

Faculty of Science

FACULTY COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY, MAY 13TH, 2015

APPROVED MINUTES

Guest Speakers:

Dr. Alan Shaver, President: spoke about the issues facing modern universities including challenges around demography and enrolments. The priority for student success is a hands-on approach. This is how you get them more career success.

1. Adoption of Agenda/Minutes

2. New Business

- The Faculty Council meeting for June will be on **Wed., June 3rd at 11:00 am in S203, BBQ at noon**
- Memo/Policy repeals

3. Reports

i) Senate Report – Dave Sheets & Cynthia Ross Friedman (report attached)

Other Senate Committees:

(a) Budget Committee of Senate – Normand Fortier & Dave Tomkins (no report)

(b) Senate Educational Programs Committee – Joanne Rosvick (report attached)

Discussion ensued around the fact that there is no policy on midterms. It was suggested that there be the same intent for midterms as for finals, and that it should be a recommendation rather than policy. If anyone has any other constructive suggestions, please email Gord Tarzwell.

(c) Senate Instructional Development and Support Committee – Nancy Van Wagoner (no report)

(d) Senate Promotion Committee – Norm Reed (no report)

ii) Committee Reports:

(a) MSc Coordinating Committee – Wendy Gardner (no report)

(b) Education Planning Committee – Eric Littlely (report attached)

(c) Academic Standards Committee – Troy Welch (no report)

(d) OL Report – Bryan Daly (report attached)

(e) Recruitment and Retention Committee – S. Purdy/M. Lemphers (no report)

(f) **Science Health and Safety Committee** – Janine Chan (**report attached**)

(g) **Steering Committee** – Tom Dorval (**verbal report**)

Mark and Joanna have agreed to continue their roles as Chair and Vice-Chair (respectively) for one year

(h) **Awards Committee** – Nancy Flood (no report)

(i) **Research Committee** – Surinder Dhanjal/Sean McGuinness (no report)

iii) Dean's Report – Bean Counting, Problem Solving, Planning, and Rumours

- We got our budgets with an increase for the Faculty of Science budget. If we don't meet enrolment targets, then we won't get our money the following year. We put a new budget line in for maintenance/repair: % increase to reflect a 20 year cycle, more \$ for maintenance/repair has been added to budget
- There are other things we could be doing, such as trying to answer the question as to why people are not coming to university
- Some discussion ensued about recognizing the need to cover workload for people on sick days/leave. The place for this to be brought up is at our Faculty Leadership Committee
ACTION: FLC to make a recommendation to the Faculty Council

REPORTS

Senators' Report from April 27, 2015 Senate Meeting

(By: David Sheets and Cynthia Ross Friedman)

I. Provost's report:

1. The TRU Learning Outcomes document is ready is apparently ready for dissemination. Senate will see this document at the May or June meeting'
2. A reminder that the draft of the "Accreditation" submission is open for review & feedback. Please see <http://www.tru.ca/vpacademic/accreditation/feedback.html>

II. Academic Planning and Priorities Committee Report:

Senate received Notice of Motion for the following policies. TRU community is welcome to provide feedback to APPC: email gtarzwell@tru.ca by Please see the April 27 Senate Agenda for the policies and proposed revisions: <https://tru.civicweb.net/Documents/DocumentList.aspx?ID=75115>

1. ED 3- 1 Student Attendance: changes are described as giving more leeway to departments and programs to determine policy for course they offer. Concerns with "Faculty" being removed from student attendance determination;
2. ED 2-4 Transferability of University Credits: changes described as recognizing that TRU is unique and as such the PAN Canadian Protocol on which current policy is based is sufficient.
3. Please note that the proposed "Policy on Policies": This policy as proposed would give the TRU President the ability to make changes to regulations without necessarily consulting.

II. EPC report:

An English requirements wording review is needed for all programs. EPC will generate wording changes for recent Bach of Science submission.

III. Budget update:

The VP Finance (Matt Milovick) presented a 2015-16 budget update to Senate; this presentation already presented to TRU Board of Governors (BOG) & the Budget Committee of Senate (BCOS, as reported by N. Fortier at the April 9 Sci. FC meeting). The actual budget is going to the BOG in May. Faculty can view full presentation slides in April Senate Agenda (see link above in II). There were many interesting funding, budget allocation, class size, student enrolment comparators between TRU & other BC universities presented.

IV. Brand Strategy update:

L Gnanasihmany presented a branding strategy update. (At the time of writing this report the Town Hall scheduled for Wednesday April 29th from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm in OM 3732 has not taken place.) See <http://www.tru.ca/marcom/brand.html>

Senate Educational Programs Committee May 6 2015 Meeting: Report to Faculty Council

(By: Joanne Rosvick)

The following new courses were approved:

1. NRSC 4300: Ecosystem Reclamation
 - new course to fill a gap in the program; students in geography will be able to take it as well

The following policy revision was discussed:

1. ED 3-9: Examinations
 - policy last amended in 2009; proposed changes provide clarity to students and align on-campus and OL regulations
 - regarding student conflicts and midterm exams: no student shall be expected to write more than two midterm exams in a 24-hour period; students are responsible for checking course outlines to determine conflicts and notify their instructors about the conflict; the student will be allowed to reschedule an exam
 - discussion focused on many things, especially the fact that there is no campus mechanism in place to assist in determining which instructor must reschedule their exam for the student, and that this will create conflict among instructors and result in one more accommodation in addition to accommodating students who miss an exam due to illness or personal extenuating circumstances; some members of the committee did not feel it would be an issue if only one or two students in any given semester requested a rescheduled exam, but they did feel that it would be a problem if several students requested rescheduling of an exam
 - it was moved that the policy be returned to the policy committee for further review and to try to seek resolutions to the issues that were brought up; comments and suggestions can be sent to Gord Tarzwell
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Faculty of Science Educational Programs Committee - Minutes April 29, 2015 (By: Eric Littlely)

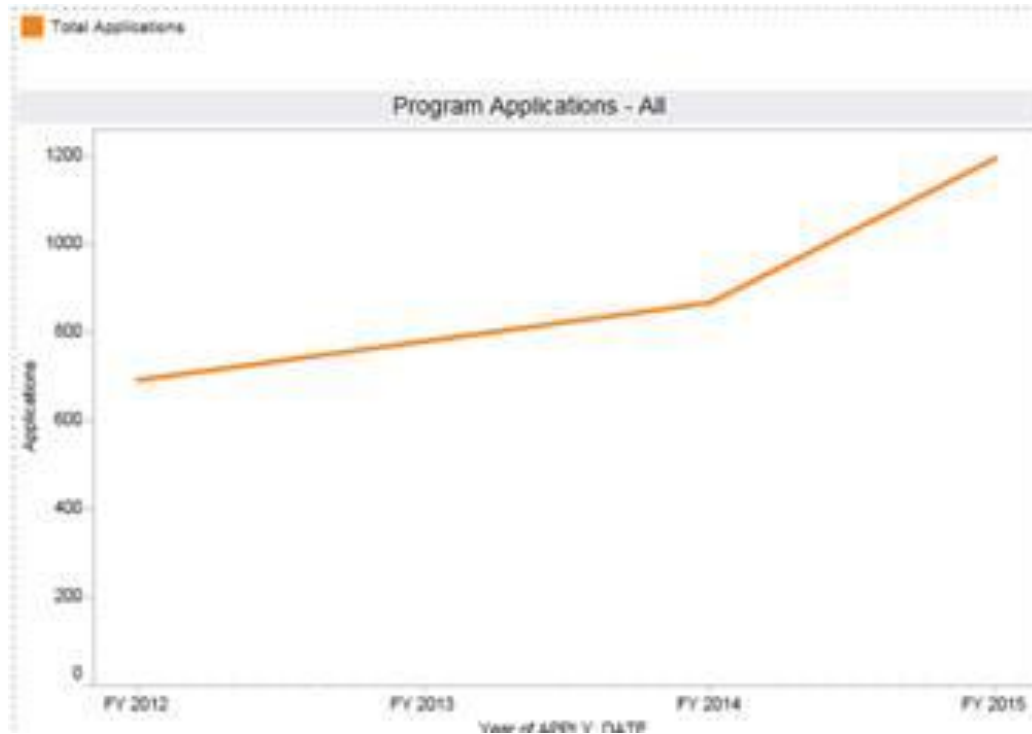
The committee met via e-mail to consider a new course proposal for NRSC 4480 Directed Studies. This proposal had been passed by Science EPC about a year ago, but it, along with several other proposals, was lost

in the transition to Curricunet. As this was a resubmission of a previously passed proposal, we simply conducted an e-mail vote. The proposal was approved unanimously.

OL Report May, 2015 (By: Bryan Daly)

Business Intelligence unit used in a recent sustainability report;

“Program application trends within OL, Science are trending upwards year over year. This positive trend supports program additions” - We’ve (the collective we) done good! I’ve asked for a program and course level breakdown to use for more brainstorming.



Ask Bryan if he wanted to add anything (verbal blurb)

Health & Safety Committee May, 2015 (By: Janine Chan)

In an attempt to continue to support a proactive approach to safety while also keeping everyone aware of the current issues the Health and Safety Committee are dealing with, monthly minutes will be delivered directly to all Faculty/Staff emails from our committee. Committee minutes will still be posted on the Faculty of Science website as well. Should there ever be any safety questions/concerns that you can't find answers to yourself, please funnel your questions/concerns through your committee representative who will ensure it is addressed at our next monthly meeting, May 28th or contact me! Cheers! Janine