



Faculty of Science

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FACULTY OF SCIENCE FACULTY COUNCIL OF SCIENCE Minutes of Meeting of June 16, 2021

A meeting of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Science was held on Wednesday, June 16, 2021, at 1:00 p.m. using Webex.

FSC 2846

Present

Biochemistry

V. Booth, J. Brunton, D. Hunt

Biology

J. Burke, E. Edinger, B. Staveley, Y. Wiersma

Chemistry

S. Pansare, J. Pittman

Computer Science

S. Bungay, Oscar Meruvia Pastor

Earth Sciences

G. Layne

Mathematics & Statistics

E. Cardoso-Bihlo, D. Harvey, R. Haynes, J.C. Loredó-Osti, S. Mantyka, D. Pike, T. Sheel, S. Sullivan

Ocean Sciences

G. Fletcher, P. Gagnon, D. Nichols, C. Parrish, J. Santander

Physics & Physical Oceanography

E. Hayden, E. Merschrod, M. Morrow, K. Poduska

Psychology

D. Hallett, A. Swift-Gallant

Dean of Science Office

D. Bennett, N. Bishop, J. Blundell, S. Dufour, K. Foss, T. Fridgen, G. Jackson, G. Kenny, P. MacCallum, V. MacNab, J. Major, R. Newhook

- FSC 2847 Regrets:**
F. Kerton, T. Mackenzie, D. McIlroy
- FSC 2848 Adoption of Minutes**
Moved: Minutes of the meeting of April 21, 2021, be adopted. (Sullivan/Sheel) **Carried.**
- FSC 2849 Business Arising:**
I was asked about ventilation at the last Faculty Council meeting. I spoke with Greg McDougall, the Chief Risk Officer. As part of the controls used to protect against COVID-19 transmission, Facilities Management is ensuring that the HVAC systems are working as per their design and in accordance with the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers. HVAC is one of the controls, including masking, barriers, vaccination, etc. that are expected to make our workplace safe.
- FSC 2850 Correspondence:** None
- FSC 2851 Reports of Standing Committees:**
- A. Undergraduate Studies Committee: No Business**
 - B. Graduate Studies Committee:**
 - a. Department of Psychology, proposed calendar changes (Layne/Haynes)
Carried
 - C. Library Committee: No business.**
- FSC 2852 Reports of Delegates from Other Councils:** None
- FSC 2853 Report of the Dean**
Presented by Dr. Travis Fridgen, Acting Dean
1. There will be an On the Menu session entitled: NSERC Discovery Grant Session – scheduled for Wednesday, June 23rd at 1 for anyone planning to apply for an NSERC DG this fall or any time in the future.
Dr. Kris Poduska will present the top 10 tips for a successful application. In addition, several NSERC panel members, the Faculty of Science grants facilitation officers, and the associate dean (research and graduate studies) will be present to answer any questions that arise.
 2. I would like to formally introduce Dr. Suzanne Dufour as acting associate dean of science for a little over a month now and thank her for taking on this position. Dr. Dufour was most recently the Deputy Head of Undergraduate Studies in the Department of Biology.
Joining Dr. Lynn Frizzell on the Grants Facilitation Team is Dr. Jennifer Major and Mr. Phillip MacCallum. Jenn completed her MSc and PhD in Cellular and Molecular Medicine at the University of Ottawa with a research focus on the molecular mechanisms of cardiac development and disease. Following her PhD she completed a postdoctoral fellowship in the Cardiology department at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus. Phillip has an MSc degree from Memorial

and is currently completing his PhD (part-time) in Experimental Psychology. While his research has primarily focused on the neurobiology of learning and memory, he has also worked on a diversity of projects ranging from the social and emotional wellbeing of educators in Newfoundland and Labrador to clinical trials in neurorehabilitation.

Please ensure that your applications are submitted by the Faculty of Science deadline so that your grants facilitation support team can best support you!

Ms. Melanie Fitzpatrick will be joining us on June 22 as secretary and front desk receptionist in the Dean of Science Office.

Dr. Len Zedel has been appointed for a three-year term beginning September 1, 2021 as the Head of the Department of Physics and Physical Oceanography. I would like to thank Len for his work for the last 9 years as the Associate Dean (Graduate and Research). I thank everyone for their very positive feedback, and I have recommended the appointment of Dr. Jacqueline Blundell as the Interim Associate Dean (Graduate and Research) beginning immediately and until a search can be conducted.

FSC 2854 Question Period

The issue of adequate ventilation in the buildings was discussed, and the Acting Dean indicated he would follow up with Facilities Management to ensure this work is completed and the information disseminated to units.

The Acting Dean would like to be invited to departmental meetings as early as possible in the Fall semester in order to discuss the Faculty of Science Strategic Plan, and to begin work on that as quickly as possible.

With a return to campus for students in September, meetings with graduate students can take place in person. If the meeting is with a group, classrooms will be available and masking and distancing should be maintained. One-on-one meetings in offices are appropriate with the same conditions.

Classes of 100+ students will be remote this Fall 2021 semester. Ideally, mid-terms and other evaluations will be remote as well. Instructors would need permission to hold evaluations in-person. The pandemic situation is an evolving one, and as things change through the semester, so will recommendations on such things as in-person exams for larger classes.

The Acting Dean visited the core science facility on Friday and posted some pictures on Twitter. It really looks good and it's going to be exciting to welcome students into those lab spaces.

FSC 2855 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:34 p.m.