Minutes of the Faculty of Science
Council Meeting No. 143
held on Friday, May 12TH, 2017 at 2:30 p.m.
in the AdHum Boardroom, AH 527

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Representatives from other Faculties/Units: L. Bradshaw, J. D’Arcy, K. Herman, C. Oriet, R. Petry, S. Rheault


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1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
   Move to approve the agenda
   Hoeber/Dahms CARRIED

2. PRESENTATIONS TO SCIENCE COUNCIL
   2.1 University of Regina Registrar, Mr. James D’Arcy
      Mr. D’Arcy presented a draft of the Undergraduate Transfer Credit Policy.
      (Attached to the minutes as Appendix I)

   2.2 President of Luther College, Dr. Bryan Hillis, Vice President (Academic) FNU, Dr. Lynn Wells, and Dean of Campion, Dr. Allison Fizzard
      Drs. Hillis, Wells and Fizzard reported on Tuition fee sharing agreements, infrastructure services, and academic guidelines between the University of Regina and the Federated Colleges.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF MEETING NO. 142 HELD MARCH 20TH, 2017
   Volodin/MacKnight CARRIED

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES
   • e-signatures re: documentation

5. CHAIR’S REMARKS
   • 2% budget cut
   • CWSF 2017 next week
   • Karen Meagher FGSR term as Associate Dean
   • Cory Butz reappointed as Associate Dean (Research)
   • Mary Vetter (Biology, Luther) retiring
6. REPORTS FROM DEAN’S OFFICE

6.1 Associate Dean (Research) Report

- The Faculty of Science had 13 applications submitted in the 2017 NSERC Discovery Grant cycle. 10 of these were funded. Biology was 2/3, Chemistry & Biochemistry was 1/2, Computer Science was 5/5, Geology was 0/1, and Mathematics & Statistics went 2/2.
- Our acceptance rate of 77% is the highest of the past 8 years.
- Note that the University of Regina had 15 NSERC Discovery Grants funded. Thus, the Faculty of Science received 66% of the University of Regina's total. The Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science went 4/17 (24%) and the Faculty of Arts went 1/1.
- Science received 1 NSERC Discovery Development Grant (DDG). These are worth $10K per year for 2 years.
- For the third year in a row, we had one case in which someone got back on NSERC after having been off for a couple of years. This serves as encouragement to keep applying each year.
- If you are planning to apply in the upcoming cycle, the Notice of Intent to Apply is August 1st. The NOI is mandatory. The RO has once again kindly offered to help you prepare your CCV. Please contact the RO as soon as possible. Start writing your application now and have as many colleagues as possible proofread your application.
- Continuing with NSERC results, Science had 0/3 NSERC RTI grant applications funded. This is the second year in a row that we have been shut out. NSERC announced today that it is eliminating RTI quotas for universities effective immediately.
- Lastly, we were co-applicants on the T2K - Canada SAPPJ project, which received almost $2.5M over two years. The U of R should receive 13-15% of this funding.
- Dr. Peter Leavitt renewed his NSERC CRC Tier 1 and Dr. Sandra Zilles renewed her NSERC CRC Tier 2. Congratulations to both!
- The Science Graduate Admissions and Studies Committee sent 2 ranked SIOS applications to FGSR.

6.1.2 Graduate Admissions & Studies Committee Report (Numbers in brackets correspond to the numbers on the GA & S Report - Attached as Appendix II).

1.0 Department of Mathematics and Statistics

(1.1) Approval to create the following new courses: MATH 803 Approved Summer School (3 or 6 credits) and STAT 803 Approved Summer School (3 or 6 credits).

Butz/Fallat CARRIED

(1.2) Approval to create the following new course: MATH 829 Introduction to Commutative Algebra (3 credits).

Butz/Fallat CARRIED

6.2 Associate Dean (Academic) Report

6.2.1 (Spring) 2017 Graduands (distributed at the door)

Approve 2017 Spring Graduands List 

Mobed/Volodin CARRIED

6.2.2 Admissions and Studies Committee (Numbers in brackets correspond to the numbers on the A & S Report - Attached as Appendix III).
(2.0) Department of Computer Science, in conjunction with the Department of Mathematics & Statistics

(2.1) Approval to remove MATH 429 from the “Three courses from:” in the BSc and BSc Hons Combined Major in Computer Science and Mathematics.
Mobed/Fallat CARRIED

(3.0) Faculty of Science

(3.1) Approval to add RDWT 120 to the list of courses not accepted for credit toward any degree or certificate in the Faculty of Science to Section 16.3 of the Undergraduate Calendar.
Mobed/Brigham CARRIED

(3.2) Approval to remove “Not permitted to begin their program in the Spring/Summer semester without permission of the Associate Dean (Academic)” from Section 16.2.3 of the Undergraduate Calendar and Course Catalog.
Mobed/Leavitt CARRIED

6.2.3 Scholarship Committee Report
The Faculty of Science Scholarship Committee recommends Tasha Baller, BSc in Computer Science, with Great Distinction, Co-operative Education Designation receive the University Prize in Science at the 2017 Spring Convocation.
Mobed/Leavitt CARRIED

The Faculty of Science Scholarship Committee recommends Tasha Baller, BSc in Computer Science, with Great Distinction, Co-operative Education Designation to be awarded the Faculty of Science Dean’s Medal at the 2017 Spring Convocation.
Mobed/MacKnight CARRIED

- The Faculty of Science Scholarship Committee awarded the Faculty of Science 10th Anniversary Scholarship to Celina Earl, an incoming Science student, working toward a Bachelor of Science (currently with an undeclared major).
- The Department of Biology awarded the Dr. Robert M. Agnew Memorial Award to Judith Bjorndahl.
- The Department of Chemistry awarded the Society of Chemical Industry, Canadian Section, Merit Award (Chemistry) to Kellsey Hamel.
- The Department of Chemistry awarded the Society of Chemical Industry, Canadian Section, Merit Award (Biochemistry) Rachel Willis.
- The Department of Geology awarded the APEGS Gold Medal to Amanda Palaniuk.

6.3 Faculty Administrator Report

- Trent Kostelny has been appointed as the Technician assigned to the Dean's Office effective May 1st, 2017. This is a term position to ensure safety compliance in teaching and research labs in the Faculty of Science.
- A search is in process for Taebry’s replacement in the Student Services Office.
- The College West Building renovations are ongoing. With that in mind there will be minor disruptions and construction noise for the next twelve months. If at any time there is an excessive amount of noise or the noise is causing a disruption in a class or an exam, please let either Vincent or I know.
The Lab Building renovations have also ramped up and are in full swing, again there will be minor disruptions and construction noise for the next fourteen months. The LB renovations will be more disruptive overall, simply due to the nature of the work being done to the HVAC and lighting. Again if at any time there is an excessive amount of noise or the noise is causing problems, please let Vincent or I know.

New fume hoods have been chosen for the LB project and will come with increased energy savings as well as safety features. We should see these installed by the end of Summer 2017.

Canada Wide Science Fair 2017 will run from Sunday, May 14th through Saturday, May 20th. We will have over 600 Science Fair finalists and their delegates from across Canada and internationally ranging from Grades 7 through 12 on campus to compete and explore the province of Saskatchewan.

The event will bring a great deal of positive media coverage to the University of Regina, as well as the opportunity to impress and recruit some of the brightest students across Canada. We have a rare opportunity (CWSF was last in Regina in 1997) to showcase ourselves and our University to those we would normally not have access to.

7. NEW BUSINESS
   Nominating Committee Report
   (Attached to the minutes as Appendix IV)
   7.1 Approval that all Faculty of Science representatives to other bodies serve two year terms effective May 2018.
   Dahms/Volodin CARRIED

8. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND INFORMATION
   8.1 Update from URFA Council of Representatives URFA met with the Administration re: budget and negotiating.

   8.2 Revising the Science Criteria Document for Faculty Members and Instructors
   An Ad-Hoc Committee was established to oversee updates and changes to the Criteria Document. The committee is comprised of six members, consisting of one member from each of the six Science departments – nominated by the Department Head.

   8.3 Criteria Document for discussion, revisit in summer and have a Town Hall for additional feedback. A draft is available on the Science website. Vote on final version at September Faculty of Council Meeting.

9. REPORTS FROM SCIENCE REPRESENTATIVES TO OTHER FACULTIES/UNITS/COMMITTEES
   No reports.

10. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES FROM OTHER FACULTIES, SENATE AND STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES
    10.1 Charles Phelps reported the library’s new system QuickFind will be available next week.
    10.2 Sylvain Rheault reported Dr. Aito has been appointed for a five year term as the Director of La Cité and they are working with the Faculty of Nursing on a bilingual nursing program.
11. DEPARTMENT REPORTS
   11.1 Biology
       The Department just underwent a Unit Review.
       Laboratory Building renovations continue.

   11.2 Chemistry and Biochemistry
       No report

   11.3 Computer Science
       The Department just underwent a Unit Review.

   11.4 Geology
       No report.

   11.5 Mathematics and Statistics
       No report.

   11.6 Physics
       No report

12. OTHER BUSINESS
    Thanks from the Acting Dean.

13. ADJOURNMENT
    Dahms
    The meeting adjourned at 4:26pm.