

Faculty of Science and Technology
Minutes – Faculty Council Meeting
Friday, November 4, 2011
4:00 to 5:00 p.m.
ICSS Boardroom – Building 395, Room 210

Present: Greg Crawford (Chair), Brian Dick, David Bigelow, Doug Corrin, Duane Friesen, Gara Pruesse, John Morgan (RMOT rep.), Mark Noyon, Michael Girard, Allan Gibson (BIOL rep.), Tim Stokes, Todd Barsby, Jim Wilkinson, Rae-Anne Savard (Recorder)

Guests: Erik Krogh, Alexandra Weissfloch

Regrets: Eric Demers, Rosemarie Ganassin, Greg Klimes

Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of Faculty Council Minutes: October 20, 2011

Edits to the draft minutes: (1) Remove Eric Demers and change to Tim Stokes for motion to approve Request for Program Change: Bachelor of Science Programs. (2) Fix the wording for Brian Dick's motion to appear as follows: "Be it resolved that agendas, with all supporting and supplementary material, will be provide to Faculty Council members **within one week** of a schedule Faculty Council meeting."

Motion to approve with above revisions: Duane Friesen
Seconded: Doug Corrin
All in favour. **CARRIED.**

Status of recent action items

Greg met with individual departments to develop and discuss a wide range of possible budget cuts.

Discussion: Science and Technology 2012-13 draft budget submission

Greg and Sarie have been working on the budget submissions; the finances are still unclear at this point. The HR plan is the largest expense in the budget; however, this is being revised for next year. Greg's is proposing a budget reduction of 2.5% for next year (compared to the 4.5% cut received for this year; thus averaging 3.5% across 2 years. Currently, there is still the issue of the Chemistry FTE money being used to offset the budget deficit within our Faculty. Also, it

is unclear if the structural deficit has been met for the current fiscal year. The number of Biology technicians has been reduced from 5 to 4, although due to some complex circumstances there has not been a layoff or salary savings to date.

Greg presented a wide variety of possible budget cut alternatives, with an expressed preference for return of the Chemistry FTE money. Implementation of a Chemistry major is still contingent on adequate facilities; furthermore, no additional hires have yet been made, so return of the funds would not require additional layoffs.

Greg also presented a list of budget cutting alternatives as well. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding all the options presented.

Greg talked about Dave Witty's desire to reinvest and improve the relationship between VIU and the Centre for Coastal Health (CCH) and has asked Greg consider having Science and Technology fund a 0.2 FTE VIUFA tech position to act as liaison between CCH and VIU (i.e., 1 day a week). Council was generally opposed to the funding model for this proposal, suggesting instead that funding should come from the VPAP's Office.

Greg also mentioned that the Animal Care Committee had reviewed the care of the sturgeon in the ICSS and had expressed concern over the level of staffing. This was also the subject of some discussion during the recent Canadian Council on Animal Care (CCAC) site visit. ICSS currently has support from CFI/soft funding for one project worker to support the equipment installation and maintain the fish. Greg will be funding a 0.5 FTE position from January through March 2012 to support the ICSS and is proposing to include funding for a 0.5 FTE position for next year's budget.

Greg discussed the possibility of a 0.5 FTE VIUFA Area Chair to provide additional administrative support for the Dean and Chairs. Currently, Doug Corrin supports the Dean (0.25 FTE release), so Greg would be seeking an additional 0.25 FTE with reallocation of funds.

Department Chairs were tasked with taking these options, including the budget cut alternatives, back to their department for discussion, to recommend revenue-generating ideas, and to respond at the next Faculty Council meeting.

Action: Greg Crawford to prioritize budget cuts for next Faculty Council meeting.

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

Meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.