

Faculty of Science and Technology
Minutes – Faculty Council Meeting
Friday, October 28, 2016
12:30 – 2:00 p.m.
ICSS Boardroom – Building 395, Room 210

Present: Don Noakes (Chair), Todd Barsby, Erik Krogh, Gara Pruesse, Doug Corrin, Stefanie Duff, Brian Dick, John Morgan and Eric Demers

Regrets: David Bigelow, Caroline Josefsson and Christine Holt (Student Representative)

Guest: Marge Huntley and Michelle Daoust

Approval of Agenda

Approved.
All in favour. **CARRIED.**

Approval of Faculty Council Minutes – September 23, 2016

Approved.
All in favour. **CARRIED.**

Dean's Report

Don Noakes provided updates on the various searches for senior administrators. Interviews for the AVP Scholarship, Research and Creative Activity position will take place November 9 and 10.

Interviews for the Associate Dean, Science and Technology position are set for November 10, 15, 22 and 24. Details on times and locations will be forwarded to faculty as soon as possible.

The Math department is completing the final revisions on the Math Major Stage II proposal, which will hopefully go to Curriculum Committee later this fall. The hope is to have students being able to register for the new Major next year.

The Chemistry department is beginning work on a Major, and it will take approximately 16 to 18 months to receive approval. Although considerable work has been done on a previous proposal, processes have changed and the timeline for development and approval will not be shortened to any great degree. Don noted that, while VIU was still awaiting Treasury Board approval on the new Health and Science Building, planning was proceeding with faculty from Chemistry meeting with consultants to map and scope program requirements. If approved, construction is expected to be completed by the summer of 2018, which would coincide with the new Chemistry Science and Major.

Draft Statement on Draft Grade Appeal Policy

Feedback from departments on the draft grade appeal policy has been received from most departments. Don agreed to summarize the main points for discussion at a future Council meeting.

Earthquake Preparedness

There is interest in discussing our response to the recent Shakeout BC exercise. This item was deferred to a future meeting.

Students in Distress Workshops

Marge Huntley and Michelle Daoust provided information on workshops that were being organized and other resources for students in distress. Faculty were encouraged to identify students needing help early and direct them to the appropriate resource people.

Informal Discussion Item

Directed Studies:

A recent Computing Science request to have their Technician assigned as Instructor for a Directed Studies course was not approved by the Dean.

After some discussion, Don explained that Directed Studies was instructional workload and that a faculty member, not a technician, must assume responsibility for the course, even though Technicians may be involved in supporting the course. He noted that this is not related to an individual's qualifications (nor would it be in any other such requests), but a recognition of the distinction between instructional and technician workloads.

The meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.