

May 13, 1981

The Minutes of the 66th Meeting of the Executive Committee of Science Faculty Council held on Wednesday, May 13th, 1981 at 3:40 p.m. in Room 250 Allen Building.

Members present: C.C. Bigelow, Chairman; Professors P.K. Isaac, J. Charlton, P. Loewen, R.G. Woods, W. Hoskins, T. Berry, J. Stewart; S. Catt, Secretary.

Regrets: Professors K.W. Stewart, D. Punter, Mr. Hal Christianson

Visitors: Vic Taylor, Sylvia Johansson

1) The Chairman advised that the Faculty Council had neglected to appoint scrutineers in connection with Faculty elections to Senate and Board of Graduate Studies, and asked for volunteers. Professors T. Berry and J. Stewart volunteered.

2) Selection of Gold Medal Winners

Mrs. Johansson presented a list of candidates and explained criteria used in their selection.

a) Honours Gold Medal

It was moved by Prof. Loewen (Woods)

"that the Honours gold medal be awarded to #5008015,  
Brenda Margaret E. Addison".

CARRIED

Vic Taylor asked for clarification of weight given to extra credit hours in determining the awarding of the gold medal in honours, and whether the Committee required the amount of detailed information supplied or would prefer to simply have information on the top two rather than several students.

Prof. Isaac said some departments require more than 30 credit hours but felt students in those programs didn't work any harder than in a normal 30 credit hour program. Students who voluntarily took

extra hours should get their reward from their stronger transcript. If there was a tie between two candidates, extra hours was a useful basis to break it. Prof. Charlton felt a distinction should be made between students who take extra hours because it is required by their program and students who voluntarily do extra work; such voluntary extra hours should not be considered in selecting the gold medallist. A member felt that candidates should be ranked on the basis of total GPA; the number of hours is irrelevant since Honours is a prescribed program. Prof. Woods wanted to continue to receive a fair amount of information because it was possible a special situation could arise in which this would be valuable for comparison purposes.

Mrs. Johansson explained that providing information on several candidates was no more time-consuming than providing it on only two or three, since the work had to be done for graduate processing in any case.

The consensus was that the information provided was valuable.

Prof. Charlton inquired if it would be possible to award a gold medal in each department, and moved that

"the Dean's office make a record of the medals and awards given by the Faculty and Departments to graduating students with a view to expanding the gold medals to a per Department basis".

The motion failed for lack of a seconder. However the Dean said he would try to get the information and would look into the possibility of awarding more medals.

b) General Course Gold Medal

Prof. Woods asked whether the A+ (4.50 GPA) was to be used for breaking ties or was used in calculating GPA.

Vic Taylor responded that last year the Committee had decided to use the A+ (4.50) to break ties. On transcripts the A+ was defined as 4.50 for the purpose of awards and scholarships.

Prof. Loewen asked if any decision had ever been made about how students with a program spread over many years with fewer courses in final year were to be treated. Vic Taylor had no knowledge of any decision.

Prof. Loewen moved (Charlton) that

"the gold medal in the General Program be awarded to #5117817 Zambo Yan CHUANG".

CARRIED

↖ 4 in favour  
↘ 5 opposed

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