

*Faculty of Science and Technology*  
**Minutes – Faculty Council Meeting**  
Monday, February 18, 2013  
4:30 to 5:30 p.m.  
ICSS Boardroom – Building 395, Room 210

**Present:** Greg Crawford, Brian Dick, Duane Friesen, Gara Pruesse, Don Furnell, Paul Lucas, Dave Bigelow, Rosemarie Ganassin, John Amaral, Glen Pugh, Greg Klimes, Tim Stokes, Rae-Anne Savard (Recorder)

**Guests:** Dave Witty, Sarah Dudas

**Regrets:** Mike Girard, Nathan Stefani

---

### *Provost's Update*

Dave Witty summarized the following activities:

- The Academic Plan is well underway to being implemented and the Regional Action Plan, derived from the Academic Plan, has also begun to be implemented. Witty wants to see Science course offerings at the Cowichan Campus.
- The Office of Enrollment Management Plan is focusing on retention and recruitment, with the main emphasis on retention. Witty mentioned that there is still a perception we are a transfer University, and he will be working to change this.
- The “niche” document, identifying VIU as a teaching/regional University in British Columbia, can be found on the Provost’s website.
- The new Science and Health Building is still a top priority. A government pro-forma document was filled out, and they are aware of our needs. Ralph Nilson continues to meet with Education Ministers and is a strong advocate for us. Previous building plans are outdated, so Ric Kelm is doing a costing analysis. There are resources needed for the planning process; however, construction of the new building is still a long way away. Witty will have more conversations with our Faculty at a later time.
- Witty will be hosting a Scholarly Activity mini conference on May 28.
- Witty spoke about the increasing presence of Aboriginal Students (12% and growing); it is currently 30% at the Cowichan Campus. Future conversations will follow on how VIU will bring in and fund programming tied to needs in Aboriginal communities, including traditional knowledge.
- Co-op/internship experiential learning is being incorporated into degree programs elsewhere and, to a limited extent, here at VIU. Such experiences are valuable for students’ education and future job opportunities. Paid experiences can also help reduce student debt load. Science and Technology can potentially expand opportunities in this kind of experiential learning, although it may not always be within the official co-op framework. This will be explored in more detail at a future time.

### *Approval of Faculty Council Minutes: January 14, 2013*

Under “Dean’s Report,” change to “Greg discovered that each program has a different definition of an FTE, and the cost per FTE is not always **based on** 30 credits. For example, the cost per FTE in Fisheries, Forestry and RMOT is **based on** 36 credits.”

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

### ***Dean's Report***

Greg has not reviewed the 2013-2014 budget, but he will be when he meets with Sarie next week. He did get confirmation that funding for a half-time Computer Science Technician is delayed to the 2014-2015 budget year. Funding will be provided for additional release time for the Chairs of Chemistry and Physics, and additional supplies funding will be available for the Fisheries and Chemistry Departments. We did not get funding for the Dean's Office renovations (move to Bldg. 360), but approval was given to use funding earned from some of the cost recovery activities in Science and Technology.

At Educational Standards, GPA filtering for Biology enrollment was temporarily approved to continue with a slight increase up from 25%. This is only for students enrolled in 2<sup>nd</sup> year and up, as 1<sup>st</sup> year students already have registration priority. Computing Science would like to use GPA filtering/priority registration (25%), and Dave Bigelow will check with the MATH Department. It was mentioned that the prerequisite checking system/software is not consistent.

### ***Senators' Report***

The Planning & Priorities' draft budget has a target for an additional 500 FTEs for the whole institution, with focus on retention.

Our Faculty was excluded from the registration maximum of 18 credits. Biology would like Science and Technology to have a registration maximum range of 18 to 20 credits.

ACTION: <u>John Amaral</u> to meet with Fred Jacklin to discuss a registration maximum credit for our Faculty.
--

### ***Curriculum Committee Submissions:***

BIOL 411: Biological Oceanography: new course proposal: (Sarah Dudas)

VIU formerly had a similar course that was taught by Bill Pennell in Fisheries; Sarah taught the same course at UVic. Funding would come from Sarah's Canada Research Chair (CRC) position. To further discuss prerequisites for RMOT students, Sarah will contact John Morgan, RMOT Advisor. She will also have more discussions with Chris Foote, the curriculum contact in the Fisheries Department. The proposal was tabled for the next Faculty Council meeting.

Discussion on Bachelor of Natural Resource Protection Program Change: (Greg Klimes)

The proposal was tabled for the next Faculty Council meeting.

MATH 203 course change: (Dave Bigelow)

The course change is to accommodate changes to the Biology Degree for the coming year. Changes to the prerequisite and to the grade are required for MATH 181.

Don Furnell expressed concern about the impacts of the change to the Fisheries and Aquaculture Degree and indicated he would meet with Dave Bigelow to discuss this further.

Motion to approve: J. Amaral

Seconded: G. Klimes

All in favour: **CARRIED** (one opposed).

Biology Major and Minor Program Change: (John Amaral)

The proposal was tabled for the next Faculty Council meeting.

***Report on review of Faculty By-laws (Dave Bigelow/Gara Pruesse)***

This item was tabled for next Faculty Council meeting.

Motion to adjourn: G. Klimes

Seconded: P. Lucas

All in favour: **CARRIED.**

Meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.