MINUTES

99th Meeting of the Science Faculty Council

Held on Monday, March 28th, 2005 at 2:30 p.m. in Senate Chambers, 245 Engineering.

Present: M. D. Whitmore (Chair) G. Robinson
A. Gerhard M. Abrahams
M. Sumner T. Schultz
M. Chestley P. Dibrov
G. Woods T. Kucera
I. Waters A. Worley
M. Piercey-Normore S. Renault
R. Sparling E. Worobec
D. Gillis J. van Rees
T. Andres R. Eskicioglu
A. Thavaneswaran J. Bate
P. Shivakumar S. Page
H. Duckworth H. Perreault
P. Blunden G. Krause
B. Macpherson S. Cheng
T. Booth T. Berry

Regrets: J. Hoskins G. Hickling
E. Huebner L. Graham
N. Hunter P. Loly
R. Thomas P. Loewen
W. G. Baldwin F. Gauvin
P. King J. Williams

1. Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the 98th meeting held on November 15, 2004 were approved as circulated, moved by S. Cheng and seconded by R. Eskicioglu.

MOTION: CARRIED
2. Course and Program Changes

Dr. Gordon Robinson, Associate Dean, summarized the course and program changes. The changes were considered by the relevant Faculty committees and were available in Department offices for perusal by members. No questions were raised from the floor.

3. Dean’s Report

- Dean Whitmore thanked Gordon Robinson and Arthur Gerhard for their administrative service to the faculty in the position of Associate Deans, and Smiley Cheng in his position as Head of the Department of Statistics. Their terms ended on June 30th 2005.

- Dean Whitmore reported that he had recently visited all the departments.

- In the Fall SIP we were awarded 3 (Biochemistry, Statistics and Microbiology) of the 13 requested positions and searches are now underway.

- The two Tier I Canada Research Chairs allocated to the Faculty of Science are in the areas of advanced materials and structural biology. Search Committees were struck from two and three departments and the search process is underway. Mark Abrahams is Chair of the Structural Biology Committee and Mark Whitmore is the Chair of the Advanced Materials Committee.

- Dean Whitmore reported that he has been attending Alumni Affairs events in Montreal and Ottawa and is attempting to get out and meet alumni.

- Dean of Arts and Dean of Science submitted a proposal to Private Funding regarding raising funds for Graduate Scholarships.

- Dean Whitmore reported that there was no new information on the budget yet. The tuition freeze is continuing, and the provincial budget is disappointing. The President intends a 2% cut to the operating budget.

- The Deans of Arts and Science have been asked to consult on the M & W requirement. The consensus was that it is time to review this.

- Conditional Entry - The entrance requirement has been raised from 63 to 70 with a conditional entry option for students in the 63-70 range. This will likely be approved at the next Senate meeting.

- Suggested changes to categories of CFI have been approved by the board and awaiting government approval. The competition announcement should be made sometime in April. Changes include:
The Innovation Fund will be split into 2, with the main part remaining as is and the other part a National Platforms fund. Letters of intent are currently being solicited. The Manitoba Innovation Fund will be contributing as much as CFI. New Opportunities will change next year to include mid career people as well, up to seven years.

4. Other Business

There was no further business.

5. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.