

Faculty of Science

FACULTY COUNCIL  
THURSDAY, APRIL 16<sup>TH</sup>, 2015

MINUTES

**Guest Speakers:**

**Elizabeth Templeman, Coordinator of Supplemental Learning**

Supplemental Learning in Science has really taken off, so thank you to those involved already. For those of you who don't know about us, please see our website: <http://www.tru.ca/sl.html>

**1. Announcements:**

- Wednesday, April 29<sup>th</sup> OM3732 *TRU Branding Outcomes and discussions*
- Tuesday, April 28<sup>th</sup> *Counsellor Conference*
- Wednesday, April 29<sup>th</sup> *Day of Arts and Science*
- Thursday, May 14<sup>th</sup> *TRU Emergency Exercise*
- Wednesday, June 10<sup>th</sup> *Science Convocation at 2 pm (share with Trades)*  
Donna will email re: ordering regalia

**2. Adoption of Agenda/Minutes**

**3. Old Business**

- **Results of Moodle Votes from EPC Report at the March 19<sup>th</sup> meeting:**

**Motion:** "In accordance with approved Operating Procedures of the Educational Programs Committee (EPC) of Senate, which classify course section capacity as a 'Category I' change, the Science Faculty Council acknowledges its responsibility to approve section capacities as proposed by Departments."  
**Accepted unanimously by those who voted**

**Motion:** "Be it resolved that the Faculty of Science establish a committee that will use existing course evaluation data to investigate statistical patterns and make recommendations regarding whether reliable baselines can be established."

**Accepted by the majority of those who voted**

**Motion:** To read the accreditation draft document individually (to post on Moodle and email) and make comments on Moodle. The Faculty Council Chair will then collate the comments and send on to Rick Brewster, the representative on the Accreditation Steering Committee.

**Present members at our last Faculty Council meeting looked through a list of institutional measures and commented on:** a) were they actually measurable? b) did they relate to the intended attribute? c) for a particular attribute, is there other measures which could be employed?

#### 4. New Business

- The Faculty Council meeting for May will on **Wed., May 13<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm in S203**
- Discussion re: Faculty Council meeting in June (and BBQ for June meeting) either Wed., June 3<sup>rd</sup> or June 4<sup>th</sup> – it can't be June 4<sup>th</sup> as that is a TRU Chairs meeting. **ACTION:** Donna to book a room for June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 11 am with the BBQ at noon

#### 5. Reports

##### i) **Senate Report** – Dave Sheets & Cynthia Ross Friedman (**verbal report**)

We don't have an agenda yet for the April meeting and there are no minutes yet from the March meeting. There has been ongoing policy development & approval for ED 3-4 (Academic Recognition) to look at two main issues:

- 1) Accreditation (we already dealt with this), there was a presentation at Senate
- 2) Course evaluations (every course every time), we received a report from Tracy Penny-Light and it been passed at Senate already, however, it was still a healthy discussion

Other Senate Committees:

- (a) **Budget Committee of Senate** – Normand Fortier & Dave Tomkins (**report attached**)
- (b) **Senate Educational Programs Committee** – Joanne Rosvick (**report attached**)
- (c) **Senate Instructional Development and Support Committee** – Nancy Van Wagoner (no report)
- (d) **Senate Promotion Committee** – Norm Reed (no report)

##### 3) **Committee Reports:**

- (a) **MSc Coordinating Committee** – Wendy Gardner (**report attached**)
- (b) **Education Planning Committee** – Eric Littlely (**report attached**)
- (c) **Academic Standards Committee** – Troy Welch (no report)
- (d) **OL Report** – Mike Looney/Dave Sheets (no report)
- (e) **Recruitment and Retention Committee** – S. Purdy/M. Lemphers (**report attached**)
- (f) **Science Health and Safety Committee** – Janine Chan (no report)
- (g) **Steering Committee** – Tom Dorval (**verbal report**)

We need to fill a new committee to investigate statistical patterns and reliable baselines, we need more membership in our Awards committee, we need to elect a Chair and Vice-Chair of Science Faculty Council. I will be putting out a call for all of these via email. If you are interested, please email me.

- (h) **Awards Committee** – Nancy Flood (no report)
- (i) **Research Committee** – Surinder Dhanjal/Sean McGuinness (no report)

#### 4) **Dean's Report** – Bean Counting, Problem Solving, Planning, and Rumours

##### **Bean Counting:**

- Enrolments are apparently stable
- Showed NSSE results 2014 (National Survey of Student Engagement), I asked IPA to segregate the Science areas to show you (we will put up on the website). Our results go up in the category of “higher order learning” by 4<sup>th</sup> year, the B. Sc. is higher than our institutional and also national levels. What I got out of this is we need to try to engage first year students more
- We requested \$430,000 more in new budget. This covers salary, increase to repairs/maintenance, inflation to get supplies from the states (and a general inflation cost), promoting programs and scholarships

##### **Problem Solving:**

- High school enrolment decline is not restricted to our regions (BCOS report from Normand), we can off-set the lower mainland and Alberta where they can't serve everyone
- We are discussing getting a booth for recruiting at the Roots and Blues festival this year

##### **Planning:**

- The posting is now out for the Provost Search. The timeline is to have a successful candidate by the end of June/early July

## **REPORTS**

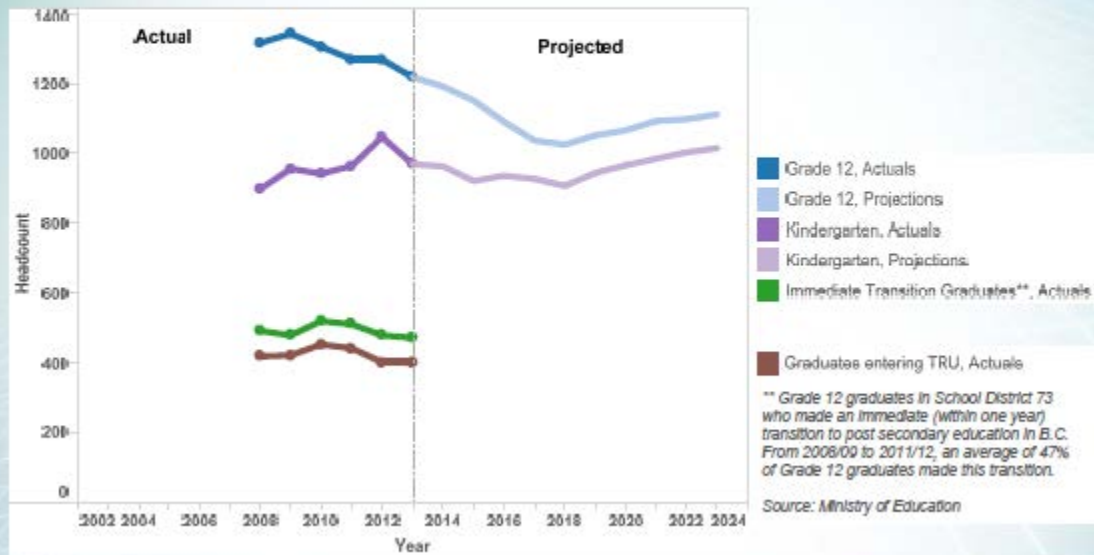
### **Report on April meeting of BCOS (by: Normand Fortier and Dave Tomkins)**

Ron: I would like to see the Faculty of Science plotted (increased enrolments). If we are successful in getting revenue increased, how would we spend it?

Two main items were discussed.

- (1) Increased of tuition fees for the Engineering Transfer program. BCOS voted in favor of the increase. The increase will help fund the costs associated with the expansion of the second year. The tuition fees will be raised to \$166.67/cr for domestic students and to \$500/cr for international students. According to the documentation provided, TRU's tuition fees will remain among the lowest in the province for similar programs.
- (2) 2015-2016 budget presentation. VP finance Matt Milovick summarized to BCOS the budget presentation given to the board at the March meeting. Highlights:
  - a. TRU's operating budget is expected to shrink
  - b. Cost pressures continue to mount (Inflationary increases not funded for example)
  - c. Enrolment is trending downward (3 % on-campus drop forecasted for 15/16)
  - d. TRU's situation is not unique

# Kindergarten and Grade 12 Enrolment Projections School District 73



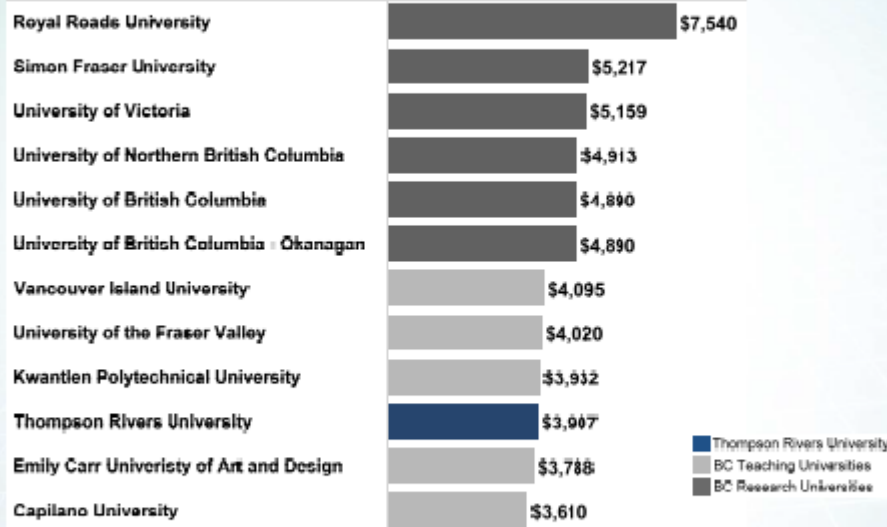
## Operating Grant per FTE 2013-14 Fiscal Year

	Target FTE	Actual FTE
University of British Columbia (Vancouver)	\$14,805	\$13,581
University of Northern British Columbia	\$13,679	\$16,683
Simon Fraser University	\$10,701	\$9,524
University of Victoria	\$10,643	\$10,565
British Columbia Institute of Technology	\$9,714	\$8,605
Emily Carr University of Art and Design	\$9,568	\$8,873
University of British Columbia (Okanagan)	\$9,070	\$9,158
Royal Roads University	\$8,654	\$7,023
University of the Fraser Valley	\$8,043	\$7,952
Thompson Rivers University	\$8,024	\$7,692
Vancouver Island University	\$7,579	\$8,618
Kwantlen Polytechnic University	\$7,382	\$7,213
Capilano University	\$6,915	\$7,235

Note: Includes Open Learning FTE. Does not include International FTE.  
Source: BC Data Catalogue: Operating Grants at B.C. Public Post-secondary Institutions; FTE Enrolment Targets at Public Post-secondary Institutions; FTE Enrolments at B.C. Public Post-secondary Institutions

## Tuition Comparison for BC Institutions

Domestic, Bachelor of Arts, Full Time, Fall & Winter 2014-15



**BUDGET** 15/16

THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY

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### Senate Educational Programs Committee Apr 1 2015 Meeting: Report to Faculty Council (by: Joanne Rosvick)

The following new courses were approved:

1. COMP 2920: Software Architecture and Design
  - new course to meet recommendations put forth by the academic review committee regarding curriculum revision
2. MATH 1650: Mathematics for Computing Science
  - new course to meet recommendations put forth by the academic review committee regarding curriculum revision
  - this course will replace MATH 1380; MATH 1390 will be deleted
3. BIOL 3010: Bioinformatics
  - new course to teach students how to work with large data sets that are becoming common in many areas of biology
  - BIOL 4150 will be deleted; BIOL 3010 will be offered instead
4. BIOL 3110: Field Ornithology
  - new course that has been offered as a Special Topics course but demand is high enough to warrant an ongoing offering

5. BIOL 3800: Fermentation Processes in Food and Pharmaceutical Production
  - new course that has been offered as a Special Topics course but demand is high enough to warrant an ongoing offering (most likely in alternate years)

The following program modifications were approved:

1. Associate of Science, Computing Science
  - change of program as recommended by the academic program review committee; includes new course COMP 2920
2. Bachelor of Computing Science
  - change of program as recommended by the academic program review committee; includes new courses COMP 2920 and MATH 1650
3. Bachelor of Science, Major in Computing Science
  - change of program as recommended by the academic program review committee; includes new course COMP 2920

The following program changes were approved:

1. Bachelor of Science, Major in Computing Science and Mathematics
  - change of program contents as recommended by the academic program review committee; includes new course COMP 2920
2. Bachelor of Science, Minor in Computing Science
  - changes to program content: 12 credits of required courses, 18 credits of COMP electives
3. Computing Science Diploma
  - change of program as recommended by the academic program review committee; includes new course COMP 2920

The following policy revisions were approved:

1. ED 3-5: Grading Systems
  - clarify language, most changes are to graduate programs
2. ED 3-6: Scheduling Course Conflicts
  - request to repeal policy since it is obsolete
3. ED 3-8: Course Subject Acronym and Numbering
  - clarify language to ensure all courses on campus and those offered by OL are consistently identified
4. ED 3-4: Submission of Final Grades
  - clarify language

A note of interest: Department of Education submitted a new program proposal which was approved: Bachelor of Education (secondary), STEM program

Details of changes may be found at <https://tru.civicweb.net/Documents/DocumentList.aspx?ID=74703>

## Update on MSc Program for Faculty Council – April 2015 (by: Wendy Gardner)

### MSc Program Stats

As of January 2015 we have 42 students enrolled in the MSc program, 9 of those being international students. To date 31 students have successfully completed the MSc program at TRU. We have 32 TRU faculty members that are approved graduate faculty in the MSc program along with a smaller group (6-10) of adjunct faculty.

**MSc Program Events** - The MSc Showcase was held in early March and was a great success. We had 11 students give presentations and 14 students' present posters. There were approximately 80 people in attendance and the event generated some media attention. The winner of the top presentation this year was Brianna Iwabuchi with her talk on "Local adaptation to climate variation among marine invertebrate populations on Vancouver Islands' East and West Coasts" (supervisor Louis Gosselin). The winner of the top poster this year was Erika Dufort-Lefrancois with her poster on "Do indol and LPS hug? How tightly?" (supervisor Heidi Huttunen-Hennelly).

The 3 minute thesis competition (3 MT) was also held at TRU near the end of March for all Masters students on campus. MSc student Kristen Marini (supervisor Matt Reudink) was awarded first place.

### MSc Student Defences

We have also had several successful thesis defences already this term:

<i>MSc Student</i>	<i>Supervisor</i>	<i>Date</i>
Kathy Baethke	Lauch Fraser	March 25
Isaac Aboagye	John Church	March 25
Erika Dufort-Lefrancois	Heidi Huttunen-Hennelly	March 31

We have several defences coming up in the next few weeks:

<i>MSc Student</i>	<i>Supervisor</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Room</i>
Terri France	Wendy Gardner	April 17 1:30 to 3:30 pm	OL 127
Amna Farooq	Kingsley Donkor	April 21 10:30 to 12:30 pm	AE 163
Aaron Coelho	Wendy Gardner/ Tom Pypker	April 22 9:30 to 11:30 am	AE 163
Denise Clark	Brian Heise	April 27 9:30 to 11:30 am	OL 127

### MSc Policy Changes

The grading for graduate programs at TRU will be changed for fall 2015. This grade change was requested by the MSc Committee and approved at Graduate Senate. This will be reflected in the new ED 3-5 policy that is currently being updated.

<b>Letter grade</b>	<b><i>New Grading Fall 2015</i></b>	<b><i>Present Grading</i></b>	<b>Grade point</b>
<b>A+</b>	90 - 100	95 - 100	4.33
<b>A</b>	85 - 89	90 - 94	4.00
<b>A-</b>	80 - 84	85 - 89	3.67
<b>B+</b>	77 - 79	80 - 84	3.33
<b>B</b>	73 - 76	75 - 79	3.00
<b>B-</b>	70 - 72	70 - 74	2.67
<b>F</b>	0 - 69	0 - 69	0.00

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## Faculty of Science Educational Programs Committee - Minutes March 30, 2015 (by: Eric Littlely)

**Program Changes, Medical Laboratory Assistant National Certificate Program, OL:** Two changes were proposed for this certificate. The entry requirement of 30 wpm typing is to be changed to 40 wpm on a 5 minute test, to align with the regular Med Lab Assistant program. The clinical practicum course is to be changed from MDLB 1721 to MDLB 1991, which includes competencies for all of the required courses for the National Certificate Program.

The committee approved these changes unanimously.

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## Science Recruitment and Retention Committee report for Faculty Council April 16<sup>th</sup> 2015

(by: Susan Purdy and Mike Lemphers)

TRU Spring Break Open House event (Friday March 27), included:

- Morning Faculty panel: in the Grand Hall, much thanks to Dennis for representing Science.
- Lunch time Resource Fair: in CAC at career table run by Sheri and Christine.
- Afternoon Faculty of Science session was well attended with about 70 to 80 high school students and their families. The session consisted of Senior Science students representing their respective departments by giving a short introductory talk about their experiences at TRU science and then after this we had a 'speed dating' type session where the high school students could move from station to station to ask questions of the senior science students and Faculty members. Much thanks for following senior science students who participated: Mairi Dalgeish (NRS), Jackson Kusack (Biology), Brendan Watson (computing Science), Jamie Shibley and Meghan McLellan (ARET), Zack Palmer (Math), Jorri Duxbury and Ian Rankin (Physics), and Trevor Johnson (Chemistry).

Science Fair (Thursday April 9<sup>th</sup>)

This event was a great success, with much thanks to Janice for its organization and implementation. Multiple workshops were put on by many of the Science Faculty for the science fair participants in both morning and afternoon sessions. Also many of our students acted as tour guides and judges.

Counsellor Conference (Tuesday April 28<sup>th</sup>)

We are expecting 80 -100 counsellors from local region and lower mainland on this day and Science has agreed to host 3 repeated 40 minute sessions to explain our program offerings (12:30 pm, 1:20 pm and 2:10 pm). The various science departments are being asked for volunteer(s) to speak for 5 minutes during one or more of these sessions. This is a great chance for us to educate these councillors about the programs we offer here in Science, and the unique opportunities we can give the students.

Day of Arts and Science (Wednesday April 29<sup>th</sup>)

350 Grade 11 students will be visiting from our region to participate in this day. Science will be hosting them in various workshops over the course of the day.