

*Faculty of Science and Technology*

**Minutes – Faculty Council Meeting**

**May 17, 2011 at 9:00 a.m.**

**Bldg. 370, Room 217**

**Present:** Greg Crawford (Chair), Doug Corrin, Duane Friesen, Jim Wilkinson, Brian Dick (PHYS Rep.), Rosemarie Ganassin, Greg Klimes, Michael Girard, Mark Noyon, Steve Earle (EASC Rep.), Dave Wessels (CSCI Rep.), Todd Barsby, Rae-Anne Savard and Christine Couture (Recording)

**Guest:** Dave Witty

**Regrets:** Gara Pruesse, Dave Bigelow, Eric Demers, Tim Stokes, Debbie Hearn

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***VPAP Questions-Answers Session:***

Dave Witty mentioned that he has been in his position as VPAP for nine months. He summarized his priorities and concerns:

- Focus on Academic Plan – committed to and driven by Senate
- Work closely with Deans, Directors and others.
- VIU is underfunded.
- Working on the roles of the University and Senate.
- Supports the promotion of interdisciplinary programming.
- Developments in program review – accountable and engage respectfully, work collaboratively.
- Committed to work with and for us collectively.
- Program assessment – was consumed by Academic Plan, time constraints and informed decisions.
- Supply Dean with budget for planning workloads etc. in a timely manner (we drive the budget; not the other way around). Did not have a hand in 2011-12 budget planning, as he was working on the Academic Plan.
- Working with Pat Eagar on budget timeline and process, and addressing concerns.
- The B.C. Transfer System needs to be examined in light of University status and our focus on offering our own credentials.
- Contract work reallocated to Faculties for deliveries and Faculties will retain profits (no admin. costs), for example NREP. A business group will evaluate costs analysis, possible support staff for contracts.

- Will meet with Faculties at least once per semester.
- Question for Witty: Assessment/suspension of GBET – what were the requirements? There were problems such as student dissatisfaction. Wants to reinvest in the program and bring it back (Advisory Committee involvement).
- Exploring opportunities for Trades to link with degree programs and vice versa, either through formal laddering or opportunity to take electives in select areas.

**ACTION:** Greg Crawford to organize a meeting to examine B.C. Transfer System.

Dave Witty to meet with members of AIBC to discuss GBET. Also, to provide Program Assessments Flow Chart to Faculty Council.

***Approval of Agenda:***

Motion to approve: Doug Corrin.

Seconded: Greg Klimes.

All in favour. **CARRIED.**

***Approval of Minutes – March 8 and May 3, 2011:***

Motion to approve March 8 minutes: Brian Dick.

Seconded: Rosemarie Ganassin.

All in favour. **CARRIED.**

**ACTION:** Council Members will approve minutes of May 3 by electronic vote.

***Dean's Report:***

Greg Crawford announced:

- Budget cuts total \$360,000 as of 2011-12 fiscal year – plus he needs to account for the net structural deficit handed last year (he needs more time to mitigate).
- Cuts may not play out as expected – currently loss of 2 FTE faculty for GBET/2<sup>nd</sup> year ENGR.
- Working with Chairs (BIOL, FISH and FRST cuts still need reconciling).

***Senators' Report:***

- Faculty Bylaws: wording moved into appropriate clause.
- The draft document on non-instructional representation on Senate currently states “position calls for significant involvement in the direct instruction of students in a course or program that has VIU Senate approval.” The wording is yet to be finalized, but once finalized and approved by Senate, the Dean can bring cases forward.
- Faculty Bylaws will be on next Senate agenda.

***Update on Faculty Website:***

Doug Corrin made a brief presentation. Council members were asked to have a look and give feedback to Doug.

**ACTION:** Christine Couture to forward the link to Council members for feedback. Minor corrections will be to add Engineering and to correct the spelling of Mark Noyon's surname.

***Discuss Bus Replacement:***

Council members discussed Greg Klimes' handout. Minor revisions will be made and resubmitted to Christine Couture. Council members agreed that Greg Crawford should bring this issue to Provost Council.

**ACTION:** Greg Klimes to revise handout.  
Greg Crawford to bring to Provost Council's attention.

***Discussion on Registration Priority Proposal:***

At the February 2011 Faculty Meeting, it was proposed that Faculty Council review this proposal.

Motion to approve proposal: Rosemarie Ganassin.  
Seconded: Doug Corrin.

All in favour. **CARRIED.**

**ACTION:** Greg Crawford to take to Senate for approval.

***Additional Item – International Advisory Committee:***

Brian Dick sent a call for information, as he would like to hear from departments/former students. He can then report to the Committee.

**ACTION:** Department Chairs to request information from their colleagues and former students.

Brian proposed that a draft of the Faculty Council agenda be sent out a week ahead of time, so that Council members can discuss these with their colleagues. Items should be sent to Christine Couture as early as possible.

**ACTION:** Christine Couture to add agenda item “Concerns regarding SCIE 101/301 Course Proposals.”

Council members to forward their concerns to Christine no later than Friday, June 3. These will be compiled and distributed as a handout at the June 14 Council meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.