

Thirty-Eighth Meeting  
APRIL 26, 1976

**Inter-Departmental Correspondence**

DATE March 26, 1976

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF FACULTY COUNCIL OF SCIENCE

FROM G. Richardson, Secretary

SUBJECT:

The thirty-eighth meeting of the Science Executive Committee has been called for Monday, April 26, 1976 at 2:40 p.m. in the Faculty Conference Room, 250 Allen Building.

A G E N D A

1. Approval of the minutes of the thirty-seventh meeting held on February 17, 1976.
2. Matters Arising Therefrom:
  - University Centennial Project Report.
  - Information on examination regulations that the Chairman agreed to provide at this meeting.
  - Information of the library implementation of the new loan policy.
  - Report by the Chairman of the Faculty Committee on Courses on:
    - (i) Definition of a Major.
    - (ii) Service Courses.
3. Communications.
4. Consideration and discussion of the Faculty's current course changes procedure.
5. Further discussion on guidelines and criteria for academic promotion (from thirty-seventh meeting of Executive Committee).
6. Senate and Executive Committee elections and nominations for election to the Board of Graduate Studies (attached).
7. Departmental Council by-law - Department of Earth Sciences.
8. Other business.

/fk

Enclosures

(For the information of the Science Executive Committee Members)

ELECTIONS

(i) To Senate (3 year term commencing June 1, 1976)

Current members:

Dr. G. Gratzner )  
Dr. J.C.Jamieson) 1 June 1975 - 31 May 1978)  
Dr. G.O. Losey )

Dr. M. Samoiloff (Westmore\*) )  
Dr. H.Gesser ) 1 June 1974 - 31 May 1977  
Dr.N.S.Mendelsohn)

Dr. R. J. Dowling)  
Dr. R. Evans\*\* ) terminating 31 May 1976  
Dr. J. McKee\*\* )

\* Dr. Samoiloff while on Sabbatical was replaced on Senate for one year by Dr. Westmore. Dr. Samoiloff returns to Senate August 1, 1976.

\*\* On year replacements for Dr. D. H. Hall and Dr. J.W.T. Dandy.

Because the Faculty has one less representative this year, only two replacements are required. Members eligible are fulltime academic members of Faculty Council who are not members of other faculties. Representation from the academic ranks is not required.

(ii) To Executive Committee of Faculty Council (2 year term commencing June 1, 1976)

Current members:

Dr. D.N.Burton )  
Dr. J.Berry\* )  
Dr.H.Duckworth )  
Dr.K.Stewart ) 1 June 1975 - 31 May 1977  
Dr.J.Stewart\* )  
Dr.N.Davison )

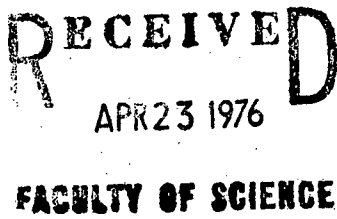
Dr. G.O.Losey )  
Dr. J.Westmore ) 1 June 1974 - 31 May 1976

Mr. B.Smith - student member 1 May 1975 - 31 March 1976  
(usually replaced by new Science Senior  
Stick)

R.D.Connor )  
N.E.R.Campbell) ex-officio  
P.K.Isaac )

\* Going on Sabbatical Leave this summer





April 23rd, 1976.

TO: Dean R.D. Connor, Faculty of Science  
FROM: Dr. J.M. Stewart, Department of Botany  
SUBJECT: 38th Meeting of Science Executive Committee

1. My apologies for not being able to attend the meeting.

2. I would like to make two observations concerning item 5 of the agenda. The first observation is of a general nature and concerns current attitudes towards the process of promotion. Formerly, promotion was academic recognition by one's peers and was a tangible means of rewarding talent. The criteria for promotion were usually based upon four areas of recognition, namely research, teaching, administration and an overall ability to communicate. It was possible to distinguish between the ranks in terms of accomplishment within these areas. Today, promotion is considered a right. Promotion should automatically follow after spending the minimum time in each rank. It is now possible for some recent graduates to reach full professor within eight years. The pursuit of promotion is now based more upon its monetary reward rather than academic kudos for which promotion was originally designed. Contributing to these current attitudes are many factors not the least of which are ambiguity in criteria for promotion, the right of appeal by each candidate, and the universal pressure for us all to be equal that pervades society (witness our income tax laws). Thus, we are inexorably caught in the trend away from academic criteria as a basis for promotion and instead are moving towards a universal career promotion system regardless of ability.

The second observation is specific and is an appeal for standardization of criteria for promotion particularly within the biological sciences. Promotion procedures for members of the B.T.U. currently involve assessment by two departments, namely, the B.T.U. proper and the department to which the member is an Adjunct Professor. What procedure exists if there is disagreement between the two departments concerning the promotion of an individual? If the Deans Office makes a decision, usually one department is favoured while another loses "face". Such decisions can lead to divorce or schisms which erode departmental cooperation.

Perhaps the only solution is for the faculty to agree upon specific criteria for promotion at each level within a fixed time period.

By this means the onus for promotion will rest upon the individual. Thus if a minimum number of "career" points have been accumulated by this individual over a "maturing" period of time, then promotion becomes automatic, thereby by-passing the "grand harangue".

JMS:dmc

May 4, 1976

Minutes of the Thirty-Eighth meeting of the Executive Committee of Faculty Council held on April 26, 1976 at 1:30 p.m. in the Faculty Conference Room, 250 Allen Building.

Members Present: Dr. R.D. Connor, Chairman; Professors N.E.R. Campbell, P.K. Isaac, K. Stewart, H. Duckworth, N. Davison, J. Berry, G.O. Losey, J.B. Westmore and Mr. G. Richardson.  
Regrets: Professors J. Stewart and D. Burton, Ms. H. Peat.

1. Approval of the minutes of the thirty-seventh meeting held on February 17, 1976.

The minutes of the thirty-seventh meeting were approved Losey (Campbell).

2. Matters Arising Therefrom:

(i) Library Committee

The Chairman stated that the Science Librarian had been advised of Faculty Council's motion and at this time he had had no reply from that quarter.

(ii) Centennial Project

Dr. Duckworth informed the members that this committee had had three meetings to date, one of which was with the University Centennial Committee. It was the consensus of the faculty committee, and this was shared by the University committee, that the faculty should develop a Centennial program along the lines suggested by Dr. Gesser, viz. special lectures given by faculty or university staff. It was envisaged that there could be two series of six lectures each, one in the spring and one in the fall, the spring series to commence about February 28, 1977. The lectures would be open to the public and would be advertised broadly. A small fund would be required for the advertising and other expenses such as rentals, slides, etc. The committee felt that if this proved to be successful the idea could be expanded to an annual event. Dr. Duckworth concluded by stating that the next meeting would be held in June and he hoped for more definite plans.

(iii) Examination Regulations

The Chairman read an item from the February 1968 Examination Regulations which indicated that if an instructor wished he could go over a final exam paper with a student for purposes of instruction. This regulation, which also appeared in the 1962 regulations, appeared to have been dropped from our current regulations and it could not be determined if this had been done purposely.

It was requested that the Secretary send copies of the faculty's current examination regulations and the particular item in the 1968 regulations to all committee members.

(iv) Report from the Faculty Committee on Course Changes on (a)

definition of a major - Dean Campbell stated that he had spoken with one of the original members of the committee that formulated the Faculty regulations on the General Degree and he had been told by this member that it was never the intention of that committee to specify in what year(s) a department had to offer their major courses. In fact, there were two departments now that have irregular major patterns, although these did occur in 'optional' programs. It was the Course Change Committee's recommendation that the current regulation defining a major not be changed.

The Executive Committee discussed the possibilities of returning to a compulsory first year program with the student entering the major in the second year. As this idea appeared to have certain advantages, it was proposed that an ad hoc committee be struck to explore this idea further. Dr. Davison volunteered to chair this committee and would seek members from the departments of Physics, the Biology departments and the Mathematics departments.

(b) service courses - Dean Campbell read the minutes of the Course Change Committee's meeting which detailed the discussions on this item. The Curriculum and Course Change Committee's recommendation was that future discussion be tabled until the Coish Committee has had a chance to study what it felt were similar problems in the Mathematics area.

Several members of the Executive Committee felt that the Coish Committee would not be discussing problems similar to those

raised by Dr. Arscott on service courses. Other members said that they could not see why service courses were not handled in the same way as Science now handles "courses from other faculties", i.e. a list of those appropriate for Science credit. Thirdly, there were other members who did not like the idea of Science students taking Science service courses at all. They explained that the idea of a service course was to give instruction in a specific area, that was considered to be outside the scope of a regular Science curriculum. If this was so then why would it be desirable for Science students to gain Science credit by taking such courses?

With the assumption that it would be advantageous for Science students to gain credit for taking Science service courses, the discussion then centered on where this credit would be applied: as one of the fifteen courses required for a B.Sc., as one of the eight courses required and specified by the major department or as one of the five courses required for a major. It was agreed that more information would be requested from the department and the Chairman would write to them requesting:

- 1) a list of all service courses given by that department,
- 2) a list of which ones the departments felt appropriate for Science credit,
- 3) a list of which ones the department felt appropriate for credit in their major program.

The Chairman would also seek clarification from Dr. Arscott of his ultimate use of his service courses.

It was agreed that this matter would be discussed at the next meeting. In the meantime a list of the service courses creditable to Science students now would be prepared.

4. Consideration and discussion of the Faculty's current course changes procedure.

It was agreed that the prolonged and involved discussion on course changes which took place last year were unique and not likely to occur again, and therefore clarification of the faculty's procedures in this regard was not really needed and should not be sought. The Chairman concurred and the matter was considered closed.



7. Departmental Council by-law - Department of Earth Sciences.

The committee made two recommendations, these being;

- (i) correct the spelling of the word 'emeriti'
- (ii) limit the participation of the student members of council.

The Secretary would forward these recommendations to the department and attach with it a sample of another department's wording on the student participation clause.

The meeting adjourned at 3:36 p.m.

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