraduate Studies Committee
a. Moved: Department of Physics and Physical Oceanography, calendar changes (Sullivan/Lagowski). Carried.
b. Moved: Department of Chemistry, calendar changes (Sullivan/Fridgen). Carried.
c. Moved: Department of Chemistry, proposal for new course, CHEM 4620, Environmental Chemistry (Sullivan, Fridgen). Carried.
d. Moved: Department of Mathematics & Statistics calendar changes (Sullivan, Loredo-Osti). Carried.
e. Moved: Department of Mathematics & Statistics, proposal for new course, MATH 4252/PHYS 4852, Quantum Information and Computing (Sullivan/Lagowski). Carried. Discussion on this new course involved potential future collaboration with Computer Science as well as possible future crosslisting with Computer Science.

B. Graduate Studies Committee
Report presented by J.C. Loredo-Osti, Chair, Graduate Studies Committee.
a. Moved: Department of Chemistry, proposal for new course, CHEM 6620, Environmental Chemistry (Loredo-Osti/Fridgen). Carried. The Chemistry Department intends to internally credit restrict the courses CHEM 4620 and CHEM 6620. Students doing CHEM 6620 will be expected to complete assignments at a higher level than those doing CHEM 4620. The Dean asked that the Faculty of Science graduate studies committee investigate the matter of credit restriction between undergraduate and graduate courses and report back to Faculty Council.
C. **Nominating Committee:** None

D. **Library Committee:** None

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**FSC 2437**  
**Reports of Chair in Teaching & Learning and Embedded DELTS Teaching Consultant**  
Presented by Amy Todd, Embedded DELTS Teaching Consultant.

The Faculty of Science Teaching and Learning Retreat, organized by Danny Dyer, took place on April 21 at the Geo Centre with approximately 30 faculty and staff in attendance. The purpose of the retreat was to establish a teaching and learning community in the Faculty of Science. Christina Thorpe, co-organizer, stated that the retreat was a success and a series of monthly lunch-time sessions on teaching and learning would be beneficial. Danny Dyer, Amy Todd, and Christina Thorpe will work with the Dean’s Office over the next month to determine the next steps and activities to help foster this community.

Four nominations were received for the President’s Awards for Excellence in Teaching and Graduate Supervision – three were from the Faculty of Science and one was from the Division of Science, Grenfell College. This is a big step forward in comparison to the lack of nominations in previous years.

The Teaching and Learning Framework Funding Competition has received 53 letters of intent this year. Although the total number of applications from the Faculty of Science has not been reported, Amy Todd has been involved with seven proposals so far spanning six departments.

Effective May 1, DELTS will change its name to “Centre for Innovation in Teaching and Learning” (CITL) to better reflect the department and the type of support offered.

Amy Todd asked Heads to remind Faculty members of her support in the process of course revision. In addition, Amy can provide support to any departments who are interested in working on program alignment and curriculum mapping.

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**FSC 2438**  
**Reports of Delegates from Other Councils:** None

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**FSC 2439**  
**Report of the Dean**  
Presented by Mark Abrahams, Dean.

Permission to proceed to go to the main tender for the construction of the Core Science Facility was approved by the provincial government. It is the Dean’s understanding that this phase of the project should provide the most dramatic changes as the building starts to take shape later this year.

The Canada First Excellence Research Fund proposal was submitted prior to the deadline on March 29. The proposal is seeking just under $100M through this
fund, with the total value of the proposal at $233M. This includes cash and in-kind contributions from our international and industrial partners, federal and provincial agencies, university contributions, and a conditional philanthropic contribution to Dalhousie University. We will be advised on July 7 or 8 whether this proposal has made the final group of competing proposals. If so, a delegation of three individuals will meet with the selection board in Toronto on July 17 or 18 and provided 10 minutes for introductory remarks and 30 minutes for questions and answers. Results will be announced in Summer 2016 with funds becoming available in the 2016/2017 fiscal year pending Treasury Board approval and parliamentary appropriation of funds.

The President presented to Senate the budget that we have received to date from the provincial government. This budget introduces a sequence of budget cuts to the institution that will total an annual reduction of $18.9 M. Implementing these cuts without any other sources of revenue will compromise the quality and breadth of programs that we offer. The university is currently assessing what other options to pursue.

A joint meeting was held on April 26 for the Departments of Biology and Ocean Sciences to decide how to proceed with the development of an undergraduate biology stream within the department of Ocean Sciences. At that meeting, there was consensus that the best way forward was for the two departments to join forces in the development of this program. Dr. Andy Foster, Associate Dean (Undergraduate & Administration) will work with both departments in developing the details that accompany this initiative.

The Dean announced that this is the last Science Faculty Council meeting for this academic year. Regular meetings will resume in September.

**FSC 2440 Question Period**

The Dean was questioned on whether there was a strategy being implemented to help offset budget cuts by increasing tuition and still maintain the lowest tuition in Canada. He was also asked if there was any strategy to equalize tuition for Canadian and International graduate students. He explained that he has been appointed a member of the committee, struck by the Provost, to establish a framework to consider tuition increases.

**FSC 2441 Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1:27 p.m.