

Faculty of Science and Technology
Minutes – Faculty Council Meeting
Friday, September 25, 2015
12:30 – 2:00 p.m.
ICSS Boardroom – Building 395, Room 210

Present: Don Noakes (Chair and Recorder), Todd Barsby, David Bigelow, Brian Dick, Stefanie Duff, Huizhu Liu, Jerome Lesemann, John Morgan, Aubrey Robertson (Student Representative), Erik Krogh (Member at Large), Eric Demers

Regrets: Mark Noyon, Doug Corrin, Caroline Josefsson, Bill Beese

Guests: Lorna Millard (Advising) and Gemma Armstrong (Counselling)

Early Alert System (Students in Distress)

Lorna provided an update on the Early Alert System, which is to assist students that need help in their academic program/studies. This is an existing program that is available to Professors/Instructors and students. Two workshops are available through Counselling to help identify students that need assistance.

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve: Todd Barsby

Seconded: Brian Dick

All in favour: **CARRIED.**

Approval of Faculty Council Minutes – May 8, 2015

Motion to approve: Todd Barsby

Seconded: Brian Dick

All in favour: **CARRIED.**

Dean's Report

- **Budgets:** Due in Finance and Provost Office on September 30 (earlier than last year). There is limited funding to support new initiatives next year, given the requirement that VIU must provide 10% of the funding for capital projects. SMG will review budget proposals in late-October, with decisions hopefully by year's end.
- **SPA:** The Provost is reviewing the documents and will meet with Deans to go over his recommendation, should it differ from the Deans'.
- **Associate Dean:** Applications (21 received) have closed and the Search Committee will be established shortly – Christine Couture will be in touch with members.
- **Science Lecture Series:** One person expressed an interest, but we need some additional help. Please consider volunteering.

Senators' Report

- SPA: This was discussed at the P&P Committee meeting, but we are waiting for feedback from the Provost before the package is sent to Senate.
- Curriculum Committee: DQAB exemption for bachelor's degrees (letter from ADM), but DQAB wants to review the quality control measures we have in place to review and approve our degrees. One criteria for approval of new degrees will be to check the alignment with the B.C. Jobs strategy. A committee to look at student retention will be established and people are encouraged to participate if they are interested.

Curriculum Committee Submissions:

New Degree Program Proposals: B.A. Major in Mathematics and B.Sc. Major in Mathematics

Dave Bigelow described both majors and his intention to attend the Arts and Humanities' Faculty Council meeting next month.

Eric Demers raised the issue of "joint major" to ensure everyone understood what was intended (make sure the language is clear). Also, a review of the costs of the program is advisable to ensure they are reported accurately.

Program Change Proposal: RMAP Grading Policy Change

John Morgan described the changes that are designed to bring RMAP in line with other diploma programs in Science (i.e., Forestry and Fisheries). Some formatting changes and minor edits were suggested.

Motion to approve: Todd Barsby
Seconded: Aubrey Robertson
All in favour: **CARRIED.**

Revisions to Faculty By-Laws

- Formalize other Standing Committees (e.g., P&P Sub-committee and Curriculum Committee Sub-committee)
- Appoint Administrators as Faculty members, including the Dean
- Non-regular (temporary) instructors holding appointments less than 50% within the Faculty are non-voting members: appointments for the term, for the year, or both if teaching both terms?

This item was tabled until the next Council meeting.

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Motion to adjourn: Brian Dick  
Seconded: Dave Bigelow  
All in favour: **CARRIED.**

Meeting adjourned at 1:40 p.m.