The Minutes of the 48th Meeting of the Faculty Council of Science held on Friday, March 23, 1984 at 3:30 p.m. in Room 306 Buller Building.


Visitors: J. McConnell, S. Johannson

Regrets: F.M. Arscott, N. Gupta, D. Singh, P.D. Loly

1) The minutes of the 47th meeting of November 3 and 8, 1983 were approved on a motion by Prof. Duckworth (Jamieson).

The minutes of the Special Meeting of February 2, 1984 were approved on a motion by Prof. Burton (Duckworth).

2) The Dean then reported on two subjects.

(a) Admissions
The committee has recommended that a grade % be adopted for automatic admission. Students with the required percentage will be accepted. The number is anticipated to be about 600. Students with lower percentages will be waitlisted and processed after final grades are available. The committee will not recommend a total number until the budget is known.

(b) Budget
The University has not yet heard from the Grants Commission, but anticipates a 3% increase in funding over 1983-84. This translates into a 2.7% or about $360,000 reduction in Science's budget. To modify this we have been granted an increase in course service fees from $6 to $7 per credit hour, or approximately $150,000.
Additionally, about $100,000 of the reduction will come from the Staff Benefits account, which last year had too much money. The Dean's Office will shortly be issuing spending authority to Departments.

Associate Dean Isaac gave a brief report on recent events involving the Central Instrument Service. For the past several months discussions had been taking place regarding the future of the shops for two reasons

(1) In recent years a number of workshops have been established on campus thus reducing the workload of CIS

(2) The shops have to be moved from their present location in the basement of Parker because the new Earth Sciences building tunnel will take up the present space. The new building plans call for a space to be built where a workshop could be accommodated.

However, the decision to close the CIS and lay off the technicians was made without consultation with Science or presumably any of the other users.

The Faculty is proceeding on the assumption that the service provided by CIS is necessary to us, and we are exploring ways of taking it over, probably by expanding existing electronics and mechanical shops in Physics. We are investigating the budget and space implications and are looking into CIS income. Dean Isaac has met with the CIS (Fort Garry Campus) technicians about maintaining the service but has given no assurance regarding jobs.

Questions were asked by the members as to:
(a) Net cost to the University of the operation?  
   Response was that income covered 1/2 of the cost.

(b) Who uses the service?  
   Response - virtually every unit in the University.

(c) Is the senior administration aware that the shop equipment was provided through research grants?  
   Dean Isaac responded that they know many more things now than they did at 8:00 o'clock this morning.

Prof. Jamieson reported that he had spoken to Dr. Wells and the Board of Governors. He also reported that he had received calls from a number of users concerning the shutdown.

Prof. Henry stated that as a member of an NSERC granting committee he had inspected shop facilities at a number of universities and felt ours was inferior in terms of the University's agreement with NSERC in maintenance of major
equipment purchased from grants. Many other universities provided a larger facility, at no charge to users.

Prof. Duckworth felt the Dean's Office had moved very decisively and hoped it would continue to press as hard as possible for retention of the facility.

In response to a question as to how the Administration proposed to provide the service, the Chairman said it would have to be purchased commercially. He assured Council that Science's objection to not only the closing of the facility, but the manner in which it had been done, had not gone unnoticed in the Administration Building.

(3) Course Change Proposals.
There were no questions from the floor. The proposals will now go forward to the Senate Committee on Curriculum and Course Changes.

(4) Academic Regulations.
Dean Berry explained that the proposed amendment to the First Class Honours regulations was an attempt to accommodate the Co-op program. Because the Co-op program in third and fourth years is split between academic and work terms the current regulation for First Class Honours put an unfair requirement on Co-op students. The effect of the proposed amendment is to subject these students to the same de facto standards as students in other programs.

Prof. Berry (Doyle) moved acceptance of the proposed new regulations. CARRIED.

(5) Faculty Elections.
Nominations to be made to the Secretary on forms provided with the Agenda.

(6) There was no report from the Executive as all matters considered by it are on the agenda of the present Council meeting.

(7) Prof. Duckworth reported briefly on the December, January, February and March meetings of Senate.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 4:07 p.m.

Dr. Charles C. Bigelow,
Dean,
Faculty of Science,
The University of Manitoba,
239 Machray Hall,
Winnipeg, Manitoba.
R3T 2N2

Dear Dean Bigelow:

On behalf of the Prime Minister, I thank you for your letter of February 15 in which you convey your Faculty Council's resolution on arms control and global security. I apologize for our delay in replying.

The urgent need to resolve present world conflicts was recognized by Mr. Trudeau and the allied heads of government who met at the Williamsburg Summit last May. At that meeting they pledged "to devote our full political resources to reducing the threat of war". The Prime Minister's recent peace initiative - working with world leaders to help restore a spirit of responsibility and mutual respect to global relations - is an extension of the commitment he gave at Williamsburg.

It is hoped that Mr. Trudeau's undertaking will lead to progress in arms control and disarmament negotiations between the superpowers. Canada's priorities in this area include: supporting negotiations leading to reductions in nuclear and conventional weapons; helping to establish a comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty; and working for the complete prohibition of chemical weapons and weapons for use in outer space.

One notable Canadian contribution to arms control deserves particular mention. In his Address to the United Nations' Special Session on Disarmament in 1982, Prime Minister Trudeau pointed out that "given the complexity and characteristics of many modern weapons systems the international community should address itself to verification as one of the most significant factors in disarmament negotiations in the 1980s".
Following up the Prime Minister's assurance that Canada would pay close attention to problems of verification, the Honourable Allan MacEachen, Secretary of State for External Affairs, announced in October, 1983, that the federal government has created an arms control and disarmament verification program. The program will employ both public and private sector expertise in the areas of seismology, remote sensing and chemical weapons sensing, and has been organized as Canada's special contribution in support of international efforts to control nuclear, chemical and conventional weapons.

The technical complexity and the many aspects of verification may appear obscure and remote. However, such programs are vital to success in weapons control and it is important that those interested in world security are made aware of them. Certainly, Canadians are becoming more informed about disarmament, and many individuals like the members of your Council have thoughtfully offered their views and suggestions to the government.

In recognition of this growing public interest, the federal government announced in the Speech from the Throne on December 7, 1983, that it will establish a centre for the study and promotion of all promising defence and arms reduction proposals. Moreover, there will be an increase in federal funds available to voluntary associations and private research groups involved in security and disarmament issues.

These steps by the government represent significant progress and are based on a growing perception that, if world peace is to become a reality, efforts from every quarter are important and all efforts are necessary. I can assure you that Mr. Trudeau, on his part, will continue with the essential task of helping to build a climate of confidence in the days ahead.

The Prime Minister has asked me to thank you for taking the time to send him your comments.

Yours sincerely,

Edward Gorecki,
Correspondence Assistant.
TO: Members of the Faculty Council of Science
FROM: Sheila Catt, Secretary
DATE: March 14, 1984

The 48th meeting of the Faculty Council of Science is scheduled for Friday, March 23, 1984 at 3:30 p.m. in Room 306 Buller Building.

Agenda

1. Approval of the Minutes of the 47th meeting of November 3 and November 8, 1983 and the Special meeting of February 2, 1984

2. Report from the Dean

3. Course Change Proposals: These are approved by the Executive Committee and forwarded to Faculty Council for information. Questions may be raised from the floor. Material will be available for perusal in the Dean's Office and the Department offices on March 20, 1984.


5. Faculty Elections--Material attached.

Please make your nomination on the enclosed form and ensure that your nominee is willing to stand for election. Return completed nomination form to the Secretary, Room 248 Machray Hall, by Friday, March 30, 1984.

6. Report from Executive Committee

7. Report from Senate

8. Other Business