

MINUTES

104th Meeting of the Science Faculty Council
Held on Friday, September 1, 2006 at 1:00 p.m. in Room 111 Armes

Present:	M. D. Whitmore (Chair)	R. Roshko
	M. Abrahams	B. Worobec
	N. Hunter	F. Gauvin
	J. Hare	K. Gough
	W. Buchannon	B. Southern
	H. Duckworth	G. Krause
	D. Punter	M. Sumner
	G. Robinson	J. Ogston
	S. Renault	R. Thulasiram
	M. Piercey-Normore	P. Dibrov
	S. Sealy	G. Hickling
	K. Londry	D. Court
	T. Schultz	R. Thomas
	M. Chestley	I. Waters
	D. Gillis	J. Brewster
	J. McLeese	J. Bate
	K. Scott	G. Goldsborough
	M. Docker	P. Loewen
	B. Hann	T. de Kievit
	J. van Rees	G. Hausner
	T. Booth	R. Sparling
	L. Graham	J. Harper
	S. Whyard	J. Williams
	G. Valdimarsson	B. Macpherson
	K. Kumar	F. Hruska
	K. Sharma	C. Platt

Regrets:	S. Cheng	P. Hultin
	H. Perreault	T. Kucera
	P. King	J. Hoskins
	G. Baldwin	N. Hunter
	A. Thavaneswaran	A. Worley

1. Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the 103rd meeting held on June 29th, 2006 was moved by Peter Loewen and seconded by Tom Booth.

MOTION: CARRIED

2. Dean's Report

- **Administrative Council Retreat**
Dr. Whitmore reported that there will be an Administrative Council Retreat in Gimli on September 5 and 6. The purpose of the retreat is a planning session to draft a Strategic Plan for the Faculty of Science and develop a to-do list for the next several years. Dr. Whitmore would like this exercise completed by the end of the academic year.
- **Promotion and Tenure Policies**
Dr. Whitmore has been working on making revisions to the promotion and tenure policies. He has completed the first step and will be issuing a document in the fall addressing the second step.
- **Pharmacy Building**
There has been no news to date about the Pharmacy Building.
- **Internal Canada Research Chair**
Six excellent nominations were received, one was ineligible due to the 10 year rule. The Dean will strike an advisory Committee consisting of himself as Chair, the three Associate Deans, 3 outside Faculty members with CRC experience, and Digvir Jayas, Associate V.P. Research.

3. Motion to Create a New Department of Biological Sciences

MOTION: that the Department of Botany, the Department of Zoology, and the Introductory Biology Program be merged creating a new Department of Biological Sciences, effective July 1, 2007. Moved by Tom Booth and seconded by Lane Graham.

CARRIED

- The entire amalgamation process could take approximately 3 years. The first step is administrative, which could begin as soon as July 1, 2007, and the second step is program amalgamation, which will evolve over a number of years.
- The proposal will be forwarded to Senate and then to the Board of Governors for final approval in October.
- The merger will not immediately affect the content of the first year biology program. There are no immediate program changes implied by this motion. Over the long term, new programs will be introduced.
- A suggestion was made that the guidelines for the Endowment Committee be reviewed, bearing in mind the merger of the departments.
- A search for an external department head will be launched. The Heads of Botany and Zoology are in the last year of their Headship. A search committee will be struck.

- The name of the new department (Department of Biological Sciences) is acceptable.
- The logistics of the merger will be worked out in time, and the departments will make provisional decisions as the process unfolds.

4. Other Business

There was no further business to discuss.

5. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.