

**Faculty of Science and Technology
Faculty Council Meeting
Friday, June 1, 2018
12:30 to 2:00 p.m.
ICSS Boardroom - Building 395, Room 210**

Minutes

Present: Don Noakes, Todd Barsby, Daniela Fischer Russell, Caroline Josefsson, Jerome Lesemann, John Morgan, Mark Noyon, Gara Pruesse, Dan Baker, Jennifer Dawson, David Bigelow, Eric Demers, Samuelle Simard-Provencal (student representative)

Regrets: Brian Dick, Liz Gillis, Doug Corrin

Approval of Agenda 12:30 pm

Addition to Agenda: Space Allocation – John Morgan
Motion to accept the Agenda with the addition: Todd, 2nd Gara, Carried

Approval of Faculty Council Minutes – May 4, 2018 12:35 pm

Update the date in the footer to May 4, 2018
Motion to accept the Minutes with the update: Gara, 2nd Jennifer, Carried

Dean's Report 12:40 pm

- The Major in Mathematics and Major in Chemistry proposals will be considered at the June 4th DQAB meeting. There were no comments on the Math proposal and only one comment (from UBC) on the Chemistry proposal following the posting of the proposals for 30 days for public consultation and input. VIU has provided a response to the UBC comment to DQAB. Assuming the DQAB reviews are positive, the proposals will be sent to the Minister of Advance Education Skills and Training for consideration.
- Construction on the new Health and Science Building is progressing with an expected completion in August. There have been a number of meetings about the upcoming move and packing has started and will be ramping up in anticipation of the move. Chemistry will share the space with Health and Human Services who have a new Dean, Dr. Patricia O'Hagan who is coming from the University of Hawaii and starts June 1, 2018.
- The renovation to Building 380 is on schedule and we expect faculty and staff to be moved back into their offices over the next two weeks.

- Forestry. On a positive note, logging in the woodlot is proceeding well. On a less positive note, one of our Forestry trucks is out of commission due to mechanical failure and may be beyond repair from a cost perspective. We are looking at alternatives which may include repairing the vehicle, replacing with another VIU fleet vehicle or purchasing or leasing a replacement truck.
- Budget planning for FY2019-20 will begin shortly with budget holders submitting documents by mid-September. Primarily a roll-forward budget but there are opportunities to request funding for new initiatives in a 3-year plan. Three new templates will also be used this year one specifically on research and scholarly activity and the second on fundraising related to targeted requests for equipment, etc. The third is on Student Fees. If budget dollars need to be reallocated to allow better spending, now is the time to do that, without changing the total budget amount.
- Marta Devellano has joined Science and Technology as our new Financial Assistant. She is currently working 3 days per week until October 2018. Marina Rispin has left VIU so we will need to re-post this position this fall.
- Dr. Jasmine Janes will be joining VIU in August as our new Plant Ecologist. Dr. Janes is currently completing a post-doc at a university in Australia.

Senators' Report

Gara Pruesse/Brian Dick

12:50 pm

- Alexandra Weissfloch has won the Teaching Design Award

The following will be discussed at the next Senate meeting:

- The following has been proposed to determine graduating GPA: if a student has taken a course more than once, the highest grade will be used to determine GPA.

Strategic Plan Steering Committee Update

Daniela Fischer Russell

1:00 p.m

The work has moved forward well. The Committee reviewed the Mission statement at the last meeting and had some thoughts on updating the statement. Daniela will be working this summer to bring a document together with the key elements that the committee has been discussing.

Ross McKay met with the Committee at the last meeting and Carol Stuart will be joining a meeting in the Fall.

Computing Space and Resource Planning Discussion

Jerome Lesemann

1:10 pm

Jerome presented the document that was circulated for review. There is a lack of classroom computer resources.

Discussion:

- Should S&T have a supply of laptops available for students?
- Should students be required to purchase their own laptop?
- Microsoft is currently a free download for students
- Each department requires specialized software licencing
- What software does each Department need?
- Math is considering having students buy software rather than textbooks
- Chem currently has some software loaded onto Library and 360 computers for students to access
- Who would support the licences – IT?

Next Steps:

Jerome will send an email out to everyone to determine what software licencing is required.

Library Computer Lab Booking – Currently faculty can't book the Library Computer Lab when it isn't being used.

- Jerome will send an email to Don to make a utilization request to access the Library Computer Lab when it isn't in use.

Requiring minimum grade of C on most CSCI prerequisites for CSCI courses

Gara Pruesse 1:30 pm

Motion by Gara: To have the Course changes proposed be approved by Faculty Council. 2nd David

Discussion:

It is proposed that when there is a Computer Science pre-requisite for a Computer Science course a minimum C must be attained. It is believed that this change will improve the success of the students in upper level courses. No Math requirements are changing. This change is proposed to be effective September 2019, so that students have one year notice.

All in favor – Carried

Space Allocation Request- John Morgan

After the last Faculty Council meeting, John forwarded the Space Allocation request to Facilities regarding the future use of Building 360. John has since received a response from Allan.

There have been three requests submitted for review for the vacated space in 360. The office space wasn't mentioned in John's submission. There is a good case for S&T retaining this space, as there are definite space needs at this time.

Don will forward a request to Carol regarding the use of the space being vacated in 360.