

Faculty of Science and Technology

Minutes – Faculty Council Meeting

November 16, 2010

1:30 p.m.

CSR Conference Room, Bldg. 373, Room 206

Present: Greg Crawford (Chair), Doug Corrin, Duane Friesen (Recording), Jim Wilkinson, Debbie Hearn, Rosemarie Ganassin, Greg Klimes, Gara Pruesse, Tim Stokes, Eric Demers, Michael Girard, Dave Bigelow, Mark Noyon.

Guest: Paris Polydorou

Approval of Agenda:

Motion to approve: D. Bigelow

Seconded: R. Ganassin

All in favour. **CARRIED.**

Minutes of October 19, 2010:

To be approved electronically at a future date.

Dean's Report:

1. Budget: Started yesterday and Friday (program prioritization meetings). Deans and budget holders. Greg Crawford will have more details later.
2. The new Minister of Advanced Education will be on campus next Monday to promote science outreach. Erik Krogh and Chris Gill will make a presentation in the AERL. Extreme Science was also discussed with the Minister. Greg would like to know about any other Science and Technology events that need promoting.
3. BC Deans of Arts and Science meeting: community colleges and new universities. Other institutions have similar issues as VIU does (for example, low enrollment in second year Physics courses).

Senator's Report:

The last Senate meeting will be on November 4 at which time the Academic Plan will be approved and then move to the Board of Directors for adoption. A Board discussion is needed to address issues. The new grading scheme is being reviewed through committees. Today, Greg sent a draft of the By-laws to the subcommittee (for example, student representation, etc.).

Eric Demers mentioned that the Education Standards Committee reviewed the schedule of dates: should there Study Days during the Fall semester? UVic adds two days to the Remembrance Day statutory holiday. Do we want to do the same? Ed Standards want feedback on this idea. Chairs were asked to pass this on to the rest of their department and to report back. Right now, we could go later into December or lose two days from the Fall semester (Study Days before final exams). Greg is concerned about disparity. He would like departments to discuss this first and report the results at the next Faculty Meeting on December 21. We should also find out what students think.

ACTION: Greg Crawford to put this item on the December meeting agenda.

Information Sessions:

Eric Demers announced that Spring Info Sessions (set up through Advising Dept.) have been eliminated. Greg Crawford questioned how we could go forward without resources? What do we need to tell prospective students? We need to consider this. Darrell Mansbridge said there may be some resources to help.

Eric chose Tuesday, January 18 for an Information Session. He will discuss this with the Faculty via email. Eric suggested two sessions (e.g., B.Sc. Major and Minor, and presentation of program). A Council member asked what the capacity was for this event. It was suggested that it be divided into two sessions and diploma events.

Curriculum Committee Submissions:

RMOT course and program changes: The proposal includes one program change and ten course changes. Greg Klimes said there would be no cost increase. Greg Crawford mentioned that we need to be clear how this is because three additional hours of lecture are being added. He will meet with RMOT instructors to explore this in more detail.

Motion to approve: D. Bigelow
Seconded: D. Corrin

All in favour. **CARRIED.**

GBET course changes: Paris Polydorou provided a handout which included all the changes. The new proposal drops the total credits to 65. Greg Crawford mentioned that we are trying to make the program work and to make it fit within our budget envelope. The summative assessment for GBET is still unknown at this time.

Motion to approve contingent upon approval of the total credits required (65 vs. 72): D. Corrin
Seconded: J. Wilkinson

All in favour. **CARRIED.**

Psychology Program Proposal: Greg Crawford deferred this discussion to the next Faculty Council meeting.

ACTION: Eric Demers and Greg Crawford to discuss this, and Eric Demers to comment on proposal.

Additional Topic:

Review of President's Performance:

Doug Corrin mentioned that a review for the President is now up on the Web, and that faculty can provide feedback; however, this hasn't yet been announced.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.