

Forty-Eighth Meeting  
August 4, 1977

The Minutes of the Forty-eighth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Faculty Council of Science held on Thursday, August 4, 1977 at 2:00 p.m. in the Faculty Conference Room, 250 Allen Building.

Members Present: Dean R. D. Connor, Chairman; Professors B. D. Macpherson, J. Brewster, H. Duckworth, P. Loewen, A. Olchowecki, and Mrs. E. B. Ross, Secretary.

Visitor: Professor H. Gesser

Regrets: Professors K. Stewart and K. (Mrs.) Subrahmaniam.

I. Approval of the Minutes of the Forty-seventh Meeting

The Minutes of the Forty-seventh meeting held on June 8, 1977 were approved on the motion of Loewen (Olchowecki).

II. Matters Arising Therefrom

Item #6. Professor Duckworth (Executive Committee reporter) is to report to Faculty Council on August 10th the deletion of Item II, 1(C)(ii) from the Faculty Council By-law.

III. Communications

There were no communications.

IV. Professor Gesser's Notice of Motion regarding Entrance Examinations

The Chairman called on Professor Gesser to speak to his motion. Professor Gesser explained that this motion was introduced because the Faculty of Science has one of the looser Entrance Requirements at the University (i.e. Mathematics 300 is not required for admission; Chemistry is also not required). If entrance examinations were introduced, even though no individual course requirements would be needed, the following would occur:

1. uniformity
2. a proper curriculum in high schools
3. weak students could be streamed to special smaller classes and good students into larger.

Professor Gesser also feels that a reaction from schools would occur that would be beneficial for the University.

In the discussion that followed, the following points were clarified:

1. The motion is intended for entrance to the Science Faculty and Science courses, not the University as a whole.
2. The benefits derived from entrance examinations would compensate for the extra effort involved in having to administer them. It was noted that some departments already have tests which could be used.
3. Other Faculty students wanting our courses would have to write the appropriate entrance examination unless special arrangements were made for service courses.

Dean Macpherson informed the committee that the Senate Admissions Committee was concerned with Admissions to the University and that they were embarking on a study which would result in each Faculty wanting to look at their admission requirements. The feeling of the Senate Admissions Committee is more positive in regard to placement examinations than entrance examinations. Since there are so many other Faculty students taking Science courses we would have a problem with the University Admissions Policy if we introduced our own entrance examinations.

Professor Duckworth suggested that a Committee be set up to look at the feasibility of introducing entrance examinations as it would be difficult to undertake this task at Faculty Council. The Chairman informed the members that the University Admissions Committee has already set up a sub-committee to look at Entrance Requirements because of changes in the High School system involving Student Initiated Projects which would now be indistinguishable from other courses numbered 305. Because there is already a sub-committee to look at the entrance requirements of each Faculty we should advise this committee that we would like to offer our assistance. The Chairman added that it would be unfortunate if Science implemented Entrance Examinations and no other Faculty did. Senate for one would not approve this for one Faculty - it would have to be a University-wide policy.

Dean Macpherson, who is Chairman of the Admissions sub-committee, informed the members that each Faculty will be asked what they are doing in terms of their Admissions requirements and we could respond that we wished to implement entrance examinations.

The Chairman then suggested that the following could be done with the Notice of Motion:

1. As it is a Notice of Motion, that it go through the 'normal' procedures.
2. The Dean could be asked to set up a Committee to study the problem with reference to Entrance Examinations.
3. We could communicate our concerns to the Senate Admissions Committee, suggest that entrance examinations are needed, and that they should consider this with our good offices.

The first proposal was rejected because it was felt that the necessary background to foresee problems that could arise is lacking. Professor Gesser stated that he liked the second proposal as we could then report to the Senate Sub-committee our deliberations. Dean Macpherson added that it would be unfortunate to pass the Notice of Motion when the whole issue of entrance requirements is currently under review. He added that the motion should be tabled at Faculty Council. The Chairman stated, however, that the motion could be handled by asking him to set up a Committee to discuss this motion plus the broader problems of admissions. It was then moved by Duckworth (Brewster) that:

"the Dean set up a Committee on Admissions Policies, which would liaise with the Senate Admissions Sub-Committee to prepare a report and bring forward recommendations"

Unanimous

Professor Duckworth requested that this Committee consult with the individual Departments. Dean Macpherson added that the Notice of Motion should be brought to the Sub-committee with the concurrence of the mover and seconder. The Chairman thanked Professor Gesser for appearing.

V. With the agreement of the Committee, item #6 was discussed at this point in the meeting.

Proposed New Program: Joint Honours Applied Mathematics-Statistics

Dean Macpherson reviewed the Joint Honours proposal from Applied Mathematics and Statistics that had been approved by the Faculty Committee

on Courses with the request that this Committee look at the staffing requirements. It was noted that the Coish Committee report recommends more Joint Honours programs be introduced and that the Honours Applied Option be deleted from the Department of Mathematics Honours offerings.

It was moved by Macpherson (Duckworth) that:

"the Joint Honours Applied Mathematics - Statistics program be approved and go forward to Faculty Council"

A discussion followed on staffing requirements and available funds in the Faculty to meet the requirements as outlined in the proposal. The motion was then changed to include the following change to items 7 and 8 of the proposal:

"In order to meet the additional teaching load at the fourth year, the Department of Applied Mathematics will need strengthening by 1980, either by transfer of faculty or by special academic funds to generate the necessary teaching capacity".

UNANIMOUS

VI. Dr. Kelly's resignation as Chairman of the Faculty of Science Graduate Course Change Committee

The Chairman read Dr. Kelly's letter of resignation from the above Committee and explained that in the past he was usually asked to appoint a new Chairman. The Committee agreed that this procedure be followed again.

VII. Proposed Change to Faculty Promotion Guidelines

The Chairman explained that he was requesting a change in the wording of the second paragraph of the Faculty Promotion Guidelines because of the problems that the word "outstanding" was causing with the Head Office due to the new promotion forms.

It was moved by Macpherson (Olchowecki) that:

"the amendment to paragraph 2 of the Faculty Promotion Guidelines be approved and carried forward to Faculty Council"

UNANIMOUS

VIII. New Business

Professor Duckworth explained a problem that had arisen with the removal of the special long blackboard brushes from the Buller Building. As he felt that all that could be done at his level had failed, he asked the Chairman to look into this matter.

The Dean agreed to discuss this with Mr. Robbins from Operations and Maintenance.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

RDC

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

## Inter-Departmental Correspondence

DATE July 22, 1977

TO Members of the Executive Committee of Science Faculty Council

FROM G. Richardson, Secretary

SUBJECT:

GR

The forty-eighth meeting of the Executive Committee of Faculty Council has been scheduled for Thursday, August 4th, 1977 at 2:00 p.m. in Room 250 Allen Building.

### A G E N D A

1. Approval of the Minutes of the forty-seventh meeting.
2. Matters arising therefrom.
3. Communications.
4. Dr. Gesser's Notice of Motion regarding entrance examinations (material attached).
5. Further discussion on the Motion made by Dr. Jamieson regarding the proposed change in the number of credit hours in a major program (material and preliminary discussion at June 8th, 1977, 47th Executive meeting) and preliminary discussion of an alternative proposal (material attached).
6. Discussion of proposed new program in the Faculty (material will be sent prior to the meeting.)
7. Dr. Kelly's resignation as Chairman of the Faculty of Science Graduate Course Change Committee.
8. Proposed change to the Faculty Promotion Guidelines (material attached).
9. Discussion of the Minutes of the Special Faculty Council meeting held on June 29, 1977 on the Faculty's undergraduate enrolment and financial position (Minutes attached).
10. New business.

gr/sc  
encls.