

Faculty of Science and Technology

Faculty Council Meeting

Friday, November 3, 2017

12:30 to 2:00 p.m.

ICSS Boardroom – Building 395, Room 210

MINUTES

Present: Don Noakes (Chair), Todd Barsby, Bill Beese, Dave Bigelow, Eric Demers, Brian Dick, Stefanie Duff, Liz Gillis, Caroline Josefsson, Jerome Lesemann, John Morgan, Gara Pruesse, Samuelle Simard-Provencal (student representative)

Guests: Daniela Fischer Russell

Regrets: Erik Krogh

Approval of Agenda

APPROVED

Approval of Faculty Council Minutes – October 6, 13, 20, 2017

APPROVED with edit to Oct. 20 minutes—item #3A should read “composition of steering committee and terms of reference to be defined by Faculty Council”

Dean’s Report

- Budget—For FY 2017-2018, mandated 2% budget cuts have been met via improved revenue generation at Deep Bay, the elimination of 3 budgeted positions at Deep Bay/CSR, anticipated logging revenue, and some course staffing savings (i.e., sessional instructors filling some vacancies). For FY 2018-2019, mandated 3-5% cuts in Science & Technology will be achieved through a combination of reductions in base funding and ongoing reductions in staffing.
- Canada Research Chair—No final decision at this point in time.
- Fisheries & Aquaculture degree proposal—The Provost will provide his recommendations to Planning & Priorities Committee on November 20th and to Senate on December 4th. Because the October 13 special Faculty Council meeting was *in camera*, notes from the meeting cannot be shared with Fisheries & Aquaculture.
- Departmental funds not carried over from FY 2016-2017—Finance has confirmed prior year surpluses and deficits for banked research accounts will be posted. Although no confirmation has been provided for prior year balances/deficits for other accounts, a resolution is expected. The delay may in part be due to additional work in Finance to revise the FY 2018-2019 budget to meet the budget reductions identified.

MOTION: Faculty Council seeks re-instatement of funds in the non-base cost centres.

APPROVED unanimously

Senators' Report

Brian Dick and Gara Pruesse

- Scholarship, Research, & Creative Activity Strategic Plan was approved and now goes to Board of Governors.
- A joint TRU/VIU symposium on undergraduate research was announced, to take place in February (at TRU) and June (at VIU). Faculty are encouraged to attend.
- New awards are being considered by the President's office with details to follow.
- Honours programs for History and Sociology were approved.
- VIU participated in a pilot project to evaluate its quality assurance processes. Recommendations by the consultants who visited campus included making mandatory consultations with CIEL for new programs. The program proposal template (available online) has been revised to include mandatory consultation with CIEL. New program proposals must include learning outcomes.
- Senate reviewed the environmental scan. The scan showed that the university budget's deficit is mostly due to unexpected declines in enrolment, leading budget cuts for FY 2017-2018 and FY 2018-2019. In recent years, rising international enrolment has offset declining domestic enrolment, but last year's international enrolment was less than expected.
- Louise Mandell was renewed for a second term as Chancellor of the University.

Review of Faculty Bylaws (Documents 1A through 1E)

Edits were proposed to the Faculty Bylaws.

ACTION:

- Gail will work with a few faculty members to create an edited version using Track Changes that can be reviewed at a later meeting.
- A call for nominations for Vice-Chair of the Faculty and for two members-at-large of Faculty Council will be sent out within the next week.
- The Associate Dean can continue to attend Faculty Council meetings as a guest.

Curriculum Committee Submissions

No submissions

Adjournment

Adjourned at 2:00 p.m.