

Faculty of Science and Technology
Minutes – Faculty Council Meeting
Thursday, November 10, 2011
3:30 to 5:00 p.m.
ICSS Boardroom – Building 395, Room 210

Present: Greg Crawford (Chair), Brian Dick, David Bigelow, Doug Corrin, Duane Friesen, Eric Demers, Gara Pruesse, Liz Gillis (RMOT rep.), Mark Noyon, Michael Girard, Rosemarie Ganassin, Tim Stokes, Todd Barsby, Marise Wickman (FRST Rep.), Erik Krogh, Alexandra Weissfloch, Ray Penner, Chris Gill, John Amaral (Recorder), Christine Couture (Recorder)

Regrets: Greg Klimes, Glen Pugh, Jim Wilkinson

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve: Doug Corrin
Seconded: Dave Bigelow
All in favour. **CARRIED.**

Approval of Faculty Council Minutes: November 4, 2011

Approval postponed to next Council meeting.

Dean's Report – Budget update

Greg Crawford noted that the budget is still in flux. He expects to be about \$75K short for budgeted HR costs this year, but Sarie is working on this. Overall S&T has a fairly strong budget for now, owing to unspent capital funds and the bulk of the Chemistry FTE money remaining. Greg will be issuing a call for capital requests soon and expects to make some of the Chemistry FTE money available for capital purchases. As the money was originally intended for a Chemistry major, Greg may give priority to some Chemistry capital requests.

Senators' Report

Nothing to report.

Budget cuts -- Discussion

Greg reiterated possible cuts that were discussed at the November 4 Council meeting. Tim Stokes also gave a specific presentation on the potential impacts of cuts to the Earth Sciences programs.

There was a general frustration expressed that, in some ways, we are moving backward, rather than forward. Greg acknowledged this, and reminded Council that this is tied to the fact that VIU is in the middle of strategizing around a projected 3 year, net 10% internal budget deficit.

There was a suggestion that discussions of potential budget cuts for 2013-14 begin earlier in the process, rather than in November.

Greg asked for alternatives to his proposed cuts. International collaborations, special field schools and special workshops were suggested, but will these require additional resources?

International Education Week

Brian Dick announced that International Education Week is next week. He mentioned that the goal of this event is to encourage more student participation (both domestic and international), so he asked that the list of events be passed on to students and all other faculty members.

Among other activities, there will be faculty seminars (field schools, etc.). Brian also mentioned that grants of up to \$10,000 will be available.

Greg Crawford added that eight Science and Technology students will receive an award at the International Education awards ceremony.