

Faculty of Science Coordinating Council Minutes

Thursday, November 7, 2019

Room 203 Toldo

Attendance:

Dean's Office	P	Chris Houser	P	Philip Dutton	R	Tricia Carmichael
Biomedical Sciences	P	Andrew Hubberstey	P	Shashi Jasra	P	Kyle Stokes
Chemistry & Biochemistry	R	James Gauld	P	Zhuo Wang	P	Sara Mechael
Computer Science	P	Ziad Kobti	A	Alioune Ngom	P	Sai Amrita Dhir
Economics	P	Nurlan Turdaliev	P	Sang-Chul Suh	A	David Henderson
Environment	P	Joel Gagnon	A	Jill Crossman	P	Paul Sotiriou
Forensic Science	P	Maria Cioppa		N/A	P	Deanna Fisher
Institute Directors	P	Lisa Porter	P	Mike McKay	P	Roman Maev
Integrative Biology	P	Julie Smit	P	Sherah VanLaerhoven	P	Blue Raasch
Math & Stats	P	Richard Caron	P	Sudhir Paul	P	Penny Cardelli
Physics	P	Steven Rehse	P	Jeffrey Rau	P	Jeremy Marvin
Non-voting	P	Joy-Lynn Kobti	P	Laura McLean	P	Sharon Rasul
Non-voting	A	Gemma Grey-Hall	P	Darko Milenkovic	R	Dora Cavallo-Medved
Non-voting	P	Bob Hodge	P	Margaret Mayer		
Guest	P	Jeff Berryman	P	Iva Gentcheva		

R=Regrets, S=Substitute, G=Guest

1. Dean of Science Review Committee

- Jeff Berryman chaired this section of the meeting on behalf of Douglas Kneale
- Chris Houser's term as Dean of Science ends on June 30, 2021. Bylaw 10 requires that a review is done one calendar year prior to the end of the first term.
- Discussed the size and constitution of the committee. The bylaw requires that there should be between 3-6 faculty members on the committee.

MOTION: Motion to have 3 faculty members on the committee.

Caron/Paul

FRIENDLY AMMENDMENT: Motion to have 6 faculty members on this committee

Caron/Paul

CARRIED

MOTION: That no more than 1 member from a single AAU should be elected to the committee

Rehse/Hubberstey

CARRIED

2. Welcome and approval of Agenda

MOTION: To approve the agenda.

Gagnon/VanLaerhoven

CARRIED

3. Approval of Minute from October 3, 2019

- Discussed that the previous minutes should be amended to use only Surnames as Movers & Seconders.

MOTION: To approve the amended minutes of October 3, 2019.

Hubberstey/Paul

4. *Economics RTP Criteria Approval

MOTION: That the Economics RTP Criteria be approved.

CARRIED

5. Academic Goals for 2019-2020

- All Deans have been asked to create a list of academic goals for 2019/2020
- After seeking input from Heads/Directors, Science's 5 main goals are:
 1. **Advancement**
 - Increase the number of high impact learning opportunities, research output and enrolment growth to present to external donors, and friends of Science
 - Our external donations have increased from \$350K/year to \$1.8 million last year. The focus has been on space and scholarships/awards for students
 2. **Partnerships**
 - Building stronger engagement with the Community.
 - We have been working with ORIS and WEEDC.
 - Chemistry is opening up a Wine Lab that will be provide students with internships while providing service to the local region.
 - We are creating a brag book for Science. Hope to be complete by January. The book demonstrates how we are a Destination Science program, highlights the student experience, and showcases how we are on the leading edge of research in Ontario. These books make a difference for people deciding why they should invest in us.
 3. **Program Development**
 - A Masters of Engineering & Materials Chemistry program is currently being developed between Engineering and Chemistry & Biochemistry.
 - Currently working on a Translational Health program, certificates and an IEEE program.
 - We need to start looking at new program development
 - The push for further enrolment growth is coming. We will saturate on our existing programs soon. Can we build on what we are doing to attract new students that is not resource heavy?
 - An Actuarial Science undergrad program is under development.
 - Discussed possible program development opportunities: Pharmacology, Bioinformatics, AI, Geoinformatics, Geoscience, Data Analysis Stream, Environmental Health, Remove some barriers for students to take courses from other AAUs (more advertising), Economics Data Analysis, Health Economics, Husbandry in Agriculture, Nutrition, Statistics and Data Analysis, Certificate in Statistical Analysis, GIS, R & Python (statistical analysis programs).
 - We are losing students to universities with programs that we don't provide. There is a benefit to offer programs that other schools are offering.
 - Discussed the need to be careful that we don't create a lot of low enrolment programs. Every program must go through a landscape and market analysis before starting.
 - Math now working on certificate in statistical consulting.
 - Discussed barriers to new program development

- a. Faculty resources
- b. Administrative support to put the program together
- c. Faculty buy in
- d. Can't have administratively driven program decisions that aren't based on market assessment
- e. Technical support (lab support, etc.)
- f. Condition of facilities
- g. Building reputation
- h. Long term investment plan
- i. Partnerships with other institutions (western for medical school, pharmacology)

4. Transfer agreements

- Build transfer pathways to offset diminishing returns in 4 year undergraduate recruitment (i.e. applied environmental science stream 2+2).
- Discussed that these pathways would articulate with similar programs at each College in Ontario instead of one by one agreements with individual programs/colleges.
- Can be done indirectly. Upper year Physics students are tutoring at St. Clair.

5. Experiential learning

- How do we make sure we have the resources to keep these programs going?
- Discussed concerns about how experiential learning can be properly recognized as authentic experiential learning in Government's eyes (like co-op and internship). Our experiential learning opportunities affect our retention and graduation rates, but need to try to get it recognized through the SMA.
- How do we make sure that the student experience is sustainable?
- We currently offer 3 credit courses (Internship, Service Learning and Undergraduate Research Experience).
- Discussed concerns over the communication, and consulting about USci Network events. Some departments don't feel they have the resources to participate in all the initiatives.

6. Enrolment Update

- The province has announced a 10% tuition cut this year and a tuition freeze next year.
- There is concern that there will be a cut to the University grant in the next Provincial budget.
- We have received the final enrolment numbers for Fall 2019. Science has 2030 full time undergrads (up 153 from last year), a total of 2359 students (full and part time), and we have increased by 43 graduate students. 8% increase of undergrad students, 6% increase of graduate students
- The University has created a Strategic Enrolment Management Executive Committee.
- Discussed areas to protect while we grow:
 1. Facilities and upgrading of equipment
 2. Course offerings
 3. Reputation and messaging
 4. Access to faculty
 5. Opportunities for undergraduate students (working labs, USci network, exchange, etc.)
 6. Quality (class sizes, quality of instructors, space).

7. Opportunities for student experience (financial support to bring in speakers, field courses, etc.)
 8. Need to keep intimate atmosphere
 9. Relevance of programs, courses and experiential learning opportunities
 10. Research & Research capacity
 11. Maintain enough staff support
- Discussed if Science set an institutional mission. What would we want to include in an institutional mission statement?
 1. Intimate learning atmosphere
 2. Research
 3. High impact learning
 4. Interdisciplinary learning
 5. Research is teaching. Tying research to teaching is critical
 6. Ability to bring more research for conferences on to campus
 7. Scholarship allocations from external funding (OGS, NSERC, etc.).

7. Undergraduate & SPDC Update

- We are well into the next recruitment cycle (OUF, fall showcase, etc.)
- Fall showcase was a success.

8. Graduate Studies & Research Update

- N/A

9. Other Business

- Unifor and CUPE staff each voted one member to represent them as a non-voting member on Faculty Council. Welcome Margaret Mayer (School of the Environment) and Bob Hodge (Integrative Biology & Biomedical Sciences).
- Chris Houser will hold a Faculty of Science Town Hall on November 28th at 1:00 in Katzman.
- Birds & Beer III event is November 14 @ 7:00 at Walkerville Brewery (Science on Tap event)
- Statistics Guest speaker (Richard Lockhart from Simon Fraser University) tonight at 7:00 in 104 OB.
- Dr. Gerald Kutney will speak at the Thought Speaker Series at Libro Centre in Amherstburg on November 13th. They are discussing climate change and would Scientists to be present to comment on it as well.

10. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting.

**Gagnon/VanLaerhoven
CARRIED**