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July 17, 1978

The Minutes of a Special meeting of the Executive Committee of Faculty Council held on Wednesday, July 12, 1978 at 2:00 p.m. in the Faculty Conference Room, 250 Allen Building.

Members Present: P. K. Isaac, Chairman, Professors B.D. Macpherson, K. W. Stewart, R. G. Woods, R. E. Longton, J. Gerhard, P. Loewen, H. Duckworth; G. Richardson, Secretary.

Visitor: Dr. F. M. Arscott

Regrets: Dean R. D. Connor, Professors W. C. Brisbin, K. Mount.

The Chairman welcomed the new members of the Committee to their first meeting. He explained that Dr. Arscott had a prior commitment and would have to leave by 3:00 p.m. He asked that the Committee discuss the proposed Minor program for Applied Mathematics first; the Committee agreed. He then asked Dean Macpherson to speak to this subject.

Dean Macpherson said that the proposal circulated to the members of the Committee prior to the meeting resulted from a request by the Faculty of Arts for a Minor in Applied Mathematics. The request had been passed to the Standing Committee on Mathematics by the Faculty. The proposed program, once set up, should have gone to the Faculty Committee on Courses next, however because of the time constraints associated with new programs the material had been circulated to the Committee on Courses members along with a request for comments.

The comments raised to date focussed on several potential problem areas. Courses 6.125/126 were at the moment service courses for Engineering students. It was being proposed that the Arts students take these two half-courses as well, with only some changes to the practical problems being suggested. It was also noted that these two courses did overlap with courses 13.139 and 140. Courses 6.120 and 6.121 also service courses for Engineering and Environmental Studies, were being proposed for the Arts students as well. Finally two new courses were included in the program which had not yet been approved by the Faculty or Senate. One of these, 6.2XX, appeared to require 6.120 and 6.121 as prerequisites, courses not available to Science students, however Science students could take 6.2XX. Having brought these concerns to the attention of the

Committee members, Dean Macpherson asked Dr. Arscott if he wished to comment.

Dr. Arscott told the members that as far as he was concerned, he felt course 6.120 had no equivalent course which was now being offered; course 6.121 was only slightly similar to course 13.137 and courses 6.2XX and 6.2XY were courses designed for large numbers of non-mathematical oriented students, i.e. students in Economics, Biology, Education. The prerequisite of courses 6.120/121 for 6.2XX was not a formal requirement, many of the half-courses in algebra now being offered would serve as well, for example, 13.137. If the committee felt strongly about 6.120 being stated in the proposal he would not object to it being deleted. The committee felt that it would be best to remove this requirement.

Dr. Woods said that it was his opinion that 6.125/126 were quite similar to courses 13.139/140. He also did not feel that they should be included in the proposal.

Comment was made about the proliferation of mathematics oriented courses, especially first year courses. Dean Isaac stated that all courses approved by Universities Grants Commission were approved with the rider that no additional funds would be provided for the new courses. This meant that if an existing course was not deleted for a new one then an extra teaching load was created because no new staff positions were available either.

In reply to the concern expressed about Arts students taking courses geared for Engineering students, Dr. Arscott said he felt the 'text book' portion of the course was equally suitable for either students. The problems portion was not though, and for the Arts students these would be changed to problems suitable for them.

There being no further questions for Dr. Arscott, he left the meeting. It was then moved Macpherson (Duckworth) that:

"the proposed program for the Applied Mathematics
Minor, with the deletion of the prerequisite of 6.120
on page 2 (2), and subject to approval of the Committee
on Courses, be approved."

Dr. Woods (Gerhard) moved the following amendment:

"the line which reads OR (ii) 6.125/6.126 Applied
Calculus I, II (3 + 3) be deleted".

In speaking to this amendment Dr. Woods said that these courses differed very little from courses 13.139/140 which he felt would be more suitable for Arts students. He noted that the courses were not available in the Applied Mathematics Major program and felt it incongruous that they should be available in the Minor. The courses were not available to Science students. Dr. Longton said that he liked the idea of two different 1st-year calculus streams and would oppose the amendment for that reason. Dr. Stewart wanted to know that if by removing the two courses would we in any way be hindering Engineering drop-out students who wanted to transfer to a Science program. Dean Macpherson answered by saying these courses, if passed in Engineering, would carry transfer credit for 13.139 and 13.140 or 141. In concluding Dr. Woods said that the number of Arts students taking these courses is likely to be small and to have two similar courses available to the same group of students was not a good idea at a time when all courses were being closely scrutinized.

The vote was called for on the amendment: it was CARRIED.

1 opposed.

The vote was then taken on the revised program and it was CARRIED.

Unanimous

As to the disposition of the program, it would now be forwarded to Faculty Council for information and discussion, and change if Faculty Council so decided.

Because Dean Isaac had chaired the committee to consider the Science degree programs he asked that Dean Macpherson assume the chair so that he could speak to the report. This was agreed to by the members.

Dean Isaac then went through the report briefly noting the areas that had caused his committee more than usual discussion and why they had ended up taking the position they did. The committee agreed that they would take each of the report's recommendations individually and dispose of them one at a time.

Recommendation 1 (Appendix A)

The concern raised with this recommendation was the wording which referred

to how students could go from the 4-year specialized program into Graduate school. Several members felt that the present wording implied that such a move would be rather simple and they felt that if students got this impression as well this might have a detrimental effect upon certain Honours programs. Dean Isaac replied that this situation would vary from department to department. In some it would require a full year of catch-up to bring the student to the completed 4th year Honours level, in others it would be based on the student's performance, the Honours and specialized program being quite similar in content. His committee, made up of departmental representatives, foresaw no serious problem in this regard however.

Dr. Woods stated that if the difference between the two programs was essentially the level of performance attained, then he felt that such levels would have to be faculty-wide and not in certain departments. Dean Isaac said that he had checked with Senate on this point and found that there was no university ruling. His committee then decided each department would be given the choice of instigating levels.

It was agreed that a slight change to the wording in the first paragraph which referred to Graduate school would be prudent. The sentence was changed to read:

"Students who desire graduate level training ultimately are advised to pursue the B.Sc. (Honours) degree in the subject area, however in some departments the program will provide the background necessary for admission to Graduate Studies."

In reply to the question on the status of the Faculty of Arts' progress in this regard, the Chairman stated that they had run into several complications and were stalled at the moment. However they were being kept informed of Science's progress.

With regard to the number of courses a student would be allowed to take outside the Faculty, the report said that "up to 6 courses may be taken". Dr. Woods stated that it was his own personal feeling that at least one should be required, and he moved (Duckworth) that:

"item 4 Appendix A be changed to read, 'at least 6 credit hours must and at most 36 credit hours may be taken from outside the Faculty of Science'."

CARRIED

2 opposed.

With the two changes it was moved Isaac (Stewart) that

"recommendation 1 (Appendix A) be approved"

Unanimous

Recommendation 2 (Appendix B)

Dean Isaac explained that when his committee was discussing item 3 there was confusion amongst the members such that when it came to vote several members did not vote on what they thought was the motion. The result of this misunderstanding was that in the first instance the committee recommended 36 credit hours in 200 and 300 level courses and in the second instance, after the confusion had been cleared up, and the vote taken again, the 36 credit hours was changed to 30.

Dr. Woods said that it might be that at some future date two 1st year courses in Mathematics would be required for further Mathematics study. He wondered if this would pose a problem with regard to item 2. Dean Isaac said his committee had been alerted to this possibility and could see no problem with it.

It was pointed out by the Chairman that transfer from this program to the specialized program would essentially depend upon the individual departments' assessment of a student's particular courses.

He concluded by saying that the idea of core courses had been discussed but that what constituted a core course could not be agreed upon. What was proposed in item 2 was the most satisfactory arrangement.

It was then moved by Duckworth (Longton) that:

"item 3 (Appendix B) be changed to read, '36 credit hours of 200 and 300 level courses...' instead of '30 credit hours'."

CARRIED

2 opposed.

It was moved Isaac (Duckworth) that:

"recommendation 2 (Appendix B) be approved as changed".

CARRIED
Unanimous

Recommendation 3

It was the intent of recommendation #3 to provide those students who wished to be associated with a "home" department, a recognition to do so.

It was moved Isaac (Stewart) that:

"recommendation #3 be approved".

Unanimous

Recommendation 4

It was moved Isaac (Stewart) that:

"recommendation #4 be approved".

Unanimous

If Faculty Council approved this report a Letter of Intent would be sent to the Universities Grants Commission alerting them to the new four-year specialized program. Since the three-year general program was essentially a modification of our existing three-year program no mention of it would be necessary, however, it would give a fuller picture of what was proposed if both proposals were sent forward. Faculty Council would receive this report with the changes recommended by the Executive Committee. Faculty Council could change the report further or accept it as is. No discussion at Faculty Council would mean their approval of the report as recommended by the Executive Committee.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

gr/sc

Inter-Departmental Correspondence

DATE July 5, 1978

TO Executive Committee of the Faculty Council of Science

FROM G. Richardson, Secretary

SUBJECT:

A Special Meeting of the Executive Committee of Faculty Council has been called for Wednesday, July 12, 1978 at 2:00 p.m. in the Faculty Conference Room, 250 Allen Building.

The meeting is to discuss and approve the report of the committee to consider the Science Degree Programs and the minor program in Applied Mathematics for Arts students. It is intended that the report and material on the minor program will be delivered to the Executive Committee members well in advance of the meeting. Being a special meeting no other items of business will be discussed.

gr/nl