

*Faculty of Science and Technology*

**Faculty Council Meeting**

**October 13, 2009**

**4:30 p.m.**

**CSR Conference Room, Bldg. 373, Room 206**

**Present:** Anne Leavitt (Chair), David Drakeford (guest), Doug Corrin, Jim Wilkinson, Debbie Hearn, Rosemarie Ganassin, Dave Wessels, Mark Noyon, Greg Klimes, Eric Demers, Sandy Patrick, Dave Bigelow, Michael Girard, Duane Barker, Christine Couture (Recording)

**Absent:** Tim Stokes

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***Enrollment Management***

David Drakeford made a 30-minute presentation on Enrollment Management. Largely because of the recession, enrollment has risen between 4% and 10% across the country. We have a 7% increase at VIU. The Faculty of Science and Technology is doing very well with a significant increase in enrollment. David is seeking input for the Enrollment Management Committee. Pam Montgomery has been working hard and, as a result, we are getting much better data as far as where our students originate.

VIU was pro-active with an enrollment strategy with North Island College, where their students come here rather than go to UVic. Possible presentations in high schools are being discussed.

Upper-level recruitment is a possibility, as we have the space. We could attract students from two-year diploma colleges. We need to bring on programs that will attract students. The Chemistry Majors is a good example. We must move beyond B.C. and look across the country such as in Alberta. Retention is important. We must develop a 1<sup>st</sup> year experience strategy, as well as a depth/breadth and cohort experiences. A Web-based software (Illuminate) is being evaluated. Limited travel funding is available from the VPA's Office for faculty to recruit up to January – it is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Anne would like 1<sup>st</sup> year students more engaged in activities. She suggested pilot projects.

David would appreciate getting some feedback via email. Suggestions would be very useful.

***Minutes of September 21 Meeting***

The minutes will be circulated again for adoption at the next meeting.

### ***Report from Senate***

There was a discussion at Senate about students wanting their parchment without attending Convocation. Fred Jacklin suggested that when names come forward, they will be sent to the Faculty and these will be signed off and sent to Senate. Degrees can be conferred by the Chancellor at a Senate meeting. Fred will come up with a process on how this will be done. Anne, as Chair of Planning and Priorities (P&P), could not speak to the Chemistry Majors issue as Interim Dean of Science and Technology at the P&P meeting, as this would be seen as a conflict of interest. She will leave the Chair at the next meeting so she can speak to these. The funding for the Chemistry Majors was allocated elsewhere pending a new Science building. As it now looks like the building will not be funded in the near enough future, Anne is working on obtaining some of the funds for long-overdue renovations. Enrollment in Chemistry is very high, an indication that the Majors are needed. The next P&P Committee meeting will be on November 9.

### ***English Requirement***

At the September 18, 2009 Social Sciences Faculty Council meeting, a motion was passed and recommended to the Education Standards Committee: "Students may take any two of the following courses towards their degree English requirement: ENGL 115, 125, 135 or LBST 111/112. If they receive a B+ or better in their first attempt, they will be exempt from the remainder of the requirement." In effect, Social Sciences is recommending that VIU adopt Social Sciences' practice across the board. Eric Demers stressed that, with no exception, Science students must have two English courses to graduate. This has far reaching implications, so more discussion must follow at Education Council. Chairs were asked to present the proposal to the rest of their department and bring feedback to the next meeting.

### ***Enrollment Pivot Table***

Each Chair was given their respective table with data dating from 2005 to 2009. Chairs were asked to report any major errors, and she will bring this to Pam Montgomery's attention. Doug Corrin prepared a spreadsheet showing costs per FTE in each department. This will be forwarded to Chairs for review/comments. Any concerns will be forwarded to Anne.

### ***Curriculum Committee Submission***

Greg Klimes proposed an additional section of RMOT 297 (Wildlife-Human Conflicts) for non-RMOT students. John Merriman would teach the course in the evening during the 2010-11 academic year.

### ***Draft of Department Chair Selection Policy***

Chairs will present the draft to the rest of their department for discussion. They will bring feedback at a future Faculty Council meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING:** November 17 at 4:30 p.m. in the CSR Conference Room (373-206).