

SCIENCE FACULTY COUNCIL MINUTES

Friday, October 8, 2021 - Hybrid | D225

Chair: Lucy Lee, Dean

Present: Ian Affleck, Nathan Bialas, Linus Chiang, Karen Cooper, Grant Fritzke, Kseniya Garaschuk, Golfam Ghafourifar, Sandra Gillespie, Longlong Huang, Jonathan Hughes, Manveer Jhamat, Jesper Johansen, Ruwan Karunanayaka, Heather Kelly, Justin Lee, Hongfei Li, Lin Long, Cindy Loten, Stan Manu, Mariano Mapili, Pedro Montoya-Pelaez, Stefania Pizzirani, Vanessa Radzimski, Afia Raja, Alan Reid, Fabiola Rojas, Greg Schmaltz, Jake Spooner, Jason Thomas, Ben Vanderlei, Jane Webb, Frank Zhang

Regrets: Carolyn Atkins, David Chu, Robin Endelman, Olav Lian

Recorder: Caroline Majeau

1. GUESTS and INTRODUCTIONS

2. AGENDA and MINUTES

2.1. Adoption of Agenda

MOTION:

THAT the Science Faculty Council adopt the agenda as presented.

Afia R. / 2nd Ben V.; all in favour; adopted.

2.2. Approval of the Minutes - September 10, 2021

Lucy followed up on the action items. The Covid information sheet for instructors which was originally emailed out from UFV Health and Safety is available online <https://www.ufv.ca/return-to-campus/safety-plans-guidelines/>. Extra masks are available in every unit on campus. The Science Dean's office has a few clear masks if faculty would like to try them out.

MOTION:

THAT the Science Faculty Council approve the minutes of September 10, 2021, as presented.

Mariano M. / 2nd Alan R.; all in favour; approved.

3. DISCUSSION / DECISIONS

3.1. Chemistry Faculty Standards

Minor changes were made to the Chemistry Faculty Standards in response to recommendations from the committee. It was noted that the first sentence regarding best

undergraduate education in Canada has been updated within UFV. It was recommended to delete the sentence. On behalf of Chemistry, Jason accepted the recommendation.

MOTION:

THAT the Science Faculty Council approve the Chemistry Faculty Standards as presented including the removal of the sentence as recommended.

Jason T. / 2nd Pedro M.; all in favour; approved.

3.2. SLUEC Faculty Standards

SLUEC adopted the new College of Arts standards which were approved through Senate last spring.

MOTION:

THAT the Science Faculty Council approve the SLUEC Faculty Standards as presented.

Jonathan H. / 2nd Afia R.; all in favour; approved.

3.3. Science and the UFV Integrated Strategic Plan

Ian informed SFC that the Science Strategic Plan Committee (SSPC) will be meeting on Tuesday, October 12, 2021.

3.4. HR hiring procedures

Concern was raised regarding the new platform that HR recently switched to when hiring new faculty members. Applicants are to contact their referees and have the reference letters sent directly to the applicant and they will upload the letter to the new platform. The issue raised was the applicant having access to the letters of reference. Discussion followed. The Science Faculty Council agreed to put in writing that in principle, they are against this way of hiring people. Lucy advised she will be meeting with HR after SFC to discuss this matter and voice the concerns.

MOTION:

THAT the Faculty of Science supports the collection of references for all job applications in a way that keeps the letters confidential from the applicant.

Greg S. / 2nd Jane W.; all in favour; passed.

4. FSCC (Curriculum Committee) - Ben Vanderlei

For Decision:

Greg spoke to **agenda items 4.1 – 4.4** (BIO 106, 320, 308 and 430) and provided the rationale for the changes requested.

4.1. BIO 106: Ecology from an Urban Perspective (6-year review)

4.2. BIO 320 / BIOC 320: Biochemistry (6-year review)

4.3. BIO 308: Plant Physiology (6-year review)

4.4. BIO 430: Forest Ecology (6-year review)

Ian commended everyone in Biology for addressing the Indigenous perspectives in their course outlines.

OMNIBUS MOTION:

THAT the Science Faculty Council approve the revisions to **BIO 106, BIO 320/BIOC 320, BIO 308, and BIO 430** as presented.

Greg S. / 2nd Cindy L.; all in favour; approved.

4.5. BIO 418: Ethnobotany - New course proposal

Greg provided the rationale for the proposed new course. It has been previously offered as a 4-credit course and enrollment has been very good. It is a standard upper-level biology course regularly offered at other universities.

MOTION:

THAT the Science Faculty Council approve the new course proposal **BIO 418: Ethnobotany** as presented.

Greg S. / 2nd Ruwan K.; all in favour; approved.

5. FSCC (Curriculum Committee)

For Information:

- 5.1. BIO 309: Microbiology I (6-year review)**
- 5.2. BIO 310: Conservation Biology (6-year review)**
- 5.3. BIO / GEOG 335: Methods of Freshwater Ecology (6-year review)**
- 5.4. BIO 360: Insect Biology (6-year review)**
- 5.5. BIO 370: Introduction to Mycology (6-year review)**
- 5.6. BIO 380: Ornithology (6-year review)**
- 5.7. BIO 383: Human Physiology (6-year review)**
- 5.8. BIO 385: Neurobiology**
- 5.9. BIO / BIOC 403: Molecular Techniques (6-year review)**
- 5.10. BIO / GEOG 410: Plant Ecology (6-year review)**
- 5.11. BIO 414: Genomics (6-year review)**
- 5.12. BIO 426: Environmental Microbiology (6-year review)**
- 5.13. ENGR 123: Engineering Design I**
- 5.14. ENGR 153: Structured Programming for Engineers**

6. REPORTS

6.1. Dean's Report - Lucy Lee

- Dr. Darryl Smith is the new Director for International and will start November 1. He is a microbiologist and the former chair of Biology from Langara College.
- Faculty of Access and Continuing Education (FACE) has changed their name and now includes some departments from Professional Studies. Sue Brigden, Dean of FACE is retiring. UFV is working to fill her position by January 2022. Tracy Ryder-Glass, Dean of Professional Studies is the temporary Vice Provost, Academic.
- Science is looking for representatives for various committees. Lucy encouraged faculty to consider becoming a Science representative. Current science faculty vacancies: College of Arts, Access and Continuing Studies, and Health Sciences.
- The format of the monthly reports to the Provost have been updated to align with the Strategic Plan (Engaging Learners, Transforming Lives, Building Community). These reports can be found online: <https://ufv.ca/science/deans-office/monthly-department-highlights/>
- Classroom plexiglass update: Acrylic barriers are being placed where taping cannot be done. Acrylic barriers for the Math & Stats Centre need to be requested.
- UFV WEST held their social event on October 7. It was well organized and attended.
- Out of the 4 UFV WIL grants, 3 came to Science. Robin Endelman for Science Rocks; joint project with Greg Schmaltz, Biology and Steve Marsh, SLUEC; and Shaun Sun, Math & Stats for the DAC.
- LIYSF is on again next year. It will be both in person and virtual so hopefully Science can send a student to London and possibly one or two could attend virtually. A call for applicants will go out in January.

6.2. Advising - Karen Cooper

In addition to gearing up for registration, Advising is encouraging students with 30+ credits and in good academic standing to declare their major. Karen asked faculty to also remind their second years to declare. Advising is also working on contacting students on academic probation.

6.3. Indigenization and EDI

- Ian encouraged faculty to look at Blackboard Ally as a way to give an instructor feedback on how easy and inclusive their postings are.
- TLC is offering a workshop hosted by Lorna Andrews on Oct 20 about territorial acknowledgements. Ian met with Lorna to discuss how the First People's Principles of Learning can connect with instruction of Science courses. He's putting together a document to share with Department Heads and FSCC to possibly help with the process.

6.4. Senate - Jonathan Hughes / Pedro Montoya-Pelaez
Nothing to report.

6.5. Students – Heather Kelly / Manveer Jhamat

The Science Student Centre is now open. Lucy asked the reps to please remind students to wear their masks in the areas. Heather requested that the Student Science Centre be posted on the Science website.

6.6. Other Reports

- **Science Rocks! Days** - There are 4 Science Rocks Days for the Fall with the first one being October 16. Robin will be asking for Faculty volunteers to be the onsite contact person. The first 2 camps are full.
- **Library Report** – Funds are still available to faculty for Science books. Please contact Hongfei.Li@ufv.ca.
- **BSc Committee** – the committee met yesterday, October 7 and are in the process of selecting a new chair. They met yesterday.
- **Physics/Engineering** is looking for an instructor to teach ENPH 310 in W2022. If anyone knows of anyone who is qualified and interested, please have them apply online.

7. INFORMATION ITEMS

- 7.1.** As part of a three-week consultation, the University Secretariat invites your feedback on the request to rescind The Role of the Library (47) Policy. If you have feedback, please submit your comments to Policyconsult@ufv.ca by 4PM Tuesday, October 19, 2021.
- 7.2.** As part of a five-week consultation, the University Secretariat invites the UFV community to submit collaborative or individual feedback on the revisions to the Research Centres and Institutes (211) policy, please review the revised policy and the current policy attachments. Please submit your comments to policyconsult@ufv.ca by 4 pm, Wednesday, Nov 3, 2021.

8. ADJOURN - 2:43 PM