

Faculty of Science Coordinating Council Minutes

Thursday, November 4, 2021

Meet via Microsoft Teams

Attendance:

Dean's Office	P	Chris Houser	P	Philip Dutton	P	Dan Mennill
Dean's Office	P	Dora Cavallo-Medved		N/A		N/A
Biomedical Sciences	P	Andrew Hubberstey	P	Martin Crozier	P	Isabelle Hinch
Chemistry & Biochemistry	P	James Gauld	P	Drew Marquardt	P	Michael Ocheje
Computer Science	P	Ziad Kobti	P	Dima Alhadidi	P	Lama Khalil
Economics	P	Sang-Chul Suh	P	Dingding Li	A	Behrooz Matlabi
Environment	P	Joel Gagnon	P	Cameron Proctor	P	Saveth Sao
Forensic Science	P	Maria Cioppa		N/A	A	Elley Vipond
Institute Directors	P	Lisa Porter	A	Mike McKay	P	Roman Maev
Integrative Biology	P	Isabelle Barrette-Ng	P	Nigel Hussey	P	Taylor Bendig
Math & Stats	P	Richard Caron	A	Abdo Alfakih	P	Jessica Gerdevic
Physics	P	Steven Rehse	P	Jeffrey Rau	P	Griffin Howson
Non-voting	P	Nellie Bordignon	P	Laura McLean	P	Sharon Rasul
Non-voting	P	Sara Elliott	P	Gemma Grey-Hall	P	Bob Hodge
R=Regrets, S=Substitute, G=Guest						

1. Welcome and approval of Agenda

MOTION: To approve the agenda.

**Mennill/Barrette-Ng
CARRIED**

2. Approval of Minute from May 6, 2021

MOTION: To approve the amended minutes of October 7, 2021.

**Hubberstey/Barrette-Ng
CARRIED**

3. Report from the Dean

a. Enrollment Update

- November 1st is the Ministry deadline and when our enrollment numbers are considered official.
- Faculty of Science has 3,750 students (3,374 full time, 376 part time).
- Retention Rates:
 - Years 1-2: 90% (up from 86%)
 - Years 2-3: 87% (up from 80%)
 - Years 3-4: 80% (up from 75%)
- Faculty of Science exceeded our prediction for Fall 2021 by 362 students, resulting in \$600K of additional budget.

b. Budget

- Discussed the need for resources to sustain our level of activity and growth.
- Faculty of Science is aiming to achieve a balanced budget approach. If we have extra funds, they will be invested into staff, space, equipment, etc.
- To maintain balance, as our international student population increases, Science must simultaneously grow domestic enrollment.

c. Update on Associate Dean Search Committee

Associate Dean, Undergraduate Affairs Search Committee

- Still need 2 student representatives.
- Received 5 faculty nominations (2 are from one AAU). A run-off election will be completed.

Associate Dean, Faculty & Student Engagement Search Committee

- Only received 4 faculty nominations (2 are from one AAU).

MOTION: To continue searching for a 4th faculty position following the guidelines that FCC set out in October (4 faculty with no more than 1 from any AAU).

DEFEATED

Hussey/Barrette-Ng

MOTION: That this committee structure allow up to 2 faculty members from a given Department/Program.

CARRIED

Mennill/Gagnon

4. Undergraduate Update

- Working with strategic planning group. There is a lot of overlap with the Student Experience strategic planning group.
- Discussed retaining technology that has been beneficial.
- Science Society enquired if faculty would be willing to record in person lectures when face to face learning resumes. Discussed the [Senate Policy on Recording Lectures](#).
- Please report any issues with Hy-Flex learning to Phil Dutton's attention via scienceundergrad@uwindsor.ca.

5. Faculty & Student Engagement Update

- The University Open House event was 2 weeks ago. Thank you to everyone who participated. In person event was well attended. Online attendance was low.
- We are moving forward with Departmental recruitment webinars, similar to last year. These are great opportunities for potential students and their parents to attend. Nadia Stephaniuk is the Science Recruitment Coordinator. She will be reaching out to Heads/Directors about setting up webinars.
- Everyone is encouraged to follow the USci Network social media pages to keep up to date on their activities.
- A USci Network annual mid-year report will be shared in January that will provide the metrics for their initiatives.
- The Student Experience strategic planning group is considering priorities and recommended goals.
- Creating an advancement and alumni plan that will involve undergrad and grad students.
- Hoping to have a meet & greet/networking event in Spring that will bring Alumni to campus.

6. Graduate Update

- Discussed the need to be inventive in our graduate recruitment strategy. Email scienceadgsr@uwindsor.ca if you need help with recruitment events/strategizing or have questions.
- Extending the start date for students who received the Faculty of Science International PhD Tuition Scholarships because many are having VISA issues (Originally aiming for January 1, 2022 start date, but extending to May or September 2022 start date).
- There are still 7 scholarships that haven't been accounted for (4 Biology, 1 Chemistry, 1 GLIER, 1 Physics). If you have international PhD students starting in January, May or September, they will be eligible.

7. Research Update

- Discussed changes to Safety Plans.
 - Science continues to encourage VPRI to end phase 2 and 3 plans.
 - Eliminated the need for a request to revise a plan based on adding or subtracting personnel or changing access. Once you have an approved Phase 3 plan, you can decide which personnel and rooms are included.
 - There is a form for increasing room occupancy.
- Faculty of Science submitted 17 NSERC Discovery grants and 5 RTI grants this year. Special thanks to Heads/Directors and Faculty who participated in the peer review process.
- Hope to reinstitute Science Research Stimulus Fund next year.
- There are 8 people on the Strategic Research Planning Group. Anyone interested in participating should contact Dan Mennill (scienceadgsr@uwindsor.ca).

8. Report from Heads/Directors

Biomedical Sciences

- Master's program in Translational Health Sciences was approved by Seante. Expecting first intake in May 2022. This program will allow students work with clinical professors and research professors on campus and at hospitals, learning how to do with clinical research. This is a diverse and novel 1-year long program.
- Received approval to be creating MSc and PhD programs in Biomedical Sciences. Currently the program is shared with Integrative Biology. Anticipated launch in Fall 2023.
- Currently hiring for a Molecular Neuroscientist.

Chemistry & Biochemistry

- Informed students of Winter 2022 delivery models.
 - All labs will be face to face. First year lectures will be virtual, and all other year courses will be face to face depending on how Registrar's can accommodate with rooms.

Mathematics & Statistics

- Math & Stats Students Association has been hosting events and seminars at the Green Bean Café.
- Actuarial Science club is recruiting.
- Withdrew a PDC proposal for a Biostats course while the department considers how to introduce indigenization into the course. This will likely be a 4–8-month process.
 - Discussed that the prompts in the PDC form about indigenization are being misinterpreted by Senate. It's meant to ask how you will make the changes at a faculty level and not a course level.
- Winter 2022 courses will be face to face with a few exceptions. Department is checking with International Students to see if there are any issues with going face to face for Winter.
- Discussed the benefits of the Mobius system for marking math assignments certain courses. It is estimated that this program as saved almost 8000 hours of marking and \$200K of TA and GA costs.

This program costs students \$25/year and covers all courses using the program. There is no cost to the University.

Computer Science

- Working with a Google Developer Group in conjunction with St. Clair College to hold events and workshops for students.
- School of Computer Science has 5 IBM Student Ambassadors.
- Working with Google Developer groups to resume the high school programming competitions.
- Winter 2022 delivery models:
 - MAC program will be face to face
 - Undergraduate courses will be Hy-flex
 - Graduate courses will have an option of online or face to face
 - Seminars will continue online
- Working on a common course syllabus.

Economics

- Hiring for Tenure Track position in Environmental Economics or Health Economics.
- Winter 2022 delivery models:
 - All undergrad courses will be face to face with the exception of large classes.
 - Graduate and MAEP courses will be Hy-flex.

Integrative Biology

- Reviving seminar series. Catherine Febria will be delivering the first seminar tomorrow (November 5th @ 12:00).
- AAU Council approved a One Health Certificate that will explore how health is connected to the environment.
- 2 Faculty searches are in process (Tenure Track in neuroscience for BCN program and AAS Indigenous Knowledge Keeper).
- Winter 2022 delivery models:
 - All courses will be face to face with the exception of 3 courses.
- Hosting a research night for undergrads interested in pursuing a graduate degree.

Physics

- Winter 2022 delivery model:
 - All courses will be face to face except for 2 large introductory courses.
 - Large introductory courses will have online lectures and face to face labs.
- 2 faculty searches are underway (1-year Limited Term, and Tenure Track). Thanks to all faculty participating on appointments committee.
- Due to the pandemic, the Physics Club began to offer their (for pay) tutoring program online. Because the response has been positive, they will continue to offer it online. They have developed a graded pay scheme.

School of the Environment

- Most faculty taught face to face in Fall 2021. The School did offer some Hy-flex courses.
- There has been good uptake in 2+2 programs and transfer students. Thanks to all program counsellors/advisors for their help with these transfers.
- Tring to accommodate students whose request for vaccination exemption was denied.

WE-SPARK

- KT Watercooler: <https://www.wesparkhealth.com/conferences-and-workshops-43/the-kt-water-cooler>
- Think Tank: <https://www.wesparkhealth.com/conferences-and-workshops-13/think-tank-december-3-2021>
- An intern did a scan of barriers for translational research in Windsor - Essex that is now in press: <https://implementationscience.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/1748-5908-7-50>
- Completed an EDI Environmental Scan that identified actionable items which will be integrated with WE-SPARK committees: https://issuu.com/wesparkhealth/docs/we-spark_edi_environmental_scan_-_final_2_?fr=sZmMwNDM2ODM0MDM
- Working with a PHD student on specifically indigenizing cancer research/education.

Forensics

- Finished IQAP review this year. Looking at putting some recommendations in place.
- Winter 2022 delivery model:
 - All courses with the exception of one large class will be face to face.

9. Other Business

- Study abroad programs in Science will resume in Spring 2022. Starting with Costa Rica, Iceland and possibly Hungary. Chris Houser will invite 2 Science faculty members to shadow his Costa Rica Study Abroad trip. Let Chris know if you are interested.
- The University received \$1 million in funding for study abroad scholarships (Go Global program)
 - \$500 automatic scholarship to any student who participates in a study abroad program.
 - \$1000 for 1st year students
 - \$3000 for students identifying as Indigenous, with a Disability, or low income.
- Currently there are no changes to capacity limits for spaces that are not for instructional use (offices & meeting rooms). The University is planning to increase capacity in other spaces, for access in and out of buildings, and in hallways.
- Discussed who is responsible to enforce the mask policy.
- In case of emergency, extra masks are available in the Faculty of Science Office and in Departmental Offices.

10. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting.

**Mennill/Proctor
CARRIED**