

SCIENCE FACULTY COUNCIL MINUTES

Friday, May 28, 2021 - Virtual

Chair: Lucy Lee, Dean

Present: Ian Affleck, James Bedard, Nathan Bialas, Margret Bollerup, Linus Chiang, Karen Cooper, Tim Cooper, Robin Endelman, Cherie Enns, Kseniya Garaschuk, Sandra Gillespie, Jen Hetherington, Longlong Huang, Jonathan Hughes, Ruwan Karunanayaka, Anna Kuczynska, Justin Lee, Hongfei Li, Olav Lian, Lin Long, Cindy Loten, Stan Manu, Janice Nagtegaal, Jordan Penner, Stefania Pizzirani, Kabeer Poonia, Vanessa Radzimski, Afia Raja, Alan Reid, Greg Schlitt, Greg Schmaltz, Jake Spooner, Terry Starr, Tony Stea, Norm Taylor, Jason Thomas, Frank Zhang

Regrets: David Chu, Lenore Newman

Recorder: Caroline Majeau

1. GUESTS and INTRODUCTIONS

- 1.1. UFV President, Joanne MacLean thanked everyone for their hard work over this past year and was very proud of everyone's efforts. She met with BC Minister Anne Kang and feels she is a strong voice which can carry forward the role post secondary plays in BC and to help us move into post pandemic recovery. The integrated strategic plan has been passed by senate and the board. There will be an opportunity for students, staff, faculty, individuals and groups to apply for funding for projects that are aligned with the strategic plan. Indigenization, EDI and Anti-Racism is critical ongoing work for the university. The Task force has created an action plan for the university. UFV has hired Sundeep Hans, as the new director of EDI. She will help develop ways to provide support and training opportunities for implementation of EDI.
- 1.2. Satish Kotha, Learning Designer from Teaching & Learning, discussed Blackboard (BB) Ally for EDI progression in our courses. Ally provides an accessible bridge that will help facilitate alternative formats automatically to address barriers such as Disability/Linguistic/Cultural/Competence and improve user experience and students' needs in general. Questions followed. To enable Ally on BB for courses faculty are to email askTLC@ufv.ca and provide the CRN, course name and section. BB Ally is available for everyone at UFV. TLC recommends attending a BB Ally orientation workshop. Any further questions can be directed to TLC at askTLC@ufv.ca.

2. AGENDA and MINUTES

2.1. Adoption of Agenda

MOTION:

THAT the Science Faculty Council adopt the agenda as presented.

Nathan B. / 2nd Stefania P.; all in favour; adopted.

2.2. Approval of the Minutes - April 30, 2021

MOTION:

THAT the Science Faculty Council approve the minutes of April 30, 2021 as presented.

Afia R. / 2nd Alan R.; all in favour; approved.

Lucy addressed the Action items from the April 30, 2021 meeting.

- Online courses/in person assessments: As Biology 105 was offered as online with face-to-face assessment pre-pandemic; it is not possible now due to the Covid restrictions. Courses taught online must have online assessments.
- Student Study Space in A-Building: Lucy contacted Shane Veenstra from Health and Safety. A safety proposal needs to be submitted. A maximum cap needs to be stated depending on the floor space. Since UFV is still under pandemic restrictions for the Summer, Lucy will request the room allow for a maximum of 4 people. As things progress, the numbers will likely change for the fall.

3. DISCUSSION / DECISIONS – N/A

4. FSCC (Curriculum Committee) - Ian Affleck

For Decision:

4.1. New course proposal GEOG 260: Global Goals Challenge: Sustainable Communities by Design

Cherie E. provided the background on the proposal for the new course and how it fits into the program.

MOTION:

THAT the Science Faculty Council approve the proposal for the new course GEOG 260 Global Goals Challenge: Sustainable Communities by Design as presented.

Jonathan H. / 2nd Stefania P.; all in favour; approved.

5. FSCC (Curriculum Committee)

For Information:

5.1. BSc 10-year rule extension recommendation

The Faculty of Science Curriculum Committee recommended to the Dean that the BSc time from for this particular student be extended past the 10-year rule. The student began the BSc in 2009 and left school in 2017 due to medical issues. They are now back to finish.

6. REPORTS

6.1. Dean's Report - Lucy Lee

- Lucy thanked everyone for all of their hard work over the past year.
- It will be strongly recommended that by the fall all faculty, staff and students be vaccinated and to wear masks indoors when necessary.
- She announced that Veronica Kobes from Biology is this year's Faculty of Science convocation speaker; Tanner Boos from Math & Stats won the Governor General's Silver medal; and Anmar Sharma from Chemistry was the recipient of the Science Dean's medal. Isabelle St-Martin who is a BSc graduate won the Dean's Medal for Applied and Technical Studies. Caroline is putting together a "Congratulations Grads" video from the Faculty of the Science, if faculty wish to provide a personal message to the students please send it to Caroline by the end of next week.
- We have a record number of graduating BSc students this year with over 127.
- Due to the ongoing travel restrictions LIYSF will be virtual for us this year, although the forum will be hybrid. Since it is virtual for us we were able to have our second and third place winners also participate in this event. Annabelle Czihaly (Physics), Heather Kelly (Biology) and Connor Frey (Chemistry).
- Lucy announced the retirements from the Faculty of Science and wished them well. Greg Schlitt and Erik Talvila from Math and Stats, and Tim Cooper and Norm Taylor from Physics. Updates in the headships: Ben Vanderlei will be taking over for Ian Affleck when he's back from sabbatical in September. Greg Schmaltz has already begun his term as Biology head from Tony Stea; and Lin Long will take over from Norm Taylor when he retires the end of the month.
- Tim Cooper just completed a series with Chill TV [<https://www.chilltv.ca/>] on Science/Economics/Politics/Technology of climate change. They have now asked him if he would be interested in doing a science series for them. It would consist of 3 to 4 minute documentaries. If anyone would be interested in putting together a presentation that would be of interest to the general public, please contact Tim.
- Robin Endelman was successful on the grant application to the Abbotsford Community Foundation for Science Rocks. They received a \$5000 to assist with the upcoming Science Rocks Days.
- The Math and Stats department will be moving from D Building to T Building for the next 2-3 years.

6.2. Advising - Karen Cooper

Karen congratulated all of the graduates from our science programs. Our students are diverse learners as many have minors and majors in the Arts. Jane Webb is continuing for another year as Faculty of Science Advisor. Timetables for Fall will be released to the students on Monday. Registration will be from June 14-23.

6.3. Indigenization and EDI - Stefania Pizzirani

- Please continue to check out the TLC events <https://events.ufv.ca/tlc/>
- UBC is hosting a free event on Anti-Asian Racism from June 10-11. This is a great opportunity to listen and learn about other perspectives.
<https://events.ubc.ca/national-forum-on-anti-asian-racism/>

6.4. Senate - Jonathan Hughes

Jonathan thanked Norm for his emailed monthly Senate summaries. Afia has finished her term on Senate so there is a science vacancy to be filled. Jonathan still has one more year on his term. For more information, please visit: <https://www.ufv.ca/secretariat/get-involved/board--senate-vacancies/>. Jonathan provided updates from the last Senate meeting.

6.5. Students - Jordan Penner | Kabeer Poonia

Nothing to report. Lucy thanked Jordan and Kabeer for representing the students well at every one of the science council meetings this past year.

6.6. Library - Hongfei Li

Hongfei provided a written report from the Library which offered publishing support for all UFV Scholars. He reminded everyone that their book drops are open 24/7 at both Chilliwack and Abbotsford Campuses and encouraged everyone to return items that are no longer needed. The report also provided a list of support that will be available for the summer and fall teaching.

6.7. Other Reports

- **Science Rocks - Robin Endelman**
Robin provided an update on Science Rocks and work study positions. Although the summer camps have been cancelled she is organizing Science Rocks Days for the fall. If anyone has any thoughts they would like to share, please contact her.
- **Fraser Valley Mathematics Education Sq'ep - Stan Manu | Vanessa Radzimski**
The Sq'ep committee of Stan, Vanessa and Kseniya and others teamed up with UBC's Indigenous Math Education Network <https://indigenous.mathnetwork.educ.ubc.ca/> and hosted the 2-day Indigenous Math Symposium on May 11 & 18. It was a huge success with over 200 educators in attendance.

7. 2021 Faculty of Science AAA Award Winners

Lucy announced the recipients of the 2021 Faculty of Science AAA Awards. Congratulations to: **Stefania Pizzirani** and **Afia Raja**, Co-Recipients of the Awesome Achievement; **Linus Chiang**, Terrific Teaching; **James Bedard**, Remarkable Research; **Tim Cooper**, Outstanding Research; **Ian Affleck**, Superb Service (Faculty); and **Margret Bollerup**, Superb Service (Staff).

8. INFORMATION ITEMS – N/A

9. ADJOURNED – 2:54 PM

Next Meeting: September 10, 2021 @ 1:00 PM