

Faculty of Science and Technology

Faculty Council Meeting

Friday, October 6, 2017

12:30 to 2:00 p.m.

ICSS Boardroom – Building 395, Room 210

MINUTES

Present: Don Noakes (Chair), Todd Barsby, Bill Beese, Eric Demers, Brian Dick (by phone), Stefanie Duff, Liz Gillis, Caroline Josefsson, Erik Krogh, Jerome Lesemann, Gara Pruesse, Samuelle Simard-Provencal (student representative)

Guests: Daniela Fischer Russell, Dan Baker

Regrets: Dave Bigelow

Approval of Agenda

APPROVED

Approval of Faculty Council Minutes – September 15, 2017

APPROVED

Dean's Report

- CHEM major proposal--presented at Provost's Council this week. We are not expecting major comments on the proposal.
- MATH major proposal--student survey was conducted last week. Proposal is now complete and ready to send to the Ministry.
- MATH interviews--five interviews are scheduled, starting today, to fill one regular position starting in January or August 2018.
- FRST--progress has been made on the woodlot agreement and CTAB accreditation process.
- ENGR advisory committee--now being finalized, made up of alums, local engineers, and faculty from institutions we receive students from and send students to.
- VIU budget--the President continues to work with the government to make VIU's case for additional provincial funding. VIU's budget remains a challenge. A 3% vacancy rate over the past few years allowed some leeway, but the rate is now much less, so target reductions have been mandated for each Faculty. We have a target reduction of 2% for FY 2017-18, and a 3-5% reduction for FY 2018-19.
- Science & Technology budget--Daniela Fischer Russell, Marina Rispin, and Don are meeting with Finance to discuss our budget this year. Given the anticipated 3-5% reductions next year, section numbers and sessional staffing may see some reductions. Program integrity must be maintained and we will put forward all requests for special funding, including creating new programs and the new Math and Chemistry majors.

Senators' Report

Brian Dick and Gara Pruesse

- Approved Curriculum Committee proposal to allow a minor from outside a student's degree

program—e.g., an Arts major could declare a Science minor.

- Approved proposal allowing a program area to create an honours program exceeding 120 hours.
- Approved creating a Reading Week in November starting Fall 2018, incorporating the Remembrance Day stat holiday. Classes will then end on Friday of the first week of December instead of Tuesday of that week. There will no longer be a study day in October or December.

Curriculum Committee Submissions

Fisheries & Aquaculture degree proposal (documents 1A through 1F))

Stefanie Duff

Feedback was provided to Fisheries & Aquaculture on the proposed Minors and proposed changes to the BSc. Faculty Council will meet next Friday (without the chair of Fisheries & Aquaculture and without the Dean) for more in-depth discussion, leading to a recommendation to be provided to the Dean by October 20.

Institutional BSc requirements—edits (document 2)

Todd Barsby

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Todd will circulate this document to other faculty councils as an FYI.

CHEM minor—program change (documents 3A, 3B, 3C)

Todd Barsby

Proposed changes are to enable 2017-18 to be a transitional year while the Ministry considers the CHEM Major proposal. A note will be included in the university calendar saying that there may be changes as early as September 2018.

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CSCI 490 – new course proposal (document 4)

Gara Pruesse

A 3-credit, one-term senior project to fill a gap in CSCI's course offerings—currently there is only CSCI 491, a 6-credit, year-long senior project.

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CSCI diploma – new residency requirement (document 5)

Gara Pruesse

Requiring 50% residency for the CSCI diploma. Currently VIU policy and webpage do not specify a residency requirement for diplomas.

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Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 1:55 pm.