

Minutes of the 86<sup>th</sup> meeting of Faculty Council of Science held Tuesday, April 20, 1999 at 2:30 p.m. in the Senate Chambers.

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|----------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Present: | J.C. Jamieson (Chair) | P. Loewen         |
|          | M. Abrahams           | S. Page           |
|          | J. Ahorro             | M.R. Parameswaran |
|          | K. Barker             | H. Perreault      |
|          | L. Batten             | D. Punter         |
|          | S. Cheng              | R. Riewe          |
|          | D. Court              | G. Robinson       |
|          | H. Duckworth          | E. Ross           |
|          | B. Ford               | T. Secco          |
|          | A. Gerhard            | M. Shaw           |
|          | N. Halden             | W. Silk           |
|          | B. Hann               | B. Southern       |
|          | G. Hickling           | R. Sparling       |
|          | J. Hoskins            | J. Svenne         |
|          | E. Huebner            | A. Thavaneswaran  |
|          | P. Hultin             | J.M. Vail         |
|          | F Hruska              | I. Waters         |
|          | G. Klassen            | H. Williams       |
|          | B. Lindsay            |                   |

This list may not be complete as not all members saw the signup sheet.

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|----------|---------------|--------------|
| Regrets: | G. Baldwin    | A. Morrish   |
|          | T. Booth      | J. Stapleton |
|          | D. Gillis     | M. Sumner    |
|          | L. Graham     | J. Teller    |
|          | B. Macpherson | G. Williams  |
|          | J. McConnell  | E. Worobec   |

|           |             |             |
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| Visitors: | L. Chartier | H. Paterson |
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1. The Minutes of the 85<sup>th</sup> meeting of Faculty Council of Science dated December 1, 1998 were approved.
2. Closed Session  
Minutes for this portion of the agenda are held in the Dean's Office.
3. Introduction of New Members

Peter Loewen announced that Microbiology has a new staff member, Vladimir Yurkov, Assistant Professor, who was unable to attend the meeting.

Dean Jamieson introduced Elisabeth Ross a new support staff member of Council and Joseph Ahorro newly elected Senior Stick for the Science Students Association.

4. Course Changes

These changes were considered by the relevant Faculty committees and were forwarded to Faculty Council for information. No questions were raised from the floor.

5. Graduate Course and Program Changes

These graduate course and program changes were considered by the relevant Faculty committees and forwarded to Faculty Council for information. No questions were raised from the floor.

6. Dean Jamieson kept his report brief due to the long agenda but mentioned the following items:

- a. The Faculty budget is not yet known.
- b. The Dean's group has made one visit around the departments.
- c. The newsletter insert in the Alumni Journal was mentioned and Faculty Council thanked Pat Pachol for her work on behalf of the Faculty.
- d. Faculty Council was updated on the Task Force Recommendations relating to Science.

7. Dean Williams' reported on the following:

- a. The NSERC undergraduate summer student awards program and the fact that the Faculty is also offering its own undergraduate awards for summer again this year.
- b. NSERC awards were up 4.7% over last year. Dean Williams mentioned that Chemistry, the group headed by Lisa Rosenberg, was awarded a large equipment grant of \$272,000 for a 300 MHz NMR spectrometer console replacement.
- c. Dean Williams mentioned that NSERC operating grants may be increased by 5%. Peter Loewen, who is a member of NSERC Council, confirmed that this was passed by NSERC Council at the end of March.
- d. Dean Williams reported that the Research Priorities Committee had produced a report and identified established areas of research excellence. With the use of an overhead, Dean Williams reported the areas that were identified by the committee and the recommendations put forward to the Dean. He suggested a fuller version is available and faculty should let him have their comments. The Faculty Executive members and the Research Priorities Committee members have copies of the report.

With regard to recommendation number 1, a request has been made for feedback on how the information will be used. We have not yet had a response.

A \$100,000 budget line has been set up for graduate students. Dean Williams indicated that he would be happy to hear if any faculty members have innovative ideas on how to use the money.

- e. The Research Dean position is going to be a full-time position as of July 1 and, with any luck, the position will have a budget (dependent on budgetary funding).

Dr. Hultin asked whether there was a sense of what the University administration plans to do with the established areas of research strengths. Dr. Williams responded that he thought they wanted to create something like the University of Alberta plan. Dr. Hultin indicated that this whole thing makes him extremely nervous because his research does not fall into one of the areas listed.

Dr. Duckworth wondered what fraction of staff is mentioned in the areas of excellence. Dean Williams indicated at least 50%; we have to be very careful as Mathematics is totally missing.

Dr. Duckworth indicated that recommendation 1 might not be strong enough. He thinks it may be in order to insist on quite specific statements and have a debate on them. Dean Williams indicated that it was important to know how the material is going to be used.

Dr. Waters asked whether faculty could have a fuller version of this list. Dean Williams indicated that if anybody does want to have a copy, they could come and see it. Members of Executive Committee and the Research Priorities Committee (one member in each department) have received.

## 8. Faculty Elections

Dean Jamieson reported that the following nominations had been received:

Senate: Mark Abrahams, Ken Barker, Herb LeJohn, and Anthony Secco.

It was M/S/C that nominations close. Election was held by mail ballot, with K. Barker and A. Secco being elected.

Faculty of Science Endowment Committee (Biological Sciences Division): Mike Butler.

It was M/S/C that nominations close. Dr. Butler was declared elected.

## 9. Biological Sciences Restructuring

The Report on Biological Sciences Restructuring went out to all Faculty Council members. The Dean reported that many letters had been sent to the President from members of biology; all were opposed to amalgamation. The Dean informed Faculty Council of the process used to come up with this proposal for restructuring. He mentioned that there will be a handful of problems that will be handled by the Implementation Committee. We will have to submit a letter of intent to COPSE with regard to the proposed General program in Biology.

In response to the question by Dr. Svenne, the Dean indicated that the committee was aware of the previous biological sciences committee report.

In response to Dr. Southern's question about the schedule for implementation, Dean Jamieson that he anticipated the reorganization part would take about one and one half years, whereas the general biology program might take longer than that as there is a program approval process to go through.

It was M/S/C that the Report of Biological Sciences be approved "in principle". None opposed.

## 10. Revised Terms of Reference for the Faculty of Science Endowment Committee

Dean Robinson reported that, under the terms of reference for the Faculty of Science Endowment Committee, the terms of reference must now be reviewed. Input was solicited from Administrative units and the present Endowment Committee. All Faculty Council Members received a copy of the revised Terms of Reference.

Dr. Duckworth wondered how the distinction was made between the funds and whether there could be two separate pots of money established by the Endowment Fund each operated as separate funds. He indicated he would prefer to put forward two proposals to the Endowment

Committee. Dr. Robinson indicated that the student contributions are very definitely for equipment and he would have some difficulty in separating the pots of money.

It was M/S/C: That the Revised Terms of Reference for the Faculty of Science Endowment Committee be approved.

#### 11. Promotion and Tenure Procedures

The Dean indicated that this was a housekeeping item to receive the advice of Faculty Council in formalising the procedures which, for the most part, have been the practice and in addition to include mention of the SEEQ evaluations in the procedures. These procedures will become an attachment to the Faculty Promotion and Tenure Documents.

#### 12. Revised Department Council By-laws

The revised Department Council By-laws for Botany, Chemistry, Geological Sciences, Microbiology and Statistics have been sent to the Senate Committee on Rules and Procedures for approval. We ask Faculty Council to approve "in principle" these by-laws pending satisfactory approval of Senate Rules and Procedures.

It was M/S/C: That the Department Council By-Laws be approved "in principle".

#### 13. Other Business

Faculty Council congratulated Dean Jamieson on his reappointment as Dean.

Meeting adjourned 3:50 p.m.