

MINUTES

**141st Meeting of the Science Faculty Council
held on Thursday, February 9, 2017, at 1:00 p.m. in
Senate Chambers, E3-262 EITC**

PRESENT:	S. Baum (chair)	J. McConnell	C. Adams
	R. Flynn	K. Koczanski	John Anderson
	R. Eskicioglu	A. Marshall	S. Durocher
	P. Graham	C. Rathgeber	C. Zelmer
	B. Hann	J. Waterman	I. Waters
	J. McLeese	S. Renault	J. Roth
	J. Braico	L. Brown	D. Gillis
	S. Whyard	Judy Anderson	J. Hare
	J. Stout	T. Booth	S. Kirkland
	T. Kucera	A. Thavaneswaran	G.I. Moghaddam
	J. Markham	C. Garroway	J. Treberg
	D. Weihrauch	K. Jeffries	J. Stacey
	L. Wang	B. Johnson	J. Tichon
	S. Muthukumarana	Z. Mateo	A. Doshi
	N. Harland	M. Davidson	D. Kalajdzievska
	P. Hultin	P. Budzelaar	V. Nemykin
	J. O'Neil	M. Whitmore	M. Bieringer
	I. Oresnik	D. Rivers	R. Sparling
	D. Krepski	A. Leblanc	B. Mark
	K. Scott	M. Domaratzki	M. Doob
	D. Pahud	R. Cameron	G. Gwinner
	K. Shamseddine	S. McKenna	J. Sorensen
	D. Herbert	H. Luong	K. Brassinga
	R. Craigen		
REGRETS:	P. Irani	D. Court	J. van Wijngaarden
	M. Docker	D. Mlinar	R. Thomas
	E. Smirnova	A. Kumar	Yang Zhang
	P. Loewen		
GUEST:	K. Kindrachuk	M. Shantz (recorder)	

1. Approval of Agenda

MOTION: to approve the agenda. Moved by R. Eskicioglu, seconded by S. Muthukumarana.

CARRIED

2. Approval of Minutes

MOTION: to approve the minutes of the 140th meeting of Faculty Council, held on September 7, 2016. Moved by J. McConnell, seconded by P. Graham.

CARRIED

3. Business Arising from the Minutes – nothing to report

4. New Faculty Announcements

- S. Kirkland introduced Siddarth Sankaran, Assistant Professor, Department of Mathematics.

5. Undergraduate Course and Program Changes (see attached)

The undergraduate course changes are brought to Faculty Council for information only. The program changes have been recommended by Faculty Executive and are brought to Faculty Council for approval. No discussion ensued.

MOTION: to approve the undergraduate program changes, as circulated. Moved by J. McConnell, seconded by R. Eskicioglu.

CARRIED

6. In Camera Session - Professor Emeritus Nomination

7. Dean's Report

a) Overview Update – S. Baum

- The implementation of a Science-funded GETS program is being considered and information will follow in a month or so.
- The University Budget Redesign process is ongoing and we are hoping to provide a more in depth presentation in a few weeks.
- Departments have been asked to submit or update their lists of potential capital projects and these will be prioritized.
- Discussions with Heads and Administrative Assistants are in progress with the object of identifying office work that might be done more efficiently or benefit from reorganization.

b) Faculty of Science Seminar Series – K. Koczanski

- The theme for 2017/18 is *Unter to Uber: Pushing the Boundaries of Observation*. Suggestions for speakers are welcome – please pass them along to your department Seminar Series Committee representative.
- There will also be a Pedagogy Series, organized by J. O'Neil, which will be integrated in with this seminar series.

c) Science Bash – S. Baum

- The FoS Science Bash will be held in the fall. The theme will be *Data to Knowledge in Your Research* – how you generate data, how you analyze data, or how you collaborate to get more out of your data. Individual or team presentations are welcome.

d) Pedagogy Bash – K. Koczanski

- The format will be similar to the Science Bash, with presentations from faculty leading to an exchange of ideas about what works, what doesn't and challenges in teaching.

e) Research Overview (see attached) – K. Kindrachuk

- An overview of research funding, including the sources of funds, the amounts, success rates in grant competitions summarized in the attachment was presented.
- Plans for the future, particularly the identification of obstacles to better funding, were discussed.
- An update on the Research Manitoba Bridge Funding Program, which now includes natural sciences and engineering, was presented along with information on how to apply. Further information about whether unsuccessful NSERC or Tri-Council grant applications are directed to Research Manitoba automatically or whether researchers need to apply directly to Research Manitoba will be forthcoming.

f) Faculty of Science Awards (see attached) – I. Oresnik

- The introduction of a series of FoS Awards to provide meaningful recognition to faculty members was introduced as outlined in the attachment and discussed.
- In response to a question from K. Scott about why teaching excellence was not being recognized, the Dean responded that there are already several existing teaching awards, and they are won regularly by FoS faculty. However, it was agreed that the need for such awards unique to the FoS would be reviewed.

g) Integrated Science Program (see attached) – S. Baum (on behalf of P. Irani)

- The Integrated Science Program was introduced as outlined in the attachment with the intent of breaking down traditional disciplinary barriers to provide students with a first rate preparation in core scientific disciplines.
- A group of faculty from all departments will be selected to consider the implementation.
- A lengthy discussion and question/answer period ensued.

h) Midterms (see attached) – S. Baum

- Ongoing discussions surrounding mid-term exams and how they should be structured in the FoS was reviewed by the Dean, as outlined in the attachment.
- Over the next few months, Departments will continue to work creatively to reduce out of class invigilated midterm load while maintaining the academic rigor and increasing the frequency of student assessment, ideally with no more than one out of class invigilated midterm by Fall 2017.

i) Plans for Workload Guidelines – S. Baum

- The Dean reviewed the need for developing a framework of guidelines for workload arising from the UMFA contract settlement and her plan for doing so. UMFA members are to be consulted in March and a draft guideline distributed in April. Subsequent meetings and open discussion will follow leading up to a vote.

8. Other Business

- K. Koczanski is working with CATL to introduce Crowdmark, an online system for grading, which can be used for homework and has many other applications. There will be presentations and the hope is to have it up and running in the Fall, with a one year trial for Science. Some faculty in Science are already using it, but use is not mandatory.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:50 pm