



**Faculty of Science**

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**FACULTY OF SCIENCE  
FACULTY COUNCIL OF SCIENCE  
Minutes of Meeting of September 21, 2022**

A meeting of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Science was held on Wednesday, September 21, 2022, at 1:00 p.m. using a Hybrid model (WebEx and In-Person).

**FSC 2960**

**Present**

**Biochemistry**

M. Berry, R. Bertolo, V. Booth, J. Burton, S. Christian, D. Hunt

**Biology**

A. Chaulk, L. Robinson, Y. Tzenov

**Chemistry**

C. Bottaro, L. Cahill, H. Grover, F. Kerton, C. Kozak, E. Merschrod, S. Pansare, B. Power, H. Reader, S. Smith, D. Stirling, T. Stockmann

**Computer Science**

S. Anthony, D. Churchill, A. Fiech, M. Hatcher, C. Hyde, K. Popuri, A. Soares, T. Tricco, F. Tu

**Earth Sciences**

A. Langille, A. Malcolm, K. Welford

**Economics**

K. Chu

**Mathematics & Statistics**

I. Booth, D. Dyer, C. Evans, A. Hatefi, D. Harvey, R. Haynes, J.C. Loredó-Osti, S. MacLachlan, D. Pike, C. Ou, T. Steel, M. Strong, T. Stuckless, Y. Yilmaz-Cigsar

**Ocean Sciences**

I. Fleming, M. Rise

**Physics & Physical Oceanography**

E. Hayden, H. Neilson, I. Saika-Voivod, A. Yethiraj, L. Zedel

**Psychology**

A. Brown, K. Hourihan, C. Quinn-Nilas, C. Walsh, C. Thorpe

**Dean of Science Office**

J. Blundell, J. Bowering, S. Dufour, M. Fitzpatrick, K. Foss, T. Fridgen, C. Hussey, L. Frizzell, G. Jackson, J. Kavanagh, P. MacCallum, V. MacNab, J. Major, T Mackenzie, R. Newhook, R. Temple

**Registrar's Office:**

T. Edmunds

**Student Representatives:**

J. Carter, Deng, E. Dormody, L. Fowler, K. Templeman,

**FSC 2961****Regrets:**

C. Couturier, G. Dunning, L. Fowler, M. Katz, K. Poduska, S. Mantyka, S. Sullivan

**FSC 2962****Adoption of Minutes**

**Moved:** Adoption of the Minutes of the meeting of May 18, 2022. (Dufour/Berry) **Carried.**

**FSC 2963**

**Business Arising:** None

**FSC 2964**

**Correspondence:** None

**FSC 2965****Reports of Standing Committees:**

**A. Undergraduate Studies Committee:** Presented by Suzanne Dufour, Acting Associate Dean of Science, Undergraduate and Administration:

- a. Department of Computer Science - Calendar Change, Amend Mathematics pre-requisite for Computer Science 2001 and 2022, (Dufour/Fiech) **Carried.**
- b. Department of Computer Science – Calendar Changes, Amend course description for Computer Science 1001, (Dufour/Fiech) **Carried.**
- c. Department of Computer Science – Calendar Changes, New Course – Computer Science 499A/B, (Dufour/Fiech) **Carried.**  
An additional minor amendment was requested to specify that there is no cost associated with the change.
- d. Department of Biology – Calendar Changes, Amend program Regulations, 11.2.3.1 Major in Biology, (Dufour/Chaulk) **Carried.**  
Minor amendment; correction of typographical errors (Honours in Biology is 11.2.4.1).
- e. Department of Biology – Calendar Changes, Crosslist Biology 4605 with Ocean Sciences 4605, amend course title and update course description, (Dufour/Chaulk) **Carried.**

**B. Graduate Studies Committee:** Presented by Jacqueline Blundell, Associate Dean of Science, Research and Graduate

Jacqueline Blundell thanked Graham Layne for his hard work and dedication as Chair of the Faculty of Science Graduate Studies committee over the years.

- a. Department of Earth Science, Special Topics Graduate Course, EASC 6956, Applications of Petrochronology, approved by the committee and presented to Faculty Council for information only.
- b. Department of Earth Science, Request for Approval of a Graduate Course, EASC 6560, Applications of Petrochronology, (Blundell/Berry) **Carried.**

**C. Library Committee:** No business.

**FSC 2966 Committee Matrix:** Suzanne Dufour thanked the Department Heads and Program Chairs that sent along the names of their departmental representatives. She requested that those who have yet submitted the names of the departmental or student representatives to do so by the next Faculty Council, October 19. She also encouraged all members to review the *Constitution and By-laws of the Faculty of Science Faculty Council* found [here](#).

**FSC 2967 Dr. C. Robert Lucas Graduate Fund**  
Jacqueline Blundell explained that this fund was established through a generous gift from Dr. Lucas who was a former faculty member and head of Chemistry, a former Dean of Science and now a Professor Emeritus. During a difficult financial time in Dr. Lucas' life he was able to avail of a special fund that the university he was attending at the time had for students in this situation. Dr. Lucas' Fund is now providing the same support for students within the Faculty of Science. This fund will help students that find themselves in a difficult financial situation, and help them finish their studies without interruption. We are very pleased to announce that two students have received support from this fund.

**FSC 2968 Motion for an Open Phase for the Provost Search:**  
Travis Fridgen will present the document to the President's office. (Merschrod/ Berry)  
**Carried.**

**FSC 2969 Report of the Dean:**

**Budget update.**

The Faculty of Science has received a \$1.5M budget reduction for the 22-23 fiscal year and going forward. The Dean's office has been meeting and working with Department Heads to deal with the reductions and will continue to do so.

**Collective bargaining update.**

At the April Faculty Council meeting, the Dean provided updates on ongoing negotiations between MUNFA and the University. They met two more times for two-day blocks in May and June and continued to make considerable progress. MUNFA filed for conciliation on June 9<sup>th</sup>, which is a normal part of the process and both MUNFA and the University met for two days on September 8 and 9, and the Dean characterized the meetings as collegial and productive. Meetings are expected to be held in October and November to continue the process.

**FSC 2970 Question Period**

There was a discussion on budget reductions in hopes that the Faculty could say no to cuts. However, the budget given to the Faculty of Science is what has to be managed by the Dean. The budget cuts were not strategically distributed to Faculties and were across the board.

A question was raised on the criteria that the Provost uses to decide on the budget. The Dean explained that the Faculty of Science presents a budget request to the Provost and other Faculties and Schools to justify the request and any needed increases. This year a multiple million dollar shortfall was announced, six or eight months after the budget presentations.

Decisions should be made by late October or early November regarding any faculty recruitments that are currently on hold.

Concerns were raised on the University's business model, and faculty would like to have the Provost present at Faculty Council to explain it. The Dean offered to extend an invitation to the Provost to attend Faculty Council.

The Faculty of Science enrollment is down slightly this year, but last year it was up by about 10%. A new budget model was discussed at the end of last spring that would be an activity based model where money follows the students; tuition money would go to the units based on enrollments. In this model, services such as space would then need to be paid. Unfortunately, when the Provost left the University, the review of the budget model was placed on hold. This lost momentum impacts student experience, especially when we are losing supports that are needed to make programs attractive to students and help the students succeed.

Computer Sciences has three positions ready to advertise for the MAI program. The budget didn't affect the plans for artificial intelligence computer lab. This space should be ready for the Winter term since it is funded externally.

The Dean thanked everyone for attending, and reminded everyone about the Dean's Awards Ceremony taking place at 5pm tonight.

**FSC 2971**

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.