

October 4, 1983

The Minutes of the 76th meeting of the Executive Committee of Science Faculty Council held on Tuesday, October 4, 1983 at 3:30 p.m. in Room 250 Allen Building.

Members Present: C. C. Bigelow, Chair, Professors P. K. Isaac, N. E. Losey, N. Hunter, G. I. Paul, R. Lyric, D. McKinnon, J. Berry, N. Arnason; Mr. S. Baker; S. Catt, Secretary.

Visitors: J. McConnell
S. Johannson

1. The minutes of the 75th meeting were approved on a motion by Hunter (McKinnon)

2. Course Change Proposals

Dean Losey reminded the Committee that its mandate was to approve course change proposals on behalf of the Faculty Council, and presented the proposals by department, as follows:

Chemistry: Proposed changes were approved on a motion by Dean Losey (seconded).

Professor McKinnon spoke at length about the financial implications to Chemistry of giving a 90-level course to ill-prepared students, the need for additional staffing and money in the Department, as witness the recent Review, and the general unfairness of it all. In response the Chairman noted that the Executive's mandate was to examine proposals for academic merit, not for financial implications. The Senior Stick, Mr. Baker, enquired as to how 90-level courses related to UGSCHs, to staff entitlements, and how expenses were covered. In reply the Chairman indicated that Departments were free to request, and might even get, some additional funding, but that funding was not given on the basis of UGSCHs in any case, and that if departments wished to propose such additional loads they must be prepared to meet the costs involved.

Physics: Proposed changes were approved on a motion by Dean Losey (seconded) with a change in wording of the calendar description of the Master's programs to make clear that three options are offered, that is Physics, Medical Physics, and Accelerator Physics.

Earth Sciences: Modifications and Program Changes were approved on motions by Dean Losey (seconded).

Zoology: Modifications were approved on motions by Dean Losey (seconded).

Botany: Deletions , Additions and Program Changes were approved on motions by Dean Losey (seconded).
Introduction of 1.3xx was approved (5 in favour, 4 opposed) on a motion by Dean Losey (seconded), after some discussion in which some members expressed their concern about the academic credibility of the course.

Microbiology: Graduate course change and Honour Program changes were approved on a motion by Dean Losey (seconded).

Applied Mathematics: Deletions and Additions, Modifications, Program Changes and Joint Honours Program--Applied Mathematics-Statistics were approved on motions by Dean Losey (seconded).

Computer Science: Deletions and Modifications were approved on motions by Dean Losey (seconded).
Dean Losey indicated that a late proposal has been received. It would be discussed with the Committee on Courses and circulated to the Executive Committee, after which a meeting could be called if necessary.

Mathematics & Astronomy: Deletions, Additions, Modifications and Honours Program in Mathematics and Astronomy were approved on motions by Dean Losey (seconded).

Courses offered in other Faculties and Schools acceptable for credit in the Faculty of Science:

Agriculture, Food Sciences Department: Additions were approved on a motion by Dean Losey (seconded).

Music: Deletions and additions were approved on a motion by Dean Losey (seconded).

Physical Education: 57.140 Concepts of Recreation and Leisure -- This course had been examined by the Committee on Courses who had approved it for credit in Science. It had then twice been brought to the Executive Committee, and had not been approved. Therefore Dean Losey proposed to refer it to Faculty Council for consideration, and so moved (Arnason)

CARRIED

Proposal for a Graduate Program in Genetics

The proposal had been formulated by the Genetics Co-ordinating Committee and was presented to the Executive for discussion. Dean Losey moved (Paul) that it be endorsed by the Committee and forwarded to the Graduate Studies Faculty Council.

CARRIED

Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Imaging and Remote Sensing

The proposal had been formulated by the University Committee on Imaging and Remote Sensing. Dean Losey explained that the program is as yet nonexistent, and she understood there was also a proposal to form an Institute. She moved it be approved academically contingent upon funding being available and endorsed to the Graduate Studies Faculty Council.

Professor McKinnon had questions about the financing and felt that if approved it might ultimately become very costly for the faculty. Professor Arnason did not think the University's computer capacity was anywhere near sufficient, or that there was sufficient financing. Professor Lyric liked the program proposal, but not the idea of an Institute. The Chairman suggested, and the Executive agreed,

that the proposal be sent back to the originating body, with an expression of our concern regarding (1) computer facilities, (2) implications of an institute, (3) costs in general. Dean Losey withdrew her motion. She agreed to draft a letter of concern.

3. Academic Regulations - Required Arts Courses in Honours Programs - was deleted from the agenda.

4. Enrolment Limitations

Dean Bigelow referred to his draft proposal "How Many Science Students?" which he had circulated to Department Heads, the President (with a copy for the Minister of Education), and the Vice-Presidents. The draft incorporates ideas the Dean's Office has had for over a year, about enrolment problems, and he asked the committee to make recommendations and express their views.

Professor Hunter asked how selections would be made; he felt entrance exams would be the best approach. He had discussed the draft with some of his colleagues in Chemistry and found general agreement with the idea of limiting enrolment.

Professor Lyric agreed it was necessary to limit enrolment.

Professor Berry was in favour and no-one he had discussed it with was opposed, but he thought it should be a university-wide policy. He felt the question of Visa students would present a problem, as many of them came from Manitoba high schools rather than directly from overseas. He wondered if it would create a problem if they were treated differently from other Manitoba high school students.

Dean Bigelow noted that professional faculties set quotas for Visa students.

Professor Paul felt visa students were not a problem, the percentage had increased very little in the last decade or two. He agreed with the report and especially with the recommendations but felt a case could be made for raising admission standards without the argument of present high level of enrolment, that is, that students who come ill-prepared should not be admitted.

Mr. Baker was in favour of limiting enrolment although he did not necessarily agree with the proposed numbers. On the question of Visa students he felt that if we imposed a 70% cutoff, or 1200 intake, we could end up cutting off Canadian students in favour of Visa students. We are one of only four provinces in Canada which don't charge differential fees. He couldn't offer an opinion as to whether other students would be in favour of limitations but said he heard complaints about large classes, lineups to see professors, etc. He could see students entering Arts if they were rejected by Science. The Dean agreed this could create a problem; there would have to be a mechanism to limit the number of Science courses taken by Arts students.

The Dean said he was asking for approval in principle and endorsement to Faculty Council, with the clear understanding that if this is what the committee wants to do, he will rewrite it in a form that can be taken to Senate. If it is to go into effect in September 1984 it must be done this fall. He asked if the target of 3800 students sounded reasonable. He felt it might be better to say the faculty wanted to improve standards by setting a minimum mark, rather than that we wanted to limit enrolment. There was mixed reaction to this. Professor Berry said he had talked to some high school teachers and they seemed pleased with the idea of higher admission standards. Dr. Arnason felt it would be a bit hypocritical because our real reason was numbers. Dean Losey's feeling was that high schools would change their marking systems within a few years if standards were imposed.

The Executive agreed that the Dean should take the proposal to Faculty Council.

5. Appointment of a Report to Faculty Council: Dean Losey nominated Professor Lyric. There were no other nominations. Professor Lyric was named Reporter to Faculty Council from the Executive Committee.
6. Appointment of a member to the Student Standing Committee: Dr. R. Collens (Computer Science) had agreed to serve and was approved by the Executive Committee.
7. Other Business: Diagnostic Tests. The memo from the Acting Secretary of Senate will be referred to the Student Standing Committee by Dean Losey.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Inter-Departmental Correspondence

DATE September 14, 1983.

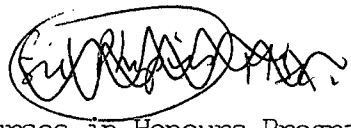
TO Members of the Executive Committee of Science Faculty Council

FROM S. Catt, Secretary *AC*

SUBJECT:

The 76th meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, October 4, 1983 at 3:30 p.m. in Room 250 Allen Building.

Agenda

1. Minutes of the 75th meeting
2. Course Change Proposals (attached) 
3. Academic Regulations -- Required Arts Courses in Honours Programs
4. ~~New Promotion Procedures~~
- 4 / 5. Enrolment Limitations
- 5 / 6. Appointment of a Reporter to Faculty Council
6 *See attached*
7. Other Business (i) Diagnostic Tests

Documentation on items 3, 4, 5, and 6 will be sent to members at a later date.

C.C. Bigelow