**MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND**

**Special Meeting of Academic Council, School of Graduate Studies**

**Minutes, July 26, 2016**

PRESENT: Dr. Aimée Surprenant, Dr. D. Farquharson, Dr. C. Dyck, Dr. P. Coady, Dr. T. Brown, Dr. T. Norvell, Ms. C. Walsh, Dr. J. Doré, Dr. D. Moralejo, Dr. J.C. Loredo-Osti, Dr. K. Tahlan, Dr. R. Klein, Dr. S. Cadigan

 Dr. B. Favaro – Guest (to speak to item 6.a.vi of agenda)

APOLOGIES: Dr. R. Joy, Dr. T. Wareham, Dr. P. Foley, Dr. L. Wetsch, Dr. B. Roebothan, Mr. A. Johnson, Dr. J. Hesson

1. MINUTES:

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting for May 16, 2016, will be forwarded to the next regular meeting for approval.

1. BUSINESS ARISING
2. CORRESPONDENCE
3. DEAN’S REPORT/REPORT OF SENATE
4. At the regular meeting of Senate, held May 10, 2016, the following items were approved:
* History – Calendar Revisions
* Psychology – Calendar Revisions
* Combining two Arts departments into one administration unit known as Department of Modern Language, Literatures and Cultures.
* Revision to General Regulation 4.12 governing Academic Misconduct
1. The Chair noted that she became Dean of Graduate Studies June 1, 2016, and will be arranging meetings in the Fall with Graduate representatives and graduate students of each unit, to discuss graduate issues.
2. A welcome was extended to Dr. Danine Farquharson, who was appointed Interim Associate Dean for the School of Graduate Studies, effective June 13, 2016.
3. REPORT OF THE GRADUATE STUDENTS’ UNION

There was no report available by the GSU for this meeting.

1. STANDING COMMITTEES
2. Academic Council Executive
3. Chemistry

The Department of Chemistry is requesting approval of a proposed new course CHEM 6620, Environmental Chemistry.

It was moved by Dr. Coady, and seconded by Dr. Farquharson, that the proposed new course, and calendar revisions to sections 24.8.2 and 32.5.2 be approved. The motion

 CARRIED

This item of business will be forwarded to Senate Executive for consideration.

Calendar Revision is as follows:

Under section 24.82 add: 6620 Environmental Chemistry

Under section 32.5.2 add: 6620 Environmental Chemistry

Course Description:

Environmental Chemistry applies fundamental principles of chemistry to reactions and processes in the environment. Reaction mechanisms, physical processes, and application of analytical techniques to environmental chemistry will be discussed. The course will cover the chemistry underpinning current environmental problems such as long-range transport of persistent pollutants, photochemical smog, and climate change.

1. Education – 11.8.4

The Faculty of Education is requesting approval of a revision to section 11.8.4 which adds existing course ED 6831 to the closed elective list of the Post-Secondary Studies Program.

It was moved by Dr. Coady, and seconded by Dr. Loredo-Osti, that the proposed revision be approved. The motion

 CARRIED

This item of business will be forwarded to Senate Executive for consideration.

 Calendar revisions is as follows:

 Under section 11.8.4, item 2.g, add:

 6831 Organization and Administration of Student Services.

1. Education – 32.9.1

The Faculty of Education is requesting approval of a revision to section 32.9.1 governing Admissions, which will include the addition of an interview process for the Ph.D. program.

It was moved by Dr. Coady, and seconded by Dr. Loredo-Osti, that the proposed revision be approved. The motion

 CARRIED

This item of business will be forwarded to Senate Executive for consideration.

Calendar revision is as follows:

Under section 32.9.1, add new Item 4. To read:

4. an interview may be required.

1. Education – 32.9.3

The Faculty of Education is requesting approval of a revision to section 32.9.3 which changes the language under the Faculty of Education comprehensive examination regulations, to coincide with the language used in section 4.8.2 Ph.D. and Psy.D. Comprehensive Examination regulations of the School of Graduate Studies.

It was moved by Dr. Coady, and seconded by Dr. Loredo-Osti, that the proposed revisions be approved. The motion

 CARRIED

This item of business will be forwarded to Senate Executive for consideration.

Calendar revision is as follows:

32.9.3. Program of Study

1. Comprehensive Examination

The candidate shall undertake a written and an oral comprehensive examination, which will follow General Regulation [**Comprehensive Examinations, Ph.D. Comprehensive Examination**](http://www.mun.ca/regoff/calendar/sectionNo%3DGRAD-0024#GRAD-0778) which sets out the procedures for the comprehensive examination.

* 1. ~~A candidate in a Ph.D. program in Education shall normally take the written Comprehensive Examination prior to the seventh semester of the program.~~

a. A candidate in a Ph.D. program in Education shall normally take the examination no later than the end of the seventh semester in the program. The candidate will have completed required courses prior to taking the Comprehensive Examination. In preparation for the Comprehensive Examination, the doctoral candidate, with the guidance of the candidate's Supervisor, will undertake study of the sub-disciplines/areas of concentration identified by the candidate and supervisory committee and approved by the Doctoral Committee. Normally, these will include the candidate's area of concentration and two additional sub-disciplines/areas of concentration.

1. School of Graduate Studies – Doctoral Degree Pilot Pathway for Aboriginal Students

The School of Graduate Studies, in collaboration with the Office of the Special Advisors to the President on Aboriginal Affairs, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, and Internationalization Office, are requesting endorsement by Council, of this proposed pathway. This proposal is in response to the recommendations of the 2009 Report of the Presidential Task Force on Aboriginal Initiatives to improve conditions for Aboriginal student success, as well as the Enrolment Plan 2020 and Strategic Research Intensity Plan.

It was moved by Dr. Coady, and seconded by Dr. Farquharson, that the proposal be endorsed.

The motion

 CARRIED

It was noted that following the pilot project, further consultation will take place.

1. Proposed New Programs – Fisheries Science

The Marine Institute is requesting approval of the proposed new programs as follows:

Master of Science in Fisheries Science (Fisheries Science and Technology)

Master of Science in Fisheries Science (Stock Assessment)

Doctor of Philosophy

It was moved by Dr. Coady, and seconded by Ms. Walsh, that the proposed new programs be approved in principle, to permit an external review by the School of Graduate Studies.

Discussion:

Dr. Favaro spoke to the proposal as documented in the submitted package.

One point raised was that if the graduate students are to be supervised, positions of the instructors at the Marine Institute are not considered as traditional faculty or academic positions. This should be reviewed. There was also mention that for PhD students, the normal duration of funding for those students are four years. Dr. Favaro did note that those who would be involved with the graduate students research would have research money.

On the call for question, the motion

 CARRIED

1. Blended Learning Definition

Council members were asked to comment on the proposed definition being put forward by the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, as noted in the memorandum dated June 29, 2016.

Points noted:

* The proposal includes language that is specific to 3 credit-hour courses. It would be useful if the definition were more flexible to accommodate courses that have different credit hours. For example, Blend 1 might read: Two-thirds of the credit hours of face-to-face time with one-third replaced by online…” etc.
* A concern was expressed that these courses might be considered to be distance courses and thus trigger additional fees for the students. The committee was in favour of the addition assuming that that was not the intent of the proposal.

The points noted above will be transmitted to the Secretary, Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies.

1. ANY OTHER BUSINESS
2. NOTICE OF MOTION
3. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned 12:25 pm.

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Aimée Surprenant, Chair Peggy Coady, Secretary