

Faculty of Science Coordinating Council Minutes

Thursday, February 6, 2020

Room 203 Toldo

Attendance:

Dean's Office	P	Chris Houser	P	Philip Dutton	P	Tricia Carmichael
Biomedical Sciences	P	Andrew Hubberstey	A	Shashi Jasra	A	Kyle Stokes
Chemistry & Biochemistry	P	James Gauld	P	Zhuo Wang	P	Sara Mechael
Computer Science	P	Ziad Kobti	A	Alioune Ngom	A	Sai Amrita Dhir
Economics	P	Nurlan Turdaliev	P	Sang-Chul Suh	P	David Henderson
Environment	P	Iain Samson	P	Jill Crossman	P	Paul Sotiriou
Forensic Science	P	Maria Cioppa		N/A	P	Deanna Fisher
Institute Directors	S	Karen Metcalfe	P	Mike McKay	P	Roman Maev
Integrative Biology	P	Daniel Heath	R	Sherah VanLaerhoven	A	Blue Raasch
Math & Stats	P	Richard Caron	P	Abdo Alfakih	P	Penny Cardelli
Physics	P	Steven Rehse	P	Jeffrey Rau	P	Jeremy Marvin
Non-voting	S	Luke Strong	P	Laura McLean	P	Sharon Rasul
Non-voting	P	Gemma Grey-Hall	A	Darko Milenkovic	R	Dora Cavallo-Medved
Non-voting	P	Bob Hodge	A	Margaret Mayer		
R=Regrets, S=Substitute, G=Guest						

1. Welcome and approval of Agenda

MOTION: To approve the agenda.

**Turdaliev/Hubberstey
CARRIED**

2. Approval of Minute from December 5, 2019

MOTION: To approve the amended minutes of December 5, 2019.

**Dutton/Gauld
CARRIED**

3. Adjunct Assistant Professor of Practice with Faculty of Science Recommendation for Gary Scoyne

- Chris Houser took feedback from this Council and submitted revisions to bylaw 20 which have now been approved by Senate.
- In addition to a traditional adjunct appointment, there are three new types of adjunct appointments (Indigenous Scholar, Clinical Professor & Professor of Practice).
- Discussed that criteria should be established for the consideration of adjunct ranks.

MOTION: That Gary Scoyne be appointed an Adjunct Assistant Professor of Practice in the Faculty of Science for 5 years.

**Cioppa/Samson
CARRIED**

4. Adjunct Assistant Professor of Practice with Faculty of Science for Steve Hubley

MOTION: That Steve Hubley be appointed an Adjunct Assistant Professor of Practice in the Faculty of Science for 5 years.

**Cioppa/Rehse
CARRIED**

5. Adjunct Indigenous Scholar with Faculty of Science Recommendation for Clint Jacobs

MOTION: That Clint Jacobs be appointed as an Adjunct Indigenous Scholar with the Faculty of Science for 5 years.

Dutton/Cioppa

CARRIED

6. Outreach Presentation by Michelle Bondy

- Michelle Bondy, AAS Learning Specialist in School of the Environment/Science, presented a summary of outreach initiatives happening in the Faculty of Science.
- Contact Michelle if you want to have a longer one on one conversation about outreach or if you would like her to attend a Departmental Council meeting.
- Fall events: Science Olympiad & Scientist Like Her.
- Winter events: Let's Talk Cancer, Brain Bee, FIRST Robotics, Let's Talk Environment.
- Summer events: Let's Talk Science Challenge, Science Rendezvous, Science Academy, Lancer Camps, EAGLE Summer Camp.
- All year initiatives: Let's Talk Science, SHSM visits, PD days for Teachers, Shadow Days, etc.
- Michelle has a mailing list and can send information out to local teachers on your behalf.
- Michelle will send a list broken down by term to help departments plan their activities around existing initiatives.
- Chris working with education to set up a Science AQ for high school teachers. With hopes that trickles down to recruitment. It was suggested that Business Teachers should be included.

7. SMA3 Update

- The President held a townhall yesterday to discuss the SMA3. As of today, all presentations and the SMA document are on the website.
- In year 1 we will be responsible to meet metrics in:
 1. Grad Employment
 2. Graduation Rate
 3. Institutional Strength and Focus
 4. Research Funding and Capacity
 5. Community/Local Impact
 6. Institution Specific Economic Impact Metric
- In year 2 we will be responsible to meet metrics in:
 1. Graduate Earnings
 2. Experiential Learning
 3. Innovation: Industry Funding
- In year 3 we will be responsible to meet metrics in:
 1. Skills & Competencies
- The SMA is a safe and conservative approach. The University's goal is for steady enrolment growth (not rapid). Areas identified under institutional strength were selected because they have the potential for steady growth.
- Funding from Institutions that do not meet the metric weighting will be redistributed to Institutions that did meet the metric weighting.

- Science must help the University hit its targets.

1. Experiential Learning

- only counts for undergrad students. We need to determine how to ensure that all undergrads complete at least 1 high impact learning experience (coop, internship, study abroad, service learning, field experience, simulation [not including lab]). Simulation is simulation in a true workplace environment (i.e. Chemistry wine lab can be framed as service to local industry like they are an analytical firm). Can we reframe labs with an industrial angle?
- How can we ensure that all undergrads complete one high-impact learning experience?
 - a. Create a lower level high-impact learning course and add it as a major requirement to degree programs.
 - b. Economics has a mandatory 4th year project course. Students must work in small groups and collaborate, do research, collect data, formulate a research problem, write and present (simulation). Advantage of doing at higher level is that the course is reduced and hitting target that every student in program should take it.
 - c. Many adjunct professors could provide these experiences in a coordinated way. (WESPARK)
 - d. Need to identify what programs do not already have this built in.
 - e. Discussed that we may have to make some curricular language changes through PDC forms to ensure the language matches the provincial needs
 - f. A working group has been established to create definitions for high impact. Chris Houser is on this committee. We will have a clearer list later in the semester.
 - g. Is there an opportunity to convert volunteer opportunities into credit bearing?
 - h. Experiential learning doesn't happen until year 2 of the SMA, however we need time to figure out how to implement things.

2. Research funding

- Science produces over 2/3 of all research funding on campus. How can we increase research funding from tri council, industry, donors and nonprofit agencies?
 - a. Increasing communication between the researchers. Finding an environment where they can exchange info. Large interdisciplinary grants could be broadened.
 - b. WESPARK and WCRG think tank events. Used to be just about cancer but now they have a health wide focus. It's like a speed dating event for researchers. WESPARK just hired a person in charge of this and more events like this. Students created an app (like tinder for researchers). Launching a new website and now have a communication and events coordinator.
 - c. Ingrid Qemo from ORIS is trying to implement an internal/external grant review model for CIHR.
 - d. Incentivizing people who do research would be beneficial (create a flexible workload policy through the collective agreement).

- e. Discussed a need for ORIS to give more time for faculty to write proposals and for ORIS to review them more efficiently.
- f. Where do we have a window for real research funding growth?
- g. Research type hackathon.
- A new budget model could mean that overhead money may come back to Science. If this happened, what would our priorities be:
 - a. Portion to maintenance, upkeep and repair of equipment
 - b. Staff to help manage grants
 - c. International graduate student scholarships. (investment in enrolment)
 - d. Technical support for equipment
 - e. Over hall equipment in teaching labs. Proper upgrades needed every 3-5 years.
 - f. Apply a levy to donations that come in to support research.

3. Graduation rates

- How do we improve retention and time to degree?
 - a. Faculty need to set a plan for time to degree (4 years for PhD). Need to get students out the door.
 - b. Alleviate bottle necks (problem with fall/winter offerings). If someone loses the 1st term course, they can't do 2nd term and they just pushed everything back by a year. Computer science has a serious knot of courses in 2nd year that if you don't succeed in all of them you can't move on to upper level.
 - c. More online course offerings. Including more online courses for summer term.
 - d. Faculty mentors who can focus on the 1st year undergrads and make personal connections, etc.
 - e. Don't take in weak students who will fail. If we could right size our enrolment, then we would have an option of changing admission requirements.

8. 2020 Enrolment Update

- Enrolment slides attached.
- It's anticipated that the new programs, transfer agreements and certificates will generate enough enrolment growth to clear the deficit.
- Science has hired a PDC writer (Laura Chittle). Laura is available to help with PDC writing in your departments.

9. Budget Update

- Budget slides attached.
- A responsibility based budget system will be starting in near future.
- In the new model tuition and Government grant will both come directly to Science and we pay our bills (salary, space, electricity, water, it, etc.) and we will come out to net position in the end.
- Research is an area that the president wants to incentivize through the new budget model. This could be good for science.
- We will pay a tax to areas like CTL, Co-op, etc. that will be proportionate to the number of students we have.

10. *Mathematics & Statistics RPP Criteria for AAS & LS Approval*

CARRIED

11. *Mathematics & Statistics RPP Criteria for Sessional Lecturers Approval*

CARRIED

12. *Mathematics & Statistics RPP Criteria for Sessional Lecturers Approval*

CARRIED

13. Undergraduate & SPDC Update

- 4 or 5 certificates have been approved at SPDC. SPDC discussed where certificates will be housed (science vs. departments). For now, they will be in the Faculty of Science. Concerns were expressed that departments may lose control of certificates. That is not the intention. The intention is that we are working together and when one of us succeeds, we all succeed. We are not built upon individual departments, but as a faculty.
- The certificates were bundled in Science for common promotion of all certificates. AAUs can still promote their own certificates in parallel.

14. Graduate Studies & Research Update

- Focused on grad student funding applications (NSERC, OGS, etc.). Ranking will happen early next month.
- Discussed if students have the option of checking their own application before it is sent to NSERC or is it closed to them after they hit submit. Students should have the right to see what is/will be submitted but they report that there is no way for them to vet the application before it is submitted. This is still being investigated.

15. Report from Heads/Programs

- N/A

16. Other Business

- N/A

17. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting.

**Samson/Gauld
CARRIED**