

May 9, 1973

Inter-Departmental Correspondence

DATE May 2, 1973

TO ALL MEMBERS OF SCIENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

FROM G. Richardson, Secretary - Science Executive Committee

SUBJECT:

GR

The Sixteenth Meeting of the Executive Committee of Faculty Council has been scheduled for Wednesday, May 9th, 1973, at 2:40 p.m. in the Faculty Conference Room, 250 Allen.

AGENDA

1. Adoption of the minutes of the 15th of April and the Special Meeting of the Executive Committee.
2. Matters arising therefrom.
3. Communications.
4. Selection of the winners of the University Gold Medal in Science (General) and Science (Honours).
5. Executive Committee requested by Faculty Council to consider "proxy votes" at Council elections.
6. Letter from Professor Mount re: examination schedule.
7. Further information on the Lamontagne Report.
8. Second Degree Regulations.
9. Continued discussion on the proposed Honours regulations.
10. Fees for Honours students.
11. Request from the Science Advisory Committee that the Executive Committee discuss the problems associated with the long loan period afforded academic staff by the Library.
12. Discussion on Departmental Councils.
13. Other business.

GR/lm

Minutes of the sixteenth meeting of the Executive Committee of Faculty Council held on Wednesday, May 9, 1973, at 2:40 p.m. in the Faculty Conference Room, 250 Allen Building.

Members Present: Dean R.D. Connor, Chairman; Professors I. Cooke, P.K. Isaac, D. Punter, J. Reid, B. Macpherson, G.E. Dunn; Mr. G. Richardson, Secretary.

Regrets: Professor B.K. Kale.

Guests: Mr. R. McDole

1. Minutes of the Fifteenth and Special Meetings.

The minutes of the fifteenth meeting of the Executive Committee held on April 2, 1973, were adopted. Dunn (Punter).

The minutes of the Special Meeting held on April 9, 1973, were adopted. Macpherson (Cooke).

2. Matters Arising Therefrom.

There were no matters arising out of the minutes that were not covered by the agenda.

3. Communications.

There were no communications.

4. Selection of the Gold Medal Winners.

The Chairman asked Mr. McDole to speak to this matter.

After distributing a prepared list of Gold Medal candidates, Mr. McDole explained that the Gold Medal was awarded to the student with the highest average in the last year of his (or her) programme.

Referring to the Bachelor of Science (Honours) programme, Mr. McDole pointed out that although all five candidates had a sessional grade point average of 4.00, the modified grade point average, which takes into consideration the A+ marks, indicated that Mr. G. A. Rose emerged with a 4.41 average, the next best average

being 4.⁴⁰~~35~~. Based on this, Mr. McDole recommended the award be made to Mr. Rose. After some discussion and examination of records, it was moved by Dean Cooke (Punter) that:

"the Gold Medal for the Bachelor of Science (Honours) programme go to ROSE, Graham Arthur, 783060."

Unanimous.

For the Bachelor of Science (General) medal, Mr. McDole indicated that there was only one candidate with a grade point average of 4.00, and it would be his recommendation that the Gold Medal be awarded to that student.

After some discussion and examination of records, it was moved by Dean Cooke (Macpherson) that:

"the Gold Medal for the Bachelor of Science (General) programme be awarded to NESICH, Rita, 681080."

Unanimous.

5. Consideration of Proxy Votes at Faculty Council.

As a result of a motion made at the last Faculty Council meeting, the Executive Committee was requested to recommend on the matter of proxy votes at future elections.

In discussing the appropriateness of proxy votes, the Committee considered the possibility of conducting the entire election by mail ballot and although this subject had been discussed some time back and rejected, the idea was well received at this time. The members realized that there were difficulties involved with such a system, but they felt these were mostly mechanical and could be overcome. Dean Cooke replied to the comment that tampering was possible by saying that there were various ways of conducting mail balloting that ensure against this.

It was moved by Professor Reid (Dunn) that:

"the Executive Committee recommends the implementation of mail ballot for Faculty Council elections, subject to an acceptable plan being presented."

Carried nem con.

The Chairman stated that should Faculty Council not agree to this recommendation, then the Executive would again discuss the matter of proxy votes.

6. Letter from Professor Mount re: Examination Schedules.

The Chairman read a letter that he had received from Professor Mount of the Department of Statistics. The letter outlined Professor Mount's feelings towards the closeness of the examination schedule to the end of term, the fact that it was possible for a student to have as many as three final examinations in the first week, and finally, suggested that study week be put between the end of classes and the start of final examinations.

A brief discussion followed with the members expressing their feelings towards this matter. It was noted that at one time there was one week between the end of classes and the start of examinations, but this was changed at the request of the students themselves. It was their feeling that this week would be of more value as a study week in mid-February. Professor Dunn suggested that a student might be better prepared for the eventuality that he had to write several of his final examinations during the week immediately after classes, if the examination schedule was put in the current year's calendar.

The Chairman concluded the discussion by saying that the matter was really a campus-wide problem and as such should be dealt with by a Senate committee, most likely the Committee on the Academic Year. The Committee agreed that the Chairman should pass this concern onto the Chairman of this committee and at the same time advise Professor Mount of this.

7. Lamontagne Report.

The Secretary reported that the Faculty of Graduate Studies had forwarded to the Lamontagne Committee, the comments of its meeting on the Report. It appears, however, that no official report was sent by the University on this matter.

After a brief discussion, it was agreed that this faculty would not draft a reply to the Report. There were several reasons that prompted this decision namely, the time involved in preparing a worthwhile reply, the lateness, and the fact that there was now a subsequent report (Bonneau-Corry).

Courses outside the Faculty.
8. ~~Second Degree Regulations~~

The Chairman asked Dean Cooke to speak to this item. Dean Cooke requested that the Committee comment on a prepared draft (appended) outlining the courses from outside the Faculty that were available to Science students, before tackling

the Second Degree Regulations. The Committee agreed.

Dean Cooke explained the prepared material that was distributed to the members. Essentially, the Student Standing Committee was proposing that the following categories of courses be made available to students in the Bachelor of Science (General) programme.

- A. Required Science courses - 8.
- B. Courses from the special list - not more than 3.
- C. Courses from the Faculties of Arts and Science - up to 7 depending on choices in B and D.
- D. Unrestricted courses - not more than 1.

Any combination of the last three categories would be acceptable to the Faculty. The special list as it now stands contains 21 courses from the Faculties of Agriculture, Architecture, Medicine, School of Art and School of Music. The only restriction on the "unrestricted" category would be that the student may not be allowed to take the course (some faculties or schools might not wish Science students enrolled in their courses) and secondly, that the courses do not overlap.

Dean Cooke concluded by saying that the impression that he had received from Faculty Council was that Council wanted an unrestricted course and not more than three other courses from outside Arts and Science. The maximum of three limit was stipulated because of the number of courses on the list from the School of Music, e.g. 10.

Professor Macpherson noted that the courses comprising the special list had all been closely scrutinized by the Faculty Committee before their inclusion, therefore he questioned the restriction put on that category. It was also his feeling that the Arts courses should be included in the special list and with this he moved (Reid) the following amendment to the first paragraph of the distributed draft which would then read:

"Of the courses which may be taken from outside the Faculty of Science, not more than one shall be from outside the combined offerings of Arts and Science, together with those courses on the special list, e.g., 1 unrestricted, 6 Arts and special list, and 8 Science."

In reply to the amendment, Dean Cooke stated that his Committee, being unable to establish appropriate criteria to evaluate courses, had recommended identifiable blocks of courses. The Arts courses, some of which do not have the substance Science would like, have as a group a common factor; that is, their objective to constitute a general degree. The same applied to the courses on the special list. These courses may not be similar to Science courses, but they are appropriate to the Science student.

The vote on the amendment showed three in favour and three against. Dean Cooke requested that, because the amendment was in opposition to the Student Standing Committee draft, the amendment and the draft both be sent forward to Faculty Council, the draft as the Student Standing Committee's feelings and the amendment as the Executive's. This was agreeable to the mover and seconder. Dean Cooke moved (Isaac) that:

"both the Committee's views and the Executive's suggestion
be forwarded to Faculty Council."

Unanimous.

In response to a question, the Chairman developed his view of the effects these suggestions would have on the Faculty, if implemented.

While the regulations read that a student must take at least one course from outside the Faculty, there was no focussing of attention on the fact that our present regulation would permit eight courses in Science and seven from faculties other than Science. To spell out one "wild" course and the possibility of "not more than three" from another list, was to draw attention to this. Most students, in his opinion, would certainly take the one "wild" course. For every student, one course constitutes 7% of the total. It is perhaps improper to advance a non-academic reason to a committee, but this opening up to outside courses could cause a very severe reduction in U.G.S.C.H.'s (undergraduate student credit hours) to which the Faculty was tied. The Faculty is under severe pressure from without as it is. It should be noted that not only academic staff but support staff and supplies and expenses are all tied by formula to student enrolment. To decimate the Faculty in the name of liberalization would surely have unfavourable academic consequences to the students and to the courses we were offering, and the Faculty should realize this.

9. Request from the Science Advisory Committee.

Following a brief discussion on this item, it was agreed to refer the matter to the Science Library Committee for recommendation.

The meeting adjourned at 5:13 p.m.

GR/lm

May 17, 1973