

Faculty of Science Coordinating Council Minutes

Thursday, December 7, 2023

2:30-4:00 p.m.

122 Essex Hall

Attendance:

Dean's Office	P	Dora Cavallo-Medved	R	Phil Dutton	P	Tricia Carmichael
Biomedical Sciences	P	Andrew Hubberstey	A	Martin Crozier	R	Isabelle Hinch
Chemistry & Biochemistry	P	Drew Marquardt	V	John Trant	R	Angela Awada
Computer Science	P	Imran Ahmad	P	Arunita Jaekel	A	Hossein Fani
Computer Science	P	Shafeen Aziz		N/A		N/A
Economics	R	Sang-Chul Suh	A	Hyuk-Jae Rhee	P	Elizabeth Akujobi
Environment	P	Alice Grgicak-Mannion	P	Chris Weisener	A	Kayla Jakobszen
Forensic Science	P	Shari Forbes		N/A	P	Mckenzie Buchanan
Institute Directors	P	Lisa Porter	P	Mike McKay	A	Roman Maev
Integrative Biology	R	Isabelle Barrette-Ng	V	Stephanie Doucet	R	Samuelle Simard-Provençal
Math & Stats	A	Sudhir Paul	P	Abdo Alfakih	A	Mohammad Babakhani
Physics	S	Jeff Rau	A	Caio Licciardi	P	Nathan Drouillard
Non-voting	P	Olivia Youssef	S	Laura Laurie	P	Sharon Rasul
Non-voting	P	Sara Elliott	P	Gemma Grey-Hall	R	Bob Hodge
Non-voting	V	Melissa Robinet	G	Shanthi Johnson		
R=Regrets, S=Substitute, G=Guest, V=Virtual						

1. Welcome and approval of Agenda

MOTION: To approve the agenda.

**Weisener/Ahmad
CARRIED**

2. Approval of Minute from November 2, 2023

MOTION: To approve the minutes of November 2, 2023.

**Hubberstey/Porter
CARRIED
1 abstention**

3. VPRI Welcome & Introduction

- VPRI attended the meeting to have an open discussion about what the VPRI Office has been working on and learning over this past year, especially for Science.
- Noted that:
 - Research and innovation are important to the university's function.
 - The Office has been meeting with many groups to learn about the University to determine what strengths and points of pressures that need to be addressed.
 - Integration between Faculties and streamlining processes needs to be strengthened across campus.
 - The Office has reviewed the conditions of the buildings in Science and across campus

- It was noted that the requirements of research programs in Science are heavy and utilizing space and what is needed to update or pivot the space. Essex Hall is on the VPRI's agenda. Noted that VPRI does not take full ownership in the spaces.
- Condition of buildings
 - Discussion of the NUCLEUS project and how they will work alongside this project to help move forward. Support by advocacy for core needs and determine what can be shared and in what proportion. They will act as coordinators across campus for this project as well.
 - 70/30 model – This is a new model on campus. The centralized model helps to create the shared space/equipment method but decentralizing the model would not help with coordination across campus.
 - Core central facilities are aging dramatically, and they are key equipment/spaces for departments. Concern about what VPRI Office strategy moving forward is regarding this issue.
 - Noted that Science holds a suite of laboratories across campus that are in GLIER. There needs to be administrative support for maintenance of the equipment as it is important to the research being done that the equipment functions properly.
 - NECLEUS is getting the conversation started to see what is needed and where.
 - Departments and then Faculties need to do mapping of what issues exist, and then across faculties needs to occur.
 - UG Thesis research experiences – VPRI does not run the research experiences but this needs to be centralized as well. Science does a great job with thesis experience, which is paid for by research grants. Science does a great job bringing in Research grants to the University. Collaborative research has been successful.
 - Equity is not equal as the Faculty of Science brings in 53% of research grants on campus, and other faculties do not bring in the same amount. How does VPRI plan to work with science vs the other faculties? CFI is used by Engineering, but FAHSS does not have the abilities to utilize it, but they are starting a project to allow them in.
 - Core facilities – lost machine shop to Engineering and Science has not been able to use it in the past. Engineering pays for it and they didn't have staff to run it. VPRI needs to help fund issues like this to help incentivize Faculties to run the programs. Dr. S. Rehse is collecting data on this.
 - Activity- based budgeting is creating gaps between Faculties so not as much collaboration is occurring – There needs to be a shift to where Faculties are working together and raise each other up within the ABB model.
- Metrics of faculties
 - 6 positions next year to be hired after the 3 in public health are hired.

- 3-year average in 5- year cycle.
- The average of faculties (equality lens) and provide incentives to Faculties to increase their research and growth.
- Strategic plan with Provost alongside VPRI – this would be new.
 - What are the strengths of Science within that new model?
 - Undergraduate thesis – whole ecosystem needs to be included with an emphasis on what is important.
 - Global research is weak now – this needs to be worked on and elevated.
- VPRI chairs given out to all faculties – Is this something for next year?
 - This is currently undecided.
 - They will be kept for the 2- year term allocated and will use that to see how it helps.
 - Prioritize where the money will go – a strategic plan on where it will be maximized across campus.
- CFI applications were submitted by Science last year.
- Open Discussion with faculty members
- The Dean’s meetings are now every two months instead of once a year.
- VPRI will come back again for another update.

4. Approval of Physics RTP Criteria

- Submitted to UCAP with minor changes in languages.
- Change in statement on first page – adapted the paragraph from math RTP form.

MOTION: To approve the Physics RTP criteria

Marquardt/Grgicak-Mannion

CARRIED

5. Update From the Dean

- Student Recruitment recent events– OUF Fall Open House, Parent’s night (turnout not as good as last year), Email campaign, and Welcome book mailing list.
- Enrolment data for Fall 2024
 - 1,907 applications (up from last year at this time)
 - 793 offers
 - 43 confirmations
- New Faculty onboarding Sessions
 - 1st session in October (academic); 2nd session in November (student engagement); 3rd session in January (research)
- NUCLEUS Steering Committee – this committee has been formed. Thanks to those participating.
- Launch of Institutional Brand (PAC)
 - February 2024 – month it will launch.
 - Common branding for increased recognition of the University of Windsor
 - PAC is not changing the logo

- Branding is answering the question: How do we show the University off to those externally with the same brand?
- Focus on research excellence, student experience, truth and reconciliation, local and global impact, EDI, faculty, and sustainability.
- There is a University calendar of events (for each Department and each Faculty) located in Drupal.
- The branding will help with how to support the institution in a mass way (funding from external people outside the University)
- Advancement
 - Re-launched the Science Advancement Team
 - Dean's advisory board
 - Funds that are being built this year:
 - Science LEAD fund
 - Nucleus research fund
 - Dean's innovation fund
 - Hearing their fundraising initiatives across campus (coordination with PAC and alumni office)
- PAC launching a new website (that is accessible to all)
- Kerri Rice has moved into a new position on campus in Recruitment.

6. Update from Associate Dean, Undergraduate Affairs

- Exam calendar for Science on Teams – Please have faculty add their course midterms in to prevent scheduling issues.
- Final exams are being held from December 9 – 20th.
- The last working day for the University is December 22nd.
- University opens back up on January 3rd.
- January 8th is the first day of classes for the Winter 2024 term.

7. Update from Acting Associate Dean, Graduate Studies & Research

- Research excellence award – Science was well represented.
- Congratulations to all those who were awarded.
- Graduate faculty status changes
 - Designations are outlined in a new table from the Graduate Studies Office.
 - When applying for graduate faculty status, the designation on the form needs to be very clear on what position the faculty member is in. Use the new table to determine what position you are in.
 - Some AAS positions can have research, and this is not depicted in the table.
 - Not posted and not sure where it is posted – Acting Associate Dean, GSR, will see where it is going to be posted.

8. Update from Associate Dean, Faculty & Student Engagement

- USCI network – held advisory days, social events, careers in science week, resume workshops (ex. cover letters, interview skills, job search, research information).
- Women in Science – featured two women in Windsor (2 biology students)

- Send names to Dora or Women in Science (upper year students or grad students) if Departments have any candidate names to submit.
- Sigh of relief hosted events this past month.
- STEAM x policy team – featuring hot topics and featured conference in Washington.

9. Report from Heads/Directors

- **Biomedical Sciences**
 - Seminar serious kickoff
 - Congratulations to the faculty members on the success of their grants.
- **Chemistry**
 - The retirement gathering for Lana Lee was well attended.
- **GLIER**
 - External seminars occurring.
 - Christmas potluck next Friday 15th – Hot wings challenge in GLIER at noon
- **Integrative Biology**
 - Congratulations to the faculty members that received an award.
- **Forensic Science**
 - Congratulations on the success of the new and enhanced Forensic Science club.
- **Economics**
 - Krystal Ives Graduate Secretary has retired. Congratulations to her.
- **Computer Science**
 - Demo day is being held December 8th.
 - A computer science student was on AM800.
 - Hosting Secondary school programming competitions this month.
 - Many recruitment events have happened and are happening soon.
 - The Department is working on connecting students with local companies to provide students with hands-on opportunities while in their programs.
- **SOE**
 - Dr. Pardeep Jasra was granted AAS status.
 - Dr. Joel Gagnon is offering a graduate course, ESCI-8900, and this is open to all students.
 - Thesis presentation is being held in Memorial Hall for those that would like to attend.
 - Moving ahead with CRC search July 1, 2024
- **WE SPARK**
 - The After Dark event tonight
 - The quarter two report is online for those that wish to view it.
 - The conference had over 300 people and 100 posters. It was a great success.
 - Two new grants have been brought in research.
 - CUREs class – a thank you to those involved in the course.

10. Other Business

- Thank you from the Dean:
 - To Dr. Carmichael for all her work as Acting Associate Dean Graduate Studies and Research.

- To Dr. Ahmad for all his work as Acting Director of Computer Science.
- To Dr. Marquardt for all his work as Acting Department Head of Chemistry and Biochemistry.
- A Science student was the top finalist in the scientist exposed competition.

11. Adjournment

Hubberstey/Porter