Minutes of the 125th Meeting of Executive Committee of Science Faculty Council held at 2:00 p.m., March 17, 1998 in 250 Allen Building.

Present: J.C. Jamieson (Chair)  R. McGowan (for D. Gillis)
        L. Ayres                    G. Robinson
        B. Court                   G.H.J. van Rees
        N. Hunter (for A.S.Secco)  H.C.Williams
        K. Keen                    J. Williams
        G. Krause                  K. Kustra
        N. Marnoch

Regrets: A. Gerhard                  J. Page
         D. Gillis                   A.S. Secco

Absent: B. Ford

Dean Jamieson introduced Neil Marnoch as the new Support Staff member on Faculty Executive.

1. The Minutes of the 124th meeting of Executive Committee dated October 20, 1997 were approved.

2. The following Course and Program Changes were moved on behalf of the Committee on Courses and approved.
   
a) Course Change (modification) -- Department of Chemistry
b) Course Change (modifications) -- Department of Zoology
c) Course Modifications and Information--Courses offered in other faculties and schools acceptable for credit in the Faculty of Science

3. Changes to Performance Requirements, Faculty of Science

Associate Dean Robinson took the Committee through the document and indicated that it was an effort to harmonise the way students in Arts and Science are to be treated.

The following recommendation was M/S/C:

"That the Changes to the Faculty of Science Minimum Performance Requirements be accepted."

4. Dean's Report

Dean Jamieson reported on the following:
a) The Dean is preparing a “Green Paper” which will address two documents—the Task Force Report and the Faculty of Science Employment Systems Review Report. He stated that the “paper” will be his attempt to harmonise both documents, including all items that are relevant to Science and adding other items to be considered. The Dean stated that he planned to have the document finished by mid April.

b) The Dean has written to the President with regard to the Task Force Report and the special items directed to Science.

c) The Environmental Science Program (ESP) Advisory Committee will be meeting to discuss the review of the ESP and to propose to the Vice-President on how the review should be conducted. It is intended to bring in two external reviewers.

d) The Dean has had discussions with the Biology Heads to put together a proposal to the President.

e) The Amalgamation Committee of the Mathematics Departments are meeting; Associate Dean Williams is a resource person on the committee and its work is almost completed. There is a Headship Search underway.

f) The budget will likely translate into approximately -3% for the faculty; which would be around $500K. Retirements are not generating huge amounts as most are January retirements.

g) The Task Force will be handled in Senate as a planning document with little debate.

5. Prioritisation for the Faculty Research Efforts

Dean Williams reported that a result of the CFI competition is that Central Administration wants a description of our research priorities. Dean Williams indicated that he had created a document to be used for the CFI competition. He also stated that one of the problems in Science is that we are very decentralised particularly in our research effort which, unfortunately, could serve us negatively in this effort; it is time to prioritise the effort in the Faculty. Each department seems to establish its own priorities; we want to have some means to get a grip on the research effort in departments. We should have a document that says what we are doing. Regarding money; you should rethink how you want to spend your research dollars.

Dean Williams requested that Faculty Executive think about this problem and provide him with their input. With input he will try to create a paper and present it during the Retreat for further consideration. He stated that he will be requesting input from Department Heads.

Dean Williams mentioned that, in the staffing plan, the only way used to count research effort is by counting graduate students.
Y2K (year two thousand) problem: Dean Williams mentioned that he has asked each department for a name of a liaison person. Central wants an evaluation of all equipment for testing to be done. Dean Williams stated that he wanted to make sure Faculty Executive was aware of the problems. He indicated that anything that does date processing must be looked at; i.e. fax machines.

Two CFI applications were successful in first round; they will go through another internal committee again and be reranked.

Dr. McGowan stated that the word prioritisation of research disturbs him. Dean Williams suggested that departments list what they are weak in and then, on the other hand, list their strengths. He also mentioned that once the University starts doing this, they will want to do it for the University in general. He mentioned that there are common elements to the research effort; training of graduate students and teaching graduate students.

Meeting adjourned 3:10 p.m.
March 9, 1998

TO: Members, Executive Committee of Science Faculty Council

FROM: Pat Pachol, Secretary

ON: Notice of Meeting

The 125th meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, March 17 at 2:00 p.m. in Room 250 Allen Building.

Agenda

1. Minutes of 124th meeting of Executive Committee dated October 20, 1997 (previously distributed)

2. Course and Program Changes (attached)

3. Changes to Performance Requirements, Faculty of Science (attached)

4. Dean’s Proposed Green Paper--Dean Jamieson to discuss

5. Prioritization for the Faculty Research Efforts--Associate Dean Williams

6. Other business

/pap
Att.