

## Faculty of Science Coordinating Council Minutes

Thursday, April 13, 2023

1:30-3:30 p.m.

203 Toldo Health Education Centre

### Attendance:

<b>Dean's Office</b>	P	Dora Cavallo-Medved	P	Arunita Jaekel	P	Dan Mennill
<b>Biomedical Sciences</b>	P	Andrew Hubberstey	P	Martin Crozier	P	Isabelle Hinch
<b>Chemistry &amp; Biochemistry</b>	P	James Gauld	P	Drew Marquardt	P	Angela Awada
<b>Computer Science</b>	P	Imran Ahmad	P	Pooya Moradian Zadeh	R	Mohammed Ehsan Ur Rahman
<b>Economics</b>	P	Sang-Chul Suh	P	Yahong Zhang	A	David Henderson
<b>Environment</b>	P	Alice Grgicak-Mannion	P	Cameron Proctor	A	Pracithaa Vijayakumar
<b>Forensic Science</b>	P	Maria Cioppa		N/A	A	Parisa Younesian
<b>Institute Directors</b>	P	Lisa Porter	A	Mike McKay	P	Roman Maev
<b>Integrative Biology</b>	P	Isabelle Barrette-Ng	A	Catherine Febria	A	Samuelle Simard-Provençal
<b>Math &amp; Stats</b>	P	Abdulkadir Hussein	P	Abdo Alfakih	A	Kenneth Enniful
<b>Physics</b>	P	Steven Rehse	P	TJ Hammond	A	Emma Blanchette
<b>Non-voting</b>	P	Anita Hu	P	Laura McLean	P	Sharon Rasul
<b>Non-voting</b>	R	Sara Elliott	P	Gemma Grey-Hall	P	Bob Hodge
<b>Non-voting</b>	A	Melissa Robinet	P	Shari Forbes	G	Jaimie Kechego
<b>Non-voting</b>	G	Chris Houser				

R=Regrets, S=Substitute, G=Guest

### 1. Welcome and approval of Agenda

**MOTION: To approve the agenda.**

**Porter/Grgicak-Mannion**

**CARRIED**

### 2. Approval of Minute from March 2, 2023

**MOTION: To approve the minutes of March 2, 2023.**

**Barrette-Ng/Ahmad**

**CARRIED**

### 3. Indigenization of Curriculum & Pedagogy

- Jaimie Kechego, Learning Specialist from Centre for Teaching and Learning attended to discuss indigenization of curriculum and pedagogy.
- Jaimie's presentation will be shared with the committee.
- AAU Councils are welcome to invite Jaimie to an upcoming meeting as we continue to evolve our curriculum and programming.

### 4. AgUWin Greenhouse

- The agriculture business is a \$3 billion industry in the Windsor-Essex Region.
- This sector is critical to the economic diversification of our region.
- Sector challenges include:

- Need for local analytical testing;
- Knowledge mobilization and commercialization of IP;
- Research challenges/opportunities include:
  - Automation and precision picking
  - Block-chain, border logistics and trade
  - Cybersecurity
  - Mitigation of energy, wastewater and light pollution
  - Environmental monitoring and data analysis
  - Support and training for skilled labour (automation and monitoring)
- UWindsor has a strategic goal to develop research, academic and outreach programs to support the regional greenhouse and agriculture sector.
- A 2-acre research greenhouse (currently growing cucumbers) has been provided in kind by JEM Farms (Mastronardi)
- Looking for shovel-ready projects:
  - Cybersecurity
  - Automation – evocation trolley
  - Integrated pest management
  - Environmental monitoring and automation
  - Analytical services
- Please bring this information back to your departments as an opportunity. If you want a tour of the facility reach out to Chris Houser.
- Holding an event on May 11, 2023. This will be structured as a think tank. Open to all faculty and staff. This will be an opportunity to hear from OGVG, OMAFRA, other agriculture industries.
- Isabelle Barrette-Ng working on a related Fed-dev application.

#### **5. Acting Associate Dean, Graduate Studies & Research Consultation**

- Dan Mennill will be taking administrative leave from Aug. 6-Dec. 31, 2023. Need to put an Acting Associate Dean, Graduate Studies & Research in place.
- Discussed an Acting Associate Dean, Graduate Studies & Research candidate.

#### **6. Blue Sky Presentation**

- Gemma Grey-Hall has met with AAU Heads/Directors and Councils to discuss what the ideal student experience would look like to them. She presented her findings.
- Biomedical Sciences
  - Neurophysiology and genetics equipment so students learn high end skills;
  - Ability to expand neuroscience courses;
  - Classroom developed with technology with outlets and updated software;
  - Genomics, proteomic and statistical data base access inside the classroom
- Chemistry & Biochemistry
  - Equipment
    - Gas chromatology – GCMS with technician
    - Evaporation system

- Accessible tables
  - Instrumentation for teaching and research
- Year 2 lab experiments for environment and medical
- Mandatory undergrad research lab
- Field chemistry course for water sampling
- Computer Science
  - Graphical processing units for increased computation capabilities
  - Improvements to bandwidth and speed of CS services
  - Fund to keep equipment upgraded
  - Ideal for all of Computer Science to be in one location
- Economics
  - Undergrad/grad study and meeting areas to allow for collaboration
  - Software for econometrics calculations
  - Fund to support annual license renewal
  - Merit scholarships
  - Named lecture series.
- Forensic Science
  - Equipment & Lab
    - Digital SLR cameras for each student & lights
    - Superglue fuming tank
    - Electrostatic detections apparatus
    - GRIM – glass refraction index measurements
    - GCMS
  - Space needs
    - Crime scene house
    - Rural land for body farm
- Integrative Biology
  - Regional field station with infrastructure
  - Large capacity in genetics labs
  - Remove existing greenhouse on roof of Biology Building
  - Obtain functioning greenhouse for campus
  - Epigenetics equipment
  - Renovated lab for molecular ecology with equipment
  - Digitize specimen collection
- Mathematics & Statistics
  - Improved connections with alumni & industry
  - Space for consulting services
  - Space for actuarial program
  - Scholarships
- Physics
  - Theoretical physics research suite

- Operational machine shop
- Upper year experimental lab
- Grad scholarship
- Accredited graduate medical physics program
- School of Environment
  - Large active learning classrooms
  - Web-based learning platforms
  - Field experiences in targeted into curriculum
  - Monitoring stations on campus to monitor local environmental conditions
  - Undergrad lounge
  - Geophysics equipment
  - GIS learning suite.
- Emerging themes:
  - Students – ensuring they have the best experience
  - Capital
  - Community – scholarships, etc.
  - Research – chairs and technicians
- Next step is to put this list into fundraising priorities.
- Goal is to meet with as many donors as possible with a “catalogue” so that we can present these priorities.
- Looking for undergrad students to be ambassadors at these types of events.
- Want to tag at least 1 person per department/school to be trained on fundraising so that departments have an opportunity to hold focused events.

**7. \*Integrative Biology RTP Criteria\***

**\*CARRIED\***

**8. \*Economics RTP Criteria\***

**\*CARRIED\***

**9. \*Math & Stats RTP Criteria\***

**\*CARRIED\***

**10. Report from the Dean**

- Recruitment update
  - Applications 4772, admissions 2801, matriculations 323
  - Science has participated in numerous recruitment activities since the fall:
    - High school visits
    - UWindsor open house (Nov. 5)
    - Parents night
    - Discover Your Future webinars
    - UWindsor virtual open day
    - Educator’s day
    - Plan ahead day
    - Science transfer Pathways Webinar (Mar 21)

- Spring Open House (April 1)
      - This is the critical time to convert offers to confirmations.
      - Recruitment has begun consultations with Departments to discuss messaging for next year and the information you want in the View Book. Admission information will be returned to the View Book next year.
- Incoming first year students:
  - Registration launch – May 15
  - Head Start – July 8
  - PASS Program – Sept. 5-6
- Science and Math Teacher Visit to Science – April 28
  - Expecting about 80 teachers
  - Events in multiple departments
  - One final science session to talk about challenges we see.
- LEAD Medallion Applications – April 28 deadline
  - Planning an in-person ceremony Tues. May 30<sup>th</sup>
- Spring Convocation – Toldo Lancer Centre
  - Session3: All undergraduate & graduate programs (Except Computer Science) – May 30, 2023 @ 6:30 p.m.
  - Session 4: Computer Science Graduate Programs – May 31 @ 9:30 a.m.
  - Session 5: Computer Science Undergraduate Programs – May 31 @ 2:00 p.m.

#### **11. Report from the Associate Dean, Undergraduate Affairs**

- Due to convocation, there will be a hard deadline for change of grades, course equivalencies, etc. (May 1, 2023).
- There will be an in person Academic Standing Committee in May. Will need representatives from all departments. Megan and Arunita will be in touch with Departments/Schools.
- Running into issues with students who had technical issues during their online exams.

#### **12. Report from the Associate Dean, Graduate Studies & Research**

- Science Research Chairs
  - Dr. Simon Rondeau-Gange, Chemistry & Biochemistry (VPRI Research Chair)
  - Dr. John Trant, Chemistry & Biochemistry (Science Chair)
- Discovery Grants from NSERC
  - 8 successful grants in Science
  - Dan Mennill will work with those who struggled to get renewed to help them move forward.
  - Learned that the internal peer review process is valuable. What determines success in getting or renewing:
    - Only 14% of those who submitted within 48 hours of the NSERC deadline were successful
    - Applications submitted before the ORIS deadline has a 60% success rate
    - Applications submitted before the ORIS deadline, and that participated in the peer review process had an 80% success rate.

- Scholarship announcements
  - OGS & QEII – received 32 scholarships (higher than our usual)
  - CGM - received 8
  - CGD - not announced yet.
  - USRA – 37 awards received (highest number ever)
    - Everyone got their 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> choices and some got their 3<sup>rd</sup> choice.
    - Open to receiving feedback on the new process.
- Recruiting new grad students
  - Time to recruit for fall
  - Tools available: Grad growth incentive fund, International PhD Tuition Scholarships
  - If you need help, contact Dan Mennill.

### **13. Report from Associate Dean, Faculty & Student Engagement**

- USci Network Updates
  - Careers in Science – Common interview questions and answers event
  - Women in Science – career panel event
  - Sci of Relief – mental and physical fitness giveaway, Zumba night, Turkey/Syria earthquake fundraiser bake sale event.
  - Destination Science – Sailing through Science event
  - STEMxPolicy – Policython
  - READSci – putting together a science magazine. Looking for stories about student experiences, stories, service learning, internships, etc.
- Science Academy
  - Holding the 10<sup>th</sup> annual Science Academy event July 3-7, 2023.
  - Michelle and Dora will be reaching out to departments.

### **14. Report from Heads/Directors**

- **Biomedical Sciences**
  - Final stages of a new Limited Term AAS hire (Interdisciplinary Health Sciences), shortlisted 4 candidates for a black scholar's search. Appointments committee busy. Black scholars hire (4 short listed candidates).
  - Celebrated the annual grad student symposium last week.
  - Dr. Martin Crozier received the Roger Thibert Teaching Excellence Award.
  - 1<sup>st</sup> cohort of Masters in Translational Science is finishing this spring.
- **Integrative Biology**
  - Tina Semeniuk & Anumita Jain will be recognized at the Spring & Shout event.
  - BCNA gala was a success
  - Held the first in person graduate seminar since Covid.
    - 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Khushali Parikh (Bain Lab)
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Kristen Cyr (Semeniuk Lab)
    - 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Sara Bellefontaine (Love Lab) & Eric Ste Marie (Hussey Lab)

- SAGES celebration of teaching and learning event on April 27<sup>th</sup>. All are encouraged to attend. Celebrating grad students who have completed the SAGES program over the past 3 years.
- **Physics**
  - Completed appointments search for new TT assistant professor position. Welcoming Dr. Caio Licciardi.
  - The machine shop space flooded. This is a recurring problem.
  - Physics is going to teach the Engineers in PHYS-1400. Engineering students used to take 2<sup>nd</sup> semester but will now this in 1<sup>st</sup> semester. Advisors be aware of sections filling up. Physics has concerns about having enough GA's. If you have any grad students who have taken the course and are available to GA, Steve Rehse know.
- **Economics**
  - MAEP program enrolment projections are doubled.
  - Summer research award – 3 students selected and will work closely with professors and receive \$500 each.
- **Computer Science**
  - Created partnership with cyber security technologies to offer 3.5 months of free training seminars for students. At the end, students will get cyber security certification from the EC Council that operates in 145 countries.
  - Hosted a successful Demo Day last week. Many industry partners attended.
  - Computer Science Student Society Gala is April 23<sup>rd</sup>.
  - LinkedIn subscription – all Computer Science students have free access to LinkedIn courses. Over 1,034 accounts have been created by our students and more than 10,000 hours of courses have been utilized. This increases the viability and job success rate for our students.
- **WE-SPARK**
  - Cheers to Hope is April 20<sup>th</sup> - this event is to get our igniting discovery grants funded, of which the majority are from Science. \$100 from each ticket goes to the competition & it will be a fun event. Visit [www.cheerstohope.ca](http://www.cheerstohope.ca) to **buy a ticket or donate**. PLEASE circulate info and encourage faculty (esp health research faculty) to attend!
  - Play for a Cure this week - the event is at \$333,611 and counting! Funds go toward health research infrastructure in Windsor-Essex. Tickets for the all-star game are available online at [www.playforacure.ca](http://www.playforacure.ca). Tickets are \$20. LaSalle Hockey Arena @ 6:30.
  - Hiring is underway for a coordinator for NUCLEUS - a collaboration between VPRI, WE-SPARK and Faculty of Science to create a coordinated plan for CORE equipment sustainability and equitable use. And for our Knowledge Translation Research Associate - this position will coordinate interactions between faculty and hospital partners and facilitates paths for research translation into the clinic.
  - Grant LOIs were due April 3<sup>rd</sup> - full grants are due May 5<sup>th</sup> - our peer review panels are assembled and will have onboarding sessions in May to prepare for peer review of the applications.
  - We are working with Sara and some external writers to try to get more health research stories out on a regular basis - including to Research Canada. If you have health research stories that you want extra help on send them to Karen Metcalfe.
  - Stelleto Consulting has begun our strategic planning process. We will update on when/how we will be engaging science faculty and staff during this process.

- **IDIR**
  - Finalized relocation. Consolidated IDIR and moved out of UWindsor space and into downtown location.
  - Received 2-multimillion-dollar grants. Working with international industrial partners.
  - A Post-Doctoral Fellow was invited to be a keynote speaker at a large conference.
  - Defended 2 PhD students.
  - Finished interviews for coop students. 5 from UWindsor and 9 from Waterloo.
- **Forensics**
  - Continuing to redesign the program. Changes going through PDC.
  - Discussed changes to concentrations to be presented to future students.
  - Forensic Student association doing re-design and re-launch.
  - Future professor of practice is seeking approval to have our students join a cold case task force. Students will be given real police cold cases to work on.
  - Met with Dr. Bev Jacobs and Jaimie Kehego about doing a focus on missing and murdered indigenous girls.
  - Forensic student received OGS this year!
- **School of the Environment**
  - Undergrad scholarships will be announced next week.
  - Happy with open house turn out. Presentations had a lot of people from the USA.
  - Holding 2 events on April 21<sup>st</sup>
    - Undergrad student thesis presentations
    - Open house for Dr. Frank Simpson retirement
  - Set up a faculty mentoring group to support new and junior faculty in SoE.
  - Tentative date of May 1<sup>st</sup> for grad seminars (online).
  - Black scholars hiring initiative – 4 candidates shortlisted. Setting up interviews.
  - Participating in the Map and Grow through Thrive program on Apr 22. Alice and Cameron meeting with Amherstburg. 10 students helping with initiative.
  - April 28 – hosting 30 geography teachers for PD Day (GIS focus).
  - The top 3 posters from the UWill Discover Conference were from School of the Environment.
- **Chemistry & Biochemistry**
  - Drs. Simon Rondeau-Gagne & John Trant received VPRI & Science Research Chair positions.
  - Hosted Inaugural Ottenbrite seminar. Full capacity (98 people RSVP'd).
- **Mathematics & Statistics**
  - An undergraduate student placed 788 in North America in the recent Putnam Competition. There was a total of 3,415 contestants.
  - Hosted high school students participating in Robotics tournament on March 31<sup>st</sup>.
  - Welcoming Dr. Edward Timko as new tenure track position in Algebra area of interest. (July 1<sup>st</sup>).

## **15. Other Business**

- Discussed possibly cancelling the May meeting. There may be some RTP criteria and a professor of practice adjunct recommendation that could be done as an e-vote. If you have any objections, please let us know.

## **16. Adjournment**

**Grgicak/Marquardt**