

December 19, 1974

Inter-Departmental Correspondence

DATE December 5, 1974

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE FACULTY COUNCIL OF SCIENCE

FROM G. Richardson, Secretary

SUBJECT:



The eighteenth meeting of the Faculty Council of Science has been called for Thursday, December 19, 1974 at 2:00 p.m. in Room 207 Buller.

A G E N D A

1. Adoption of the minutes of the seventeenth meeting held on November 25, 1974.
2. Matters arising therefrom.
3. Communications.
4. Report from the Executive Committee
 - (i) Four year general degree program
 - (ii) Examination regulations*
 - (iii) Honours regulations*
 - (iv) Departmental Councils
5. Report from Senate
6. Other business

gr/nr

* The text of these regulations were circulated with the Agenda for the last meeting. Please bring them with you.

ndc

Minutes of the eighteenth meeting of Faculty Council of Science held on December 19, 1974 at 2:00 p.m., in 207 Buller Building.

Members Present: Dean R.D. Connor (Chairman), Professors A. Frechette, L. Frechette, N.E.R. Campbell, C. Platt, M.R. Parameswaran, R. Quackenbush, G. Losey, J. Kraemer, G. Tabisz, S. Sealy, B.D. Macpherson, G. Lubinsky, C.C. Lindsey, D. Johnson, R. Dowling, P. Aitchison, H. Finlayson, F. Ward, H. Welch, S. Badour, J. Watson, H. Halvorson, H.R. Coish, W. Baldwin, A. Giesinger, R. Wallace, D. McKinnon, D. Burton, P. Loewen, A. Olchowecki, J. Wright, I. Suzuki, H. Lees, F.M. Kelly, N. Davison, P. Ellis, S. Woods, G. Woods, M. Rayburn, N. Mendelsohn, D. Young, B.R. Henry, I. Cooke, J. Westmore, J. Reid, J. Shay, B. Irvine, H. Gesser, R.H. Betts, A. Queen, W. Falk; Mr. G. Slobodian, Miss K. Cobar.

Regrets: Dr. Sibley, Professors R. Bochonko, P. Loly, Van Caesele, D. H. Hall.

1. Adoption of the Minutes of the seventeenth meeting November 25, 1974:

The minutes of the seventeenth meeting of the Faculty Council held on November 25, 1974 were approved as circulated but with the necessary corrections in the spelling of names of members present. Moved by Prof. Lees, seconded by Prof. Henry.

Carried

2. Matters arising therefrom:

Other than those items to be considered under point A of the present agenda, no matters arose from the minutes of the seventeenth meeting.

3. Communications:

Dean Connor reported to Faculty Council that he had sent a letter to Mr. Condo thanking him on behalf of Faculty Council for his long and faithful service to this Faculty and to the University.

Dean Connor also reported the receipt of a letter of thanks from

Mr. J.B. Lockhart for the tribute to his son, the late Prof. R.J. Lockhart, that was approved by Faculty Council and recorded in the minutes.

4. Report of the Executive Committee:

(1) Four Year General Degree Program:

Prof. Henry reported on this matter to Faculty Council. He gave a brief review of the chronology of the proposals from Brandon University and the University of Winnipeg and the subsequent action taken thereon by Faculty Council Executive. A sub-committee of the Executive was struck consisting of Profs. G. Losey, J. Svenne, K. Stewart, C. Anderson and B. Henry, Chairman. The sub-committee met twice, on November 21 and on December 1, 1974 and prepared a report on questions relating to the four-year degree, its advantages and disadvantages. This report was received by Faculty Council Executive at its meeting on December 17, 1974. This report, which Dr. Henry briefly reviewed for Faculty Council, addresses itself to four questions asked by the Acting Chairman of U.G.C., Dr. D. Chevrier in a letter to the Committee of Presidents.

Following Dr. Henry's report, a brief discussion ensued. Prof. Kelly pointed out that there were many advantages for the students in such a program but only if the additional five courses in the fourth year were at the 300 or 400 level. If, on the other hand, it was possible for a student in his fourth year to elect five 100 level courses (or even 090 level courses, if available), little academic advantage would result. A copy of the Henry report will be sent to each department in the Faculty with the request that departmental members examine it, and to reply as soon as possible to Faculty Council Executive on what impact such a program would have for their particular discipline.

(ii) Examination Regulations:

In presenting his report, Dean Cooke reminded Faculty Council that Senate rules on examinations, passed in 1972, apply to all Faculties and Schools unless a Faculty Council introduces

modifications of the rules which are subsequently approved for that Faculty by Senate.

An ad hoc committee on examination regulations was established to examine Senate rules and recommends to Faculty Council on the following modifications:

(a) Release of Grades:

That Departments, through the Head or his designate be given the power to release grades when satisfied that the recorded grades are accurate. Date of release will be after the end of the particular examination series and student grades will be identified by student number only. Where the Registrar's Office informs the department and the Dean's Office that a student is delinquent in payment of fees, etc., that student's grades will not be released. Department release of grades is not official: an appeal of a grade can only be based on the 'official' release of grades by the Registrar's Office.

(b) Examinations deferral on religious grounds:

The recommendation concerning students who have religious obligations which coincide with examinations is based on the practice and experience of the Department of Physics for several years. That Department has found the appropriate ministers to be co-operative and responsible so that the method could usefully be assumed by the entire Faculty.

(c) Grade Make-up:

The recommendation is that where the final examination value will be less than 50% of the total grade for that course, approval of the Department Head must be obtained by the examiner and the distribution of grades reported

to the Dean.

(d) Medical Certificates:

The recommendation is that specific dates of the duration of the disability be clearly indicated on the certificate.

In the ensuing discussion of Dean Cooke's report a number of questions were raised. After several questions by Dr. Welch on the role of the Department in the release of grades, Faculty Council agreed that this would be the Department Head's responsibility although he may choose to delegate the authority where appropriate. Prof. Macpherson raised the question of the arbitrary scheduling of exams by some instructors prior to the end of lectures and the difficulties this practice occasioned. It was generally agreed that the rule prohibiting this practice should be strictly enforced. Prof. G. Losey asked that the mark values for examination questions be clearly stated on all papers. Prof. Kelly asked if any courses were being given in Science where the final examination value was less than 50% of the final grade for that course. Dean Cooke answered in the affirmative citing several courses in Physics, e.g. 16.120 and 16.124. Adoption of Dean Cooke's report was moved by Prof. Rayburn, seconded by Prof. Welch.

Carried

(iii) Honours Regulations:

In presenting this report Dean Cooke pointed out that the old Honours regulations were no longer meaningful and that the Committee on Student Standing felt there should be some departure from the old regulations particularly in the light of the demise of the 'rigid year' concept in the general program. The Faculty of Science has, in fact, been operating within the framework of the new regulations for several years.

In the discussions that followed Dean Cooke's report, several minor modifications to the report were recommended. These

included a request by Prof. Baldwin that where the word 'course' or 'courses' appeared, the appropriate credit hour designation be substituted. Several members of the Faculty Council expressed concern on the subject of 'appeal procedure'; i.e. how widely known to the students is the mechanism for initiating an appeal? Prof. Lindsey suggested that when a failure was recorded in the transcript sent to students, there should also be enclosed the information on appeal procedures. Dean Connor recommended that the report on Honours Regulations be amended to include a separate section on appeals and further that this matter, in terms of detail, be left to the discretion of the Committee on Student Standing and Progress.

Approval of the Honours Regulations Report, as amended, was moved by Prof. G. Losey, seconded by Prof. Kelly.

Carried

(iv) Departmental Councils:

In presenting this report, Prof. Burton briefly reviewed Senate's action on this matter. He further stated that copies of two model by-laws were being sent to each department in the Faculty with the request that departmental councils review them for possible adoption, either 'as is' or with modifications as deemed appropriate. Departmental councils should be aware that the Senate Rules and Procedures Committee is willing to assist them in formulating their by-laws and, to save delay, it is suggested that all departmental by-laws be vetted by S.R.P.C. before being sent to Faculty Council for ratification.

A question arose on the role of the 50:50 Committee in designating the number of students who will serve on departmental councils. After brief discussion, it was moved by Prof. Welch, seconded by Prof. Shay, that the same number (possibly two) form the student representation for each department. The motion was

carried with three opposed.

Prof. Aitchison asked if Faculty Council could authorize its Executive Committee to deal with ratification of the departmental by-laws and proposed a motion to that effect. At the suggestion of Prof. Quackenbush who felt this motion was invalid, Dean Connor read the pertinent paragraph from Senate Rules which clearly indicated that by-law ratification was the responsibility of Faculty Council. Prof. Aitchison then withdrew his motion. Prof. Lindsey asked what would happen if Faculty Council refused to ratify a particular departmental by-law. The answer was that the by-law would be returned to the department for further consideration. Failure to ratify would be unlikely since the by-law would have been previously vetted by S.R.P.C. Dean Connor indicated that departmental by-laws should all come to Faculty Council by the end of March, 1975.

- (v) An additional item from the Executive Committee report was introduced into the agenda at this point. Prof. G. Losey reported briefly that the proposed 090 Maths course was returned by Executive Committee to the Mathematics Department for further examination.

5. Report from Senate:

Prof. R. Dowling presented a concise fifteen-minute report covering all meetings of Senate since the Faculty Council meeting of May 6, 1974. Of particular interest to the Faculty was the matter of 'challenge examinations'. Departments will shortly have to indicate which courses they give will be eligible for challenge.

6. Other Business:

Dean Connor reported on a recent request from the School of Dental Hygiene. They have asked if Faculty Council of Science would object to their proposed degree being given the name 'Batchelor of Science in Dental Hygiene'.

Moved by Prof. Henry, seconded by Prof. G. Losey, that this Faculty Council does not object to the degree name proposed. Motion carried.

Carried

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:17 p.m.