



Faculty of Science

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**FACULTY OF SCIENCE
FACULTY COUNCIL OF SCIENCE
MINUTES OF MEETING OF JANUARY 16, 2019**

A meeting of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Science was held on Wednesday, January 16, 2019, at 1:00 p.m. in room C-2045.

FSC 2644 Present

Biochemistry

R. Bertolo, V. Booth, J. Brunton, S. Harding

Biology

T. Chapman, B. Staveley

Chemistry

S. Pansare

Computer Science

S. Bungay

Mathematics & Statistics

C. Cigsar, G. Cox, J. Craighead, D. Dyer, Z Fan, A. Hatefi, R. Haynes, H. Kunduri, J.C. Loredano-Osti, M. Merkli, C. Ou, D. Pike, Y. Sommerhauser, S. Sullivan, J. Suvak, H. Usefi, J. Xiao, Y. Yilmaz

Physics & Physical Oceanography

M. Morrow, J. Munroe, K. Poduska

Psychology

K. Fowler, C. Thorpe, C. Walsh

Dean of Science Office

M. Abrahams, T. Fridgen, G. Jackson, T. Mackenzie, L. Zedel

CITL

A. Todd

Marine Institute

S. Caines

FSC 2645 **Regrets**
M. Berry, G. Fletcher, J. Hanchar, S. Mantyka

FSC 2646 **Adoption of Minutes**
Moved: Minutes of the December 5, 2018, meeting be adopted (Sullivan/Bungay). **Four Abstentions. Carried.**

FSC 2647 **Business Arising:**
In response to the minutes of December 5, 2018, item FSC 2641 A.b.i., Tom Chapman, Head, Department of Biology presented the following statement:
The Biology Department supports Dr. Staveley's wish to have his opinion on the Department's curricular changes read into the Faculty Council minutes of Dec 5, 2018. However, we wish that one clarification be included: With the support of the Centre for Institutional Analysis and Planning, all Biology Majors (in program in March 2018, 257 students) and five years of alumni (457 students) were contacted and invited to provide commentary on our proposed program revisions.

The proposal for the changes to the PsyD program that did not make Faculty Council in December (FSC 2641 B.d.), were approved by the Executive Council of Faculty Council.

FSC 2648 **Correspondence:**
The Department of Mathematics and Statistics had submitted a building statement and motion to be presented at Faculty Council. The document contained an inaccuracy which stated that the Department of Mathematics and Statistics was originally slated to relocate to the Core Sciences Building. However, that was never part of the planning for the Core Sciences building.

Moved: That the Faculty of Science adopt the resolution submitted by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics concerning the Mathematics Building and the Department's physical infrastructure. (Pike/Haynes)

Amended Motion: Revise the resolution to replace the reference to the move to the Core Sciences Building with "despite it originally being planned that the Department would be relocated to the Chemistry-Physics Building".

Carried. Two Abstentions.

FSC 2649 **Reports of Standing Committees:**

A. **Undergraduate Studies Committee:**

All Calendar changes from the December 5, 2018 meeting have been approved by SCUGS. However, some departments still have to submit revised proposals. It's now time to start thinking about changes to the 2020/21 calendar.

Also, feedback is welcome regarding revisions to the overall Science regulations that was approved last year. There was one consequence that affected ESL students – the students had to complete additional English courses but could not get credit

for all the courses due to a restriction in HSS for the number of first year English courses for which they could get credit. Thanks to changes by HSS, this restriction will no longer exist.

B. Graduate Studies Committee:

Dean of the School of Graduate Studies sent an email regarding proposed calendar changes for graduate courses that require WHMIS and the registrar's office proposed options. This information is attached for Faculty Council's information only.

Members of council suggested that registration for WHMIS be tied to registrations of graduate courses such as the departmental 9000 level course.

C. Nominating Committee:

Moved: To accept proposed Faculty Council Constitution and By-Laws as presented. (Fridgen/Loredo-Osti) **Carried.**

D. Library Committee: None

FSC 2650 Report of Teaching Consultant

Reminder that nominations for the Dean's awards have started, and the call for President's awards goes out on February 4th. Also, please note that we are actively directing students to the General Office of their department for support in these nominations, so please ensure that staff are aware. The Faculty retreat is going ahead during midterm break, Friday, February 22 in the McCann Centre (Education Building).

FSC 2651 Report of the Dean

Presented by Mark Abrahams, Dean.

1. As most of you know, the university successfully concluded negotiations with both MUNFA and LUMUN. Both agreements require ratification from their membership but all are optimistic that there is little risk of a labour disruption.
2. I want to welcome new department heads in the Faculty of Science. Dr. Sunil Pansare is the new head of Chemistry, beginning Monday of this week. Dr. Greg Dunning will become the new head of Earth Sciences on February 1.
3. I do have sad news to report. Dr. Ashoke Deb in the Department of Computer Science passed away during the winter break. The university will be making an announcement of this on newswire.
4. I participated in an all-day meeting with Deans on December 17th to make their cases for replacement faculty associated with the Voluntary Retirement Program (VRP). As you know, the Faculty of Science has lost 14 positions to the VRP, with Earth Science losing 5 positions, and Computer Science and Chemistry each losing 3 positions. An additional two positions have been lost in Computer Science due to the resignation of their Department Head and the death of Dr. Deb. I have received no word yet on how many of these positions will be replaced, nor on the availability of start-up funds for new faculty.

FSC 2652**Question Period**

The Dean was questioned about the Law School proposal and tuition costs of the students. The proposal is that the tuition will be approximately \$30,000/year/student with 100 students per year, and they are expecting support from donors. At Senate it was made clear that this cannot impact the current funding of units. The Board of Regents will be looking at the financial proposal for the Law School. The new proposed building for the school will have classrooms, but it is not known if other Faculties can use the classrooms.

With regards to the proposed tear-down of the Science Building, preliminary work indicates that the University cannot make do without the large lecture theatre in that building. This may result in a partial tear-down.

FSC 2653**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1:52p.m.