



COUNCIL OF THE FACULTY OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

Minutes of the Faculty Council
Tuesday, February 12, 2013
at 3:00pm – 4:30pm
306 Lumbers

Attendance: M. Bayfield, V. Tsoukanova, M. Yousaf, A.M.K. Szeto, G. Monette, S. Jeffers, K. Kroker, M. De Robertis, P. Delaney, M. Caplan, A. Al-Awadi, M. Malhotra, A. Abadeh, M. Gasner, J. Amanatides, S. Alipour-Nazari, S. Benchimol, P. Cribb, D. Hastie, N. Madras, S. Martelli, H. McLellan, A. Mills, G. Turlakis, (S. Siyakatshana Recording Secretary)

1. Call to Order and Approval of Agenda

The Chair called the meeting to order and the agenda was adopted as presented.

2. Chair of Council Remarks

The Chair of Council, Alex Mills, welcomed members to the meeting. He extended a special welcome to the new secretary of Council, Sibonile Siyakatshana.

3. Minutes of December 11 & November 13, 2012 meetings

It was moved, seconded and carried that Minutes of the November 13, 2012 meeting as well as Minutes of December 11, 2013 meeting of Council be approved.

4. Business Arising

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

5. Inquiries and Communications

Council noted the Senate Synopsis of January 24, 2013.

6. Dean's Report to Council

The Interim Dean, informed Council that the work to complete the division of Science and Lassonde into individual units was nearing completion as planned. A report by the Task Force on the future Faculty of Science was being finalized and would be published on the Faculty website in the near future.

The Dean acknowledged and thanked members of the Task Force for working tirelessly in preparing such an extensive document. The document is divided in three parts: enhancing the research culture in the Faculty of Science, advancing and enhancing the student experience and administrative and governance issues.

The Dean expressed his best wishes to Regina Lee in her new appointment as the Interim Chair of the Department of Earth and Space Science and Engineering. He noted that the appointment was necessitated by the recent appointment of Spiros Pagiatakis to Associate Dean, Research and Graduate Studies, Lassonde School of Engineering.

He congratulated John McDermott and Mark Bayfield who were awarded research grants by the CIHR last month. He encouraged all faculty members to take advantage of the research opportunities available to them.

7. Associate Deans' and Bethune Master Remarks

Associate Dean, Robert Tsushima, reported that an open forum for the Research Strategic Plan was happening concurrently with Council. Furthermore, the first draft document had already been published online. Members of the university community were encouraged to review the document and provide their feedback to the Advisory Committee.

He noted that the document was a comprehensive plan reflecting upon the Faculty and research strengths and the emerging opportunities.

The Associate Dean, announced to Council that the Science Rendezvous outreach event will be held on Saturday, May 11, 2013, in Markham and volunteers will be needed for the event. He, however, advised that this year's event will be held in one location only.

Associate Dean, Peter Cribb informed Council that the number of high school students applying to York University for Science programs had decreased this year compared to last year. He noted that some of this was a result of the split between Engineering and Science. Consequently, the Office of Student Academic Services was taking extra steps to improve the conversion of those students who will actually

be admitted to the Science programs. Departments were encouraged to participate and assist with these efforts.

The Associate Dean referred to the announcements of workshops initiated by the Committee on Teaching and Learning. Council noted that these workshops were focusing primarily on learning outcomes at the course level and how one aligns the assessment to the learning outcome within the course. Furthermore, there would be a Speaker Series funded by YUFA which will be graced by expert speakers in innovation, teaching and science.

8. Reports from Science Representatives on Senate Committees

Professor George Turlakis informed Council that the ASCP is undertaking an exercise aimed at reviewing the current practices of the various bridging programs in order to come up with Senate approved processes for future bridging programs.

In addition, the ASCP had conditionally approved some of the programs subject to Council's approval.

9. Reports of Standing Committees of Council

Executive and Planning

The meeting noted the updated Report of Vacancies on Senate and FSE Committees.

The Chair informed Council that the Executive and Planning Committee had approved alternate ways for delivering Agenda and Minutes to Faculty. Council noted that going forward all documents will be posted on the Faculty website before each meeting.

Science Curriculum Committee

The Faculty Council noted and approved the items on the consent agenda.

10. Other Business

There was no other business.

11. Adjournment

It was moved, seconded and carried that the Council meeting be adjourned.

Alex Mills, Chair of Faculty Council