

Fifty-Second Meeting

May 10, 1978

The Minutes of the Fifty-Second meeting of the Executive Committee of Science Faculty Council held on Wednesday, May 10, 1978 at 2:30 p.m. in the Faculty Conference Room, 250 Allen Building.

Members Present: Dean R. D. Connor, Chairman: Professors P. Loewen, J. F. Brewster, P. K. Isaac, K. (Mrs.) Subrahmaniam, B. D. Macpherson, H. W. Duckworth.

Regrets: Professors G. G. C. Robinson, K. W. Stewart.

Visitor: Mr. E. Lister.

1. Minutes of the 51st Meeting

The minutes of the 51st meeting held on March 28, 1978 were approved Duckworth (Loewen).

2. Matters Arising Therefrom

- (i) Computer Science Honours Program: The Chairman informed the members that a report on this matter had been prepared by his office and it was at this time being studied by the Deans. He would get back to the committee on this matter.
- (ii) Evaluation of Teaching: The Senate had just approved the Gratzner report on the evaluation of teaching for purposes of promotion and merit pay. The report states that each department is to determine its own methods of evaluation but the report gives no hint as to how this might be done.
- (iii) The Faculty's change to its admission requirements has been passed through the University Admissions Committee, the Senate Executive, and will come before Senate on May 12. Tentative implementation is scheduled for the 1981-82 session.

3. Communications

There were no communications.

6. Other Business

The Chairman explained that three members of the faculty's Student Standing Committee were about to retire from office and it is the Executive

Committee's duty to select the replacements. Dean Macpherson had contacted four members of the faculty and had obtained their consent to serve on this committee. Elected by the Executive to serve for three years, commencing June 1, 1978 were Professors W. Hoskins, Computer Science, F. M. Arscott, Applied Mathematics, and J. Berry, Mathematics & Astronomy.

4. Selection of the Faculty's Gold Medal Winners

Dean Macpherson explained that the awarding of the Gold Medal was for the highest standing in a student's final year. He referred to a motion passed by this Executive Committee in its March 9, 1974 meeting which stated:

"A+'s to be used to break ties and that if further tie breaking is necessary then extra courses and work in previous years be considered."

It was pointed out by Dr. Subrahmaniam that because of the Faculty's informal general course structure of its programs, it was not necessary for a student to have 3rd year courses in his final year. Dean Macpherson agreed with Dr. Subrahmaniam and confirmed that as long as the student had a full program in the final year, i.e. 30 credit hours, and had completed all the other requirements to graduate, he/she was eligible for consideration.

Dr. Duckworth said that it was his own feeling that he would give extra weight to a student with a greater number of science courses in his final year as compared to one with fewer courses. He also said that he felt the more advanced courses should carry more weight in the Committee's decision. These would be for tie breaking only.

Dr. Brewster felt that this would not be fair to some students, especially those in the mathematics area, whose program allowed courses outside the Faculty, eg. Economics. In some cases such courses were recommended to the student.

Dean Macpherson stated that he had contacted the Awards Office with a view of awarding two gold medals in the case of ties, however he was informed that this was not possible.

- (i) Honours Program: Having viewed the list of candidates prepared by Mr. E. Lister, it was moved P.K. Isaac (Duckworth) that:

"the Science Gold Medal for the Honours Program go to TALBOT, Emile Felix Joseph #890360"

CARRIED
Unanimous

On the basis of his additional workload, 39 credit hours as compared to 30 credit hours by the next closest candidate, the award was given to Mr. Talbot. It was noted that on the basis of A and A+'s both candidates were tied.

- (ii) General Program: The Committee discussed the selection of the winner in this category for some time, pointing out such differences as the number of science courses taken, the number of arts courses taken, the performance in previous years, extra weights for advanced courses, G.P.A.'s, the number of A and A+ of each of the candidates.

Dr. Duckworth moved (Loewen) that:

"the Science Gold Medal for the General Program go to MYERS, Gerry-Beth"

Dr. Duckworth stated that the basis for his making the motion was that Myers' final year program contained more science courses than either of the other two candidates, notwithstanding one B+ grade. This he said was significant to him especially for the awarding of a Science gold medal. Dr. Subrahmaniam disagreed with the motion on the grounds that the courses taken by the other two candidates were every bit as valid as Myers', the program having been previously approved and accepted as a valid Science program worthy of earning a B.Sc. degree.

The question was called and the motion was

DEFEATED
2 in favour
4 against

... 4

It was moved Macpherson (Duckworth) that

"the Science Gold Medal for General Program go to
GILLESPIE, Phyllis Adeline #347220"

CARRIED

nem. con.

The Chairman suggested that the criteria of the awarding of gold medals in the Faculty should be an item of discussion for the upcoming Executive meeting. He said that in order to eliminate the difficulties such as had just been discussed, guidelines should be established for future Executive Committee discussions. Professor C. Henry from the Awards Office should be included in these discussions.

5. Replacement of Dr. S. K. Sen on the Senate Tenure Appeal Committee

It was the Committee's recommendation to the Chairman that he appoint a replacement for Dr. Sen. The Chairman agreed to do this and said he would report back to the Committee.

6. Other Business

Dr. Duckworth reported to the Committee that on Monday, February 26, 1979 at 10:45 a.m. there would be a total eclipse of the sun over Winniepeg. He suggested that the Faculty make note of this event and do something to encourage interest in it. He thought a University-wide announcement and perhaps cancellation of classes that morning in the faculty would highlight the occurrence. The Chairman agreed with Dr. Duckworth and promised to look further into this matter.

The meeting adjourned at 4:31 p.m.

Inter-Departmental Correspondence

DATE May 2, 1978

TO Members of the Executive Committee of Science Faculty Council

FROM G. Richardson, Secretary

SUBJECT:

gr

The 52nd meeting of the Executive Committee of Faculty Council has been called for Wednesday, May 10, 1978 at 2:30 p.m. in the Faculty Conference Room, 250 Allen Building.

A G E N D A

1. Approval of the Minutes of the 51st Meeting
2. Matters Arising therefrom
3. Communications
4. Selection of Gold Medal winners in Science Honours and Science General degree programs
5. Select (or have the Chairman appoint) a replacement for Dr. S. K. Sen as the Science Faculty representative on the Tenure Appeal Panel
6. Other business.

gr/sc