

*Faculty of Science and Technology*  
**Minutes – Faculty Council Meeting**  
**Friday, October 10, 2014**  
**12:30 - 1:30 p.m.**  
**ICSS Boardroom – Building 395, Room 210**

**Present:** Don Noakes (Chair), Bill Beese, Brian Dick, Dean Slonowsky, Don Furnell, Eric Demers, Greg Klimes, Huizhu Liu, Todd Barsby, Aubrey Robertson (Student Representative), Rae-Anne Savard (Recorder)

**Regrets:** Dave Bigelow, John Amaral

**Guest:** Dave Witty

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### *Approval of Agenda*

The Curriculum Committee Submission was moved as the first agenda item.

Motion to approve: E. Demers  
Seconded: G. Klimes  
All in favour: **CARRIED.**

### *Approval of Faculty Council Minutes – September 12, 2014*

Motion to approve: T. Barsby  
Seconded: E. Demers  
All in favour: **CARRIED.**

### *Curriculum Committee Submissions:*

#### GEOL 303 Course Change Proposal:

The intent of the change is to simplify prerequisites. PHYS 121 is required for APEG certification. It was suggested to offer the course in alternate academic years.

There was some concern over low enrollment, as the Physics prerequisite is not a requirement of the Geoscience Major or Earth Science Minor.

It was requested that the section “Who did you consult with for this course revision” be amended to include that Faculty Council has been consulted.

### *Provost Update*

Dave Witty welcomed back the members of Faculty Council and gave an update on institutional activities, such as the restructuring of the Powell River and Parksville campuses.

- The Education Degree is now offered at the Cowichan campus. Witty hopes that our Faculty will avail the opportunity to use the science labs at the Cowichan campus.

- Summative Assessment is to begin in 2015, with modifications made at P&P. More information to follow.
- Witty announced Applied Research opportunities through the Mount Arrowsmith Institute at VIU. More information to follow.
- As part of the Academic plan, VIU is continuing student enrollment initiatives and opportunities for experiential learning. Trades to degrees and degrees to trades will be explored with Forestry.
- There is an emphasis on recruitment and retention through dual-credit for high school students.
- There is increased activity in Professional Development and Training.
- A conception plan for the new Health and Science Building was completed, including very solid documentation. VIU is asking for \$75 million, with 10% funding through the university. The project will have two phases. Consultants will produce detailed business plans, and they will work with the Dean and Department Chairs.
- The new building's groundbreaking will possibly be during the Spring of 2016. More information to follow.
- Witty asked Don Furnell for a summary of the FISH/AQUA Program Proposal for Senate.
- Witty was asked why the bomb threat that happened last week was not communicated to the VIU community. He said that, unfortunately, the network was down and that VIU's University Relations was unable to send out any communication at the time. He mentioned that VIU has funding for new software.
- Witty announced that we have a new Executive Director of Facilities and Ancillary Services, Alan Cumbers.

### ***Dean's Report***

Don Noakes announced that Steve Lane requested proposals and first-year innovations pilot projects from our Faculty. A discussion followed on the possibility of a scientific technical writing course. Currently, the department of Resource Management and Protection offers these types of courses (RMOT 191 and 192) during the Fall and Spring semesters. For more information, the contacts are John Morgan and Marilyn Funk. These proposals don't have to be vetted at Faculty Council. The deadline for submissions to Steve Lane is Monday, October 27, 2014.

The base budget is rolling over and the Dean will request the following.

- \$84K for a real-time mass spectrometer (AERL)
- \$30K for Biology capital enhancement
- AERL release time for Chris Gill and Erik Krogh
- 2 recurring faculty positions to develop FISH/AQUA programs
- Funding for the Cowichan Campus science programs (Calculus and Biology)
- Recurring funds for the Chemistry Major
- \$60K for hazardous material/boat storage
- Budgets for ICSS, CSR, Deep Bay, and NREP.

Todd Barsby mentioned that the Chemistry bunker needs renovations, so the Dean will adjust the funds for the hazardous material budget.

Strategic Resources Plan:

Faculty would like to be involved in ranking the budget “ask” list in order of priority.

During the Salmon Farmers’ Board of Director’s visit, Science and Technology and the Deep Bay Field School will be highlighted.

There will be a special Council meeting on October 24, at which time the group will discuss the FISH/AQUA Degree redevelopment proposal.

The Dean asked for a two-page summary on how the Diploma will link with the Degree. He also asked that calendar course descriptions be created.

***Senator’s Report***

Tabled until the next Council meeting.

***Clarifications on P&P Details***

Tabled until the next Council meeting.

Council requested that future meetings be scheduled for 1.5 hours, or that they occur more frequently, depending on the amount of agenda items.

<p><b>ACTION:</b> <u>Christine Couture</u> to schedule meetings as requested.</p>
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Motion to adjourn: G. Klimes  
 Seconded: E. Demers  
 All in favour: **CARRIED.**  
 Meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.