

Faculty of Science and Technology
Minutes – Faculty Council Meeting
Friday, December 12, 2014
12:30 – 2:00 p.m.
ICSS Boardroom – Building 395, Room 210

Present: Don Noakes (Chair), John Amaral, Bill Beese, Dave Bigelow, Brian Dick, Eric Demers, Don Furnell, Greg Klimes, Huizhu Liu, John Morgan, Aubrey Robertson (Student Representative), Rae-Anne Savard (Recorder)

Regrets: Dean Slonowsky, Todd Barsby, Tim Stokes

Guest: Dave Witty

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve: G. Klimes
Seconded: B. Beese
All in favour: **CARRIED.**

Approval of Faculty Council Minutes – November 14, 2014

Motion to approve: D. Furnell
Seconded: D. Bigelow
All in favour: **CARRIED.**

Dean's Report

Don Noakes reported that the BC Salmon Farmers have been holding aquaculture workshops and meetings and have secured \$1.5 million in funding from industry for research. There may be research opportunities for VIU.

Don mentioned that there are 6-8 cases of academic misconduct (labs) this term.

At Senate, there was discussion on Honours options for degrees (undergrad thesis). Currently, Honours is not an option for students with a minor or double minors. Don asked that Council members take back this information to their department to decide whether they wish to put forth a proposal to allow students with double minors, or degrees without majors, to have the option to complete an Honours degree. Don will also check the intent for the 12 extra credits (above and beyond B.Sc. and B.A.).

<p>ACTION: <u>Don Noakes</u> to forward to Council Steve Lane's documentation on Honours options.</p>
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Senators' Report

ABE funding is changing: government funds are no longer available. Universities have been told to start charging tuition; however, VIU will not be implementing this until April 2015. There are ongoing discussions, including discussions with the School Board. There will be more information to come when the Senate meets again in February.

Some of the Faculties have reviewed their Bylaws using a new template. While Science and Technology has yet to review their By-laws, there is a need for revisions to the language and to the procedure on the creation of subcommittees.

Science & Technology P&P Subcommittee Update

Tabled until the Council meeting of January 16, 2015.

Additional Item: Motion from Todd Barsby

In Todd's absence, John Amaral motioned:

“Recognizing that teaching students is the priority of the Faculty of Science and Technology at VIU; that conflict-free timetabling is in the best interest of Science and Technology students; and that no meeting space exists at VIU to accommodate all VIU employees; therefore, the Faculty of Science and Technology does not participate in excluding any time period, during regular business hours, from course timetabling.”

With timetabling being too restrictive, there was a discussion on the lack of space (classrooms and labs) and student scheduling conflicts. Don may have to approve some classes be held during the common meeting time and he will also speak to Dave Witty.

Motion to approve: J. Amaral

Seconded: B. Dick

All in favour: **CARRIED.**

Enrollment Management and Provost Update

Dave Witty reported that the Powell River campus has a new Administrator (Principal/Dean). In partnerships with the School District and with First Nations, the campus is being redeveloped. The Parksville campus is under redevelopment as well.

Witty is hopeful that the construction of the new Health and Science building will go ahead. \$75 million is needed to complete both phases.

There will be an increase in the number of students at the Cowichan campus. Labs for Science programs will be used.

Summative assessment will begin in January. The matrix was revised and made more relevant.

Through a MOU with the City of Parksville, VIU and Parksville are assuming responsibility for managing and rebuilding the Biosphere initiative. Witty met with First Nations regarding a possible partnership.

Council members should visit the Provost website for Craig Stephen's Centre for Coast Health draft proposal to develop a School of Environment, Health and Safety.

There is a Food Services master plan under development to help support the VIU community. A consultant was hired to look at financial viability and other options.

The Student Learning Survey was a success. Witty handed out survey cards for Council members to fill out and submit.

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Motion to adjourn: D. Bigelow  
Seconded: G. Klimes  
All in favour: **CARRIED.**

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.