

# MINUTES

## MINUTES

114<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Science Faculty Council  
held on Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009, at 2:30 p.m. in Senate Chambers

**PRESENT:**

M. Whitmore (Chair)	E. Worobec	R. Roshko
P. Graham	H. Luong	K. Koczanski
E. Huebner	T. Hegmann	C. Bartels
E. Smirnova	N. Zorboska	F. Gauvin
J. Xidos	D. Kalajdziewska	M. Davidson
J. Harper	G. Krause	I. Waters
M. Piercey-Normore	M. Docker	P. Hultin
H. Duckworth	G. Robinson	A. Worley
M. Fry	J. Stacey	J. Marcus
V. Li	F. Lin	J. Hare
I. Oresnik	P. Budzelaar	S. McKenna
J. van Wijngaarden	S. Page	K. Sharma
Y. Martsynyuk	M. Jofari Jozani	G. Sobie
J. Brewster	J. Williams	J. Bate
B. Li	G. Lukacs	A. Bunt
S. Durocher	J. Van Rees	J. Braico
P. Loewen	John Anderson	Judy Anderson
B. Southern	J. McKee	R. Eskicioglu
J. Sorensen	T. Schultz	J. McConnell
R. Craigen	S. Cheng	M. Doob
L. Lester		

**REGRETS:**

K. Gough	D. Gillis	T. Kucera
D. Court	S. Kroeker	

Dr. Whitmore welcomed the new members of the Faculty Council including the SSA representative, Victor Li.

### 1. Approval of Minutes

**MOTION:** To approve the minutes of the 113<sup>th</sup> meeting held on February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2009.  
Moved by J. Bate, seconded by J. Van Rees.

**CARRIED**

### 2. Introduction of New Members

The following new members of Faculty Council were introduced:

**Biological Sciences:** Jeffrey Marcus, Associate Professor & Tier 2 CRC  
James Roth, Assistant Professor  
Jane Waterman, Associate Professor

**Chemistry:** James Xidos, Instructor II

**Computer Science:** John Braico, Instructor I  
Andrea Bunt, Assistant Professor  
Stephane Durocher, Assistant Professor

**Mathematics** Darja Kalajdzievska, Instructor I

**Physics & Astronomy** Francis Lin, Assistant Professor

**Statistics:** Mohammad Jofari Jozani, Assistant Professor  
Yuliya Martsynyuk, Assistant Professor

### 3. Recognition of Promotions and Tenure

Dean Whitmore congratulated the following faculty who were granted tenure in 2009:

Peter Budzelaar	Chemistry
Torsten Hegmann	Chemistry
Georg Schreckenbach	Chemistry
Frank Schweizer	Chemistry
Carson Leung	Computer Science
David Gunderson	Mathematics
Gerald Gwinner	Physics & Astronomy

Dean Whitmore congratulated the following faculty who were promoted in 2009:

John Markham	Biological Sciences	Associate Professor
John Anderson	Computer Science	Professor
Jelena Mistic	Computer Science	Professor
Vojislav Mistic	Computer Science	Professor
Johan van Lierop	Physics and Astronomy	Associate Professor

#### 4. Undergraduate Course and Program Changes

The program changes put forward by the Committee on Courses and Programs have been reviewed by Faculty Executive and forwarded to Faculty Council for approval. Course changes are for information only – they are approved by Faculty Executive.

##### **MICROBIOLOGY**

**MOTION:** To approve the package of changes to the Microbiology programs as listed and the changes to the three year general degree. Moved by B. Worobec, seconded by P. Loewen.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** To approve the changes to the course numbers as a result of CUSB course number changes and changes in the Microbiology Option List for all Microbiology programs. Moved by B. Worobec, seconded by P. Loewen.

**CARRIED**

##### **BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES**

**MOTION:** To approve the changes to the 4-Year Biological Science (Evolution and Biodiversity) Honours and Major programs – Introduction of Theme specific courses. Moved by B. Worobec, seconded by Judy Anderson.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** To approve the changes to the Biological Sciences Major Degree: Integrative Theme. Moved by B. Worobec, seconded by J. Anderson.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** To approve the changes to the Biochemistry Honours and Major (incl. Co-op) programs – including changes resulting from the proposed Introductory Microbiology course changes. Moved by B. Worobec, seconded by P. Loewen.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** To approve the changes to the Biotechnology Honours program caused by the changes to the Introductory Microbiology offerings. Moved by B. Worobec, seconded by J. Anderson.

##### **CHEMISTRY**

**MOTION:** To approve the proposal of a 3-Year B.Sc Degree with a Chemistry Focus. Moved by B. Worobec, seconded by J. Van Rees.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** To approve the changes to the Bioanalytical Chemistry Focus Area – non-Chemistry course listing due to the proposed changes in the Introductory Mathematics. Moved by B. Worobec, seconded by H. Duckworth.

**CARRIED**

### **COMPUTER SCIENCE**

**MOTION:** To approve the introduction of a joint Honours program in Computer Science and Statistics, including a Co-op option. J. Williams suggested a friendly amendment to the motion to delete Mathematics 1210 from the footnotes. The original motion moved by B. Worobec, and the friendly amendment moved by J. Williams, were seconded by J. Bate.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** To approve the Introduction of a Joint Honours program in Computer Science and Physics and Astronomy, including a Co-op option. Moved by B. Worobec, seconded by K. Sharma.

**CARRIED**

### **GENETICS**

**MOTION:** To approve the changes to the 4-year Honours Degree in Genetics (incl. changes resulting from the Introductory Microbiology course changes). Moved by B. Worobec, seconded by J. Bate.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** To approve the introduction of a 4-year Major and Major Co-op program in Genetics. Moved by B. Worobec, seconded by J. Anderson.

**CARRIED**

### **PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY**

**MOTION:** To approve the change to the Physics 3-Year General Degree course listing resulting from the deletion of 2200. (6 credit hours to 3). Moved by B. Worobec, seconded by K. Sharma.

**CARRIED**

### **PSYCHOLOGY**

The changes to the 4-year Honours and Major Degrees in Psychology due to the addition and deletion of courses were brought to Faculty Council for information only.

Dr. Whitmore suggested that at future meetings, perhaps there should be a blanket motion to approve all course and program changes, rather than individual motions.

There was a suggestion that the document containing the undergraduate course and program changes should be a searchable PDF document. G. Sobie informed Council that not every department submits the material electronically, but he would make attempts to produce a searchable document in the future.

**5. Graduate Course and Program Changes**

The course change in Microbiology was brought to Council for information only.

**6. Faculty Senate Election**

Dean Whitmore congratulated new Senate members Judy Anderson, Michael Freund, John van Rees and Tom Berry, who have been elected to Senate for the term June 1, 2009 to May 31, 2012.

**7. Dean's Report (attached)**

**8. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn. Moved by J. Bate, seconded by J. van Rees.

**CARRIED**

**Dean's Report  
Faculty of Science  
September 8, 2009**

The Faculty of Science Annual Report for 2008-09 has been posted to the Faculty of Science website. In addition, we provided a "Summer News" report in mid-July, which is also posted. I won't repeat all the details provided therein.

**Budget and Budget Outlook**

In the 2009-10 (current) current budget allocation, the starting point for all faculties was a 1% budget cut, and about half the faculties have to deal with that cut. Most of the other half had all or part of the cut restored, and a few received additional funds beyond the 1%. The Faculty of Science was one of those in the latter category: our 1% cut was fully restored, and we received an additional \$200,000 in baseline. This does not make us rich: we received more because we need more. However, we did not need to cut any departmental budgets, nor freeze hiring. We anticipate completing the year with a balanced budget.

The outlook for future years is mixed. On the one hand, I am delighted by the support the Faculty of Science is receiving from our senior administration. On the other hand, overall budget projections are seriously worrisome. As we all know, most governments are now running large deficits. Our provincial government is balancing its budget this year, but will have a major problem to deal with next year. The university pension deficit is major challenge. Major savings must be found.

The university is initiating two process reviews which are intended to streamline processes and save costs, without simply centralizing. I expect these to roll out in the fall.

**Duff Roblin Fire Update**

The Duff Roblin fire occurred around noon on March 28, 2009. It burned for about 90 minutes, in one or two labs. The impact is enormous, and not just for the inhabitants of Duff.

We are now being told that we can expect to re-occupy our half of Duff in September, 2011, more than two years after the fire. Here are some "bullets" on the magnitude of the impact

- Recovery and restoration costs in the vicinity of \$40 M
- Relocation of over 2 years
- Serious interruption to research programs
- Delays and extra costs for grad students and supervisors
- A 143,000 square foot warehouse to temporarily store building contents
- Moving and accommodating labs, classes and offices

- Potential and real loss of data and samples
- Repair and restoration of equipment
- Untold hours of repeated work
- Redesign and rebuilding space
- An enormous workload on all staff.

Response strategies include

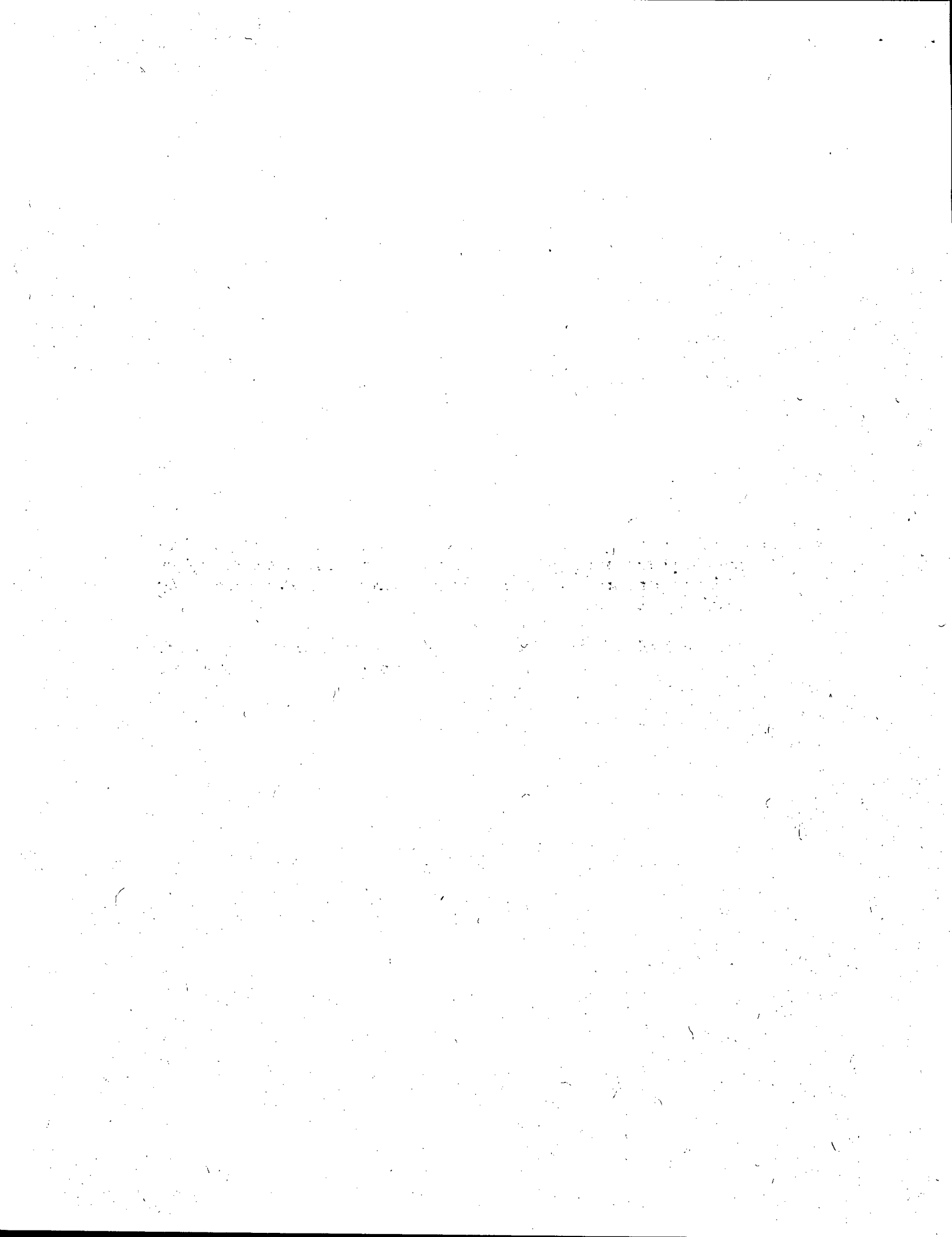
- Day of the fire: electricians were in the building restoring emergency power
- Day after and later: Fire recovery team, a senior planning and coordination team
  - Met daily for two weeks, still meets
- Mitigation:
  - Research re-start funds
  - Promotion and tenure issues
  - NSERC issues
  - Grad student issues
  - Restoring data
  - Restoring equipment: warehouse
  - Designing (and “sharing”) space
  - Morale
  - Logistics!
  - Fire recovery personnel
  - Faculty recruitment
- All in the context of Pharmacy, Buller, KIP \$\$, departmental integration, and Human Ecology

I offer my personal congratulations and thanks to everyone who is working so professionally through this event. I could not possibly name everyone who has made heroic efforts, but would like to single out Judy Anderson and her team in the department, Associate Dean Roy Roshko, Trevor Schultz, Denise Alcox, Khosrow Hakimzadeh, the senior leadership of the university, and many, many others.

### **Infrastructure Renewal**

You are all aware of many infrastructure projects in the Faculty of Science and across campus. Major projects in the Faculty include two undergrad chemistry labs. One of these is the first of three such labs, each with a price tag of \$1 M. The other two are expected to be completed next summer. Two projects have been postponed to next summer, because they were not started soon enough to be completed this year. We also renovated 6 research labs, and there were also some smaller projects. In addition, the high performance computing building is nearing completion.

Major Knowledge Infrastructure Program funding was announced on July 6, a total of nearly \$20 M for renovations to Buller, and the Biological Science Building (the former pharmacy building). We are hopeful that this will complete the work in Buller, including the floor, save for some undergrad lab work which we are hoping to do after the research





labs are completed, and will rejuvenate the Biological Sciences Building. The budget is intended to include a tunnel connection. These new announcements, combined with the Duff overhaul, will result in dramatic changes.

### **Program Updates**

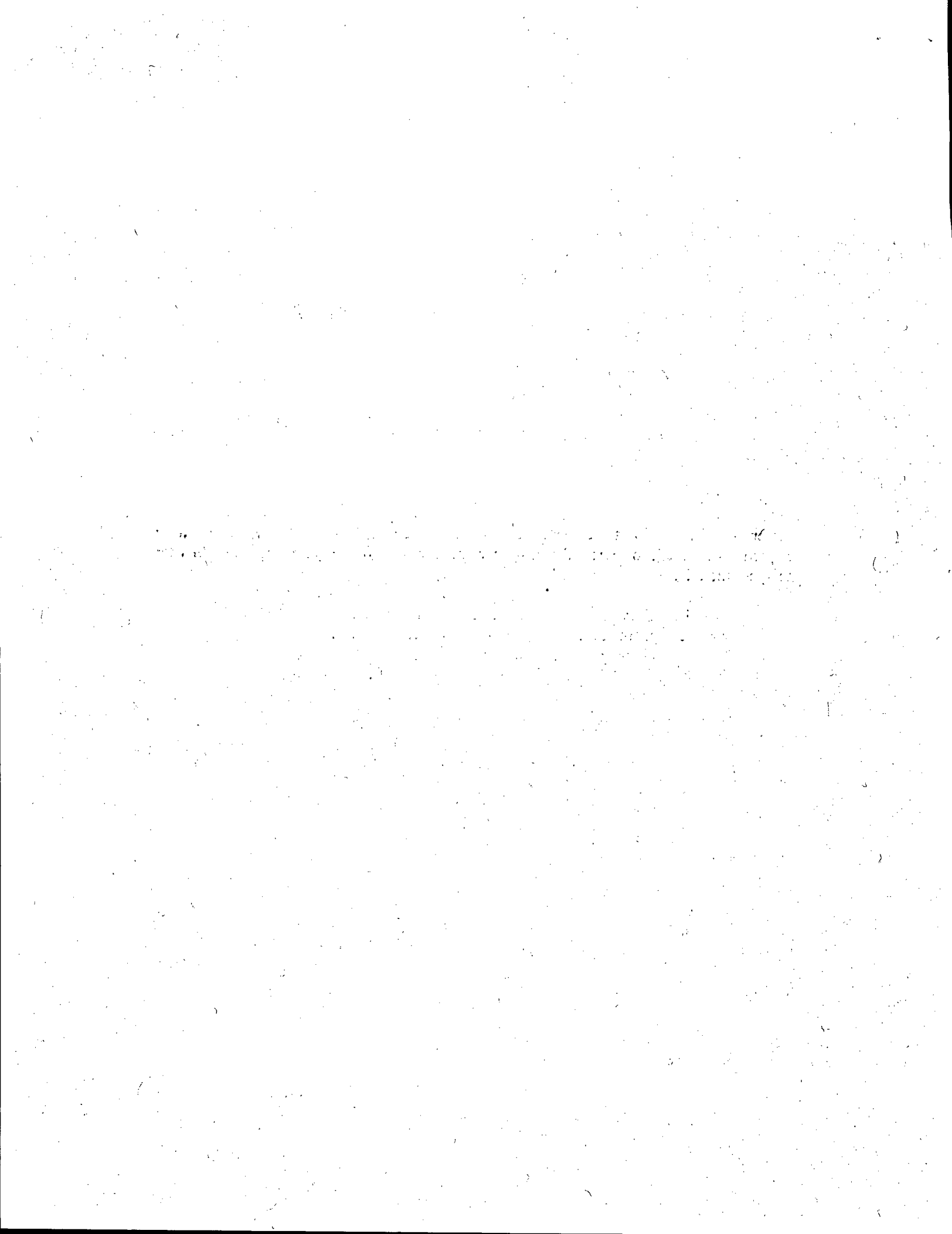
- The forensic sciences program awaits funding. We are offering the very successful introductory course once again.
- We have introduced a new Medical Physics program, and Biological Option to the Honours Physics program. The medical physics program provides an excellent opportunity to attract students.
- We have introduced an introductory molecular biology course.
- The former degree programs in Biology, Botany, Ecology and Zoology have been amalgamated into new Honours and Major and Cooperative programs in Biological Sciences, with five interdisciplinary theme areas.
- The Biotechnology Honours program was also revised and includes three interdisciplinary streams and a new cooperative option. A new Biotechnology Major program, and cooperative option, were recently approved by Senate for start in September 2010.
- We also developed and piloted new procedures for pre-appeal viewing of final exams. The outcome resulted in a 45% reduction in the number of formal appeals, and a net reduction in costs to the students.
- We modified the rules on minors, to open the door to new ones.
- We are reviewing and introducing changes to our 3-year degree program, and we have made changes to a broad range of communication materials and information sessions to promote the benefits of 4-year programs to students.

### **Advancement and Development, and Communications**

We have been putting a lot of effort into these activities. Karen Fowler and Maureen Paisley will be making presentations at an upcoming Faculty Council meeting.

### **Honours and Awards**

The Faculty of Science Honours and Awards Committee has just completed terms of reference for numerous new awards for students, academic staff, support staff, and alumni. These will soon come before Faculty Council, via the Executive Committee.



### **Changes at NSERC**

The outcomes of the last NSERC competition are worrisome to many of us. Concern has been expressed by the Canadian Deans of Science, and I know that many discipline associations have expressed their concerns as well.

### **Pandemic Response Plan**

We have a near-complete Faculty of Science Plan. It is impossible to plan for all eventualities, but the plan identifies issues and decision-makers.

### **Promotion and Tenure Modifications**

The voting on the proposed modifications could not be carried out before the deadline for applications, and I did not want to hold such a vote in the middle of any considerations. Therefore, this vote has been postponed until a suitable time.

### **Implementation of the Strategic Plan**

As proposed in the Strategic Plan, the Administrative Council held an annual retreat on September 3, 2009, to review the past year and plan the coming year. Agenda items for the year include:

- A number of revised and new programs are in progress
- New recruitment and communications activities and materials
- Graduate and undergraduate program reviews
- New honours and awards, including a proposal for a “Dean’s Research List”
- Numerous advancement and development activities
- Dean’s External Advisory Committee
- “Research Inventory”
- CRC Competition
- Headship searches: Chemistry, Math
- “Water” chair
- Manitoba Institute for Materials, and proposal to WED
- Human Biotechnology proposal to WED
- Honorary degrees – *please!*
- Departmental Strategic Plans
- Duff Recovery
- Collective Bargaining
- U1 Review
- Identified infrastructure projects
- Connecting our plans and initiatives to the University Planning Framework

