

YORK UNIVERSITY
COUNCIL OF THE FACULTY OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING
Meeting Minutes: Tuesday September 11, 2012

Present: J. Amanatides, S. Benchimol, C. Bergevin, S. Bhadra, S. Bisnath, W. Booth, D. Bohme, P. Cribb, M. De Robertis, P. Delaney, C. Haas, P. Hall, E. Hamm, D. Hastie, A. Hilliker, R. Hornsey, R. Jarrell, P. Johnson, H. Joshi, T. Kirchner, K. Kroker, N. Madras, I. Maimets, K. Maltman, M. McCall, T. McElroy, R. McLaren, A. Mills, G. Monette, L. Packer, S. Pagiatakis, J. Rudolph, B. Stutchbury, W. Taylor, W. Tholen, G. Tourlakis, G. Vukovich, M. Yousaf

1.1 **Minutes of the Meeting:**

April 10, 2012

Moved (S. Pagiatakis), seconded (J. Amanatides) that the minutes be approved as written. **Carried.**

1.2 **Matters Arising**

- There were none.

1.3 **Inquiries & Communications**

-- *There were none.*

1.4 **Dean's Remarks**

- Welcome to three of our new faculty members: Christian Haas – CRC, ESSE; Chris Bergevin – PHAS; George Vukovich -- ESSE

Status of FSE

- Lassonde School of Engineering was founded on July 1, 2012 with Janusz Kozinski as the inaugural Dean. On May 1, 2013, the departments of ESSE and CSE will move to LSE which involves about 65 faculty members, the work is ongoing.

- Imogen Coe has left York and is now the new Dean of Science at Ryerson University; Robert Tsushima is the new Associate Dean, Research and Partnerships in FSE. The Associate Dean, Faculty position will not be filled for the term that D. Hastie is the Interim Dean, ends June 30, 2013.

- Welcome to the new Chairs of Departments: Sam Benchimol – BIOL; Muhammad Yousaf-- CHEM; Neal Madras – MATH & STATS; Amir Asif – CSE renewed.

- He is pleased to announce that M. De Robertis is the new Chair of the Task Force on the Future of Science. I. Coe was the previous Chair.

New appointments this year for FSE are as follows:

- Mathematics for Education, joint with Education. The Deans have met and have agreed on how it will run, and a memo will go out in a couple of days to all who are involved.

- Biology, 3 positions to compensate for 2 mid-career faculty leaves (Coe, Unniappan), and the large increase in enrolments. We note the Department also has two retirements in 2012 and 2013.

- Biology, 1 CLA to replace Tanya Noel who is on a 2-year LOA.

- The University will start their new branding campaign on September 24th and it will run for six weeks, aimed towards students identified by Faculties.

1.5 **Vice-President Academic & Provost Patrick Monahan and Marla Chodak Arrives — FSE Dean's Search**

- The last search was in 2009. The committee was good and so was the outcome. With the establishment of the LSE, we now need a Dean of Science. Thanks to Don Hastie for being the Interim Dean and providing leadership and commitment to FSE.

- They are looking for endorsements. The committee will be made up of six faculty members, one staff, two students (1 undergraduate; 1 graduate). P. Monahan will be the Chair appointed by the President who will also appoint another person, probably a former dean or someone with a lot of academic experience.

- The process will be run collegially with the community. Science is a huge significance in the University as a whole, so we want to build on a great deal of strength and optimism.

- Applicants can be either internal or external to York.

- As in 2009, the process will be confidential; ranking will be submitted to the President. Because of this same process in 2009, we were able to attract a sitting Dean. The President made changes to the process, and as a result, the decision is left largely within the Faculty, so trust your colleagues to weigh the candidates' strengths and weaknesses.

- The process submitted by the Chair of Council seems reasonable and fair, so it can be deliberated on by Council.

- There were no questions.

Item 1.4 Continued --

- D. Hastie noted that there is a change in policy on per diems, they are no longer allowed. Claims for trips taken on University business must now be backed up by receipts and is based entirely on what was spent. The department of Finance is implementing the change as mandated by the Provincial government effective November 1st. A memo was circulated detailing what was going to change.
- S. Bhadra asked why other Universities in Ontario have separate rules for NSERC.
- W. Tholen noted that York lobbied with other universities to the Ontario Government on this issue, and they will not budge. How universities decide to implement a process is up to each one. It is important for York to be in good standing with the province and federal governments because of funding. We will continue to lobby and look into this with the Praise group and with the comptroller. It is quite an administrative burden, but we must weigh things carefully.
- Further discussion took place, and a motion was put forward for a vote.

The following motion was moved by (K. Maltman), seconded by (R. McLaren) for approval by Council.

“I move that the following statement be communicated from Council to the appropriate senior people in the Finance Department, the Vice President of Research and Innovation, the President of the University, and, in addition, raised at Senate, the latter with the goal of formulating a motion there to deal with its substance:

In view of

1. the fact that the existence of Ontario universities *not* applying the provincial regulation forbidding the use of per diems for research travel claims to claims made against accounts, such as Tri-Council grant accounts, not funded from provincial sources, demonstrates explicitly that York need not have chosen to adopt a policy under which this regulation is nonetheless applied to such claims, and
2. the extremely negative impact on research at York the implementation of such a policy would have,

the Council of the Faculty of Science and Engineering request, in the strongest possible terms, that the application of the provincial policy to the use of funds from non-provincial sources be revisited and amended so that the use of per diems will continue to be allowed for claims made on Tri-Council grant fund accounts.”

In favour 19; against 8; abstentions 7. **Carried.**

- N. Madras asked why there is no faculty member representation on the committee who will hire the FSE IT Director, the position left vacant by Doug Reid.
- D. Hastie noted that at the time Doug Reid was being interviewed, there was a plan to have the STSG people support departments, as a result there was departmental representation on the hiring committee. This is no longer the case, and as it is not normal to have faculty members involved with hiring of managers, it will not happen this time.
- D. Bohme noted that the move of the two departments to LSE, rather than people, was not approved unanimously as some members of the units were not in favour of such a move. He feels that this vote all happened before there was a clear vision for the new “Faculty of Science”. He also notes that the vision for each of Science and LSE should first be defined, then each faculty member should be given the opportunity to choose where they want to go. He also feels that there are constraints to the development of the vision for both Faculties if it has already been determined that two departments will move from FSE to LSE.
- D. Hastie noted that the departments voted to move, each individual faculty member is asked if they want to move by a letter sent from Academic Relations. This process is all laid out in the Collective Agreement. Both Faculties are obliged to negotiate with individuals who have questions or reservations about moving. If an impasse, compulsory permanent redeployment is possible but only after the Employer has considered other alternatives, including temporary transfer, and determined that they were not appropriate.

1.6 **Status Report from the FSE Task Force – M. De Robertis**

- All units are represented in the membership which also includes one staff, one graduate student. We are waiting for the final member, an undergraduate student from the Student Caucus.
- The taskforce has been actively engaged with listening over the last few months. On August 15th the availability of a website and blog were announced. The Task Force membership and mandate are there. Everyone is asked to share their views and comments including Alumni.

- There will be town hall meetings for staff, grad and undergrad students to attend. The Chair will also be attending Departmental meetings, soliciting information from libraries and librarians in the listening mode and answer questions.
- Naming of the Faculty is the next thing that needs to be decided on with a motion to the October Council meeting because of Senate timelines. Everyone is asked to share their thoughts and ideas of possible names on the blog, or privately if preferred. The report will go first to the Dean, then through E&P and on to Council.
- What will Science look like after the two departments move to LSE on May 1, 2013? This is something that needs to be discussed on an ongoing basis, so please share your views and visit the website often for updates.

1.7 **Associate Deans' and Bethune Master Remarks**

J. Amanatides, Master, Bethune College

- Made a handout available which shows some of the support programs that are available to students now.

R. Tsushima, Associate Dean, Research and Partnerships

- There is a "Science without Borders" initiative with Brazil available where their government will pay the full funding for 12,000 graduate and undergraduate students to come and do their studies with a Canadian university. If faculty members are interested in these positions, please let him know.
- The deadline for NSERC Discovery grants is November 1st. Internal reviews are available by Paulina and Margaret, so submit yours as early as possible to get feedback before the deadline.

P. Cribb, Associate Dean, Students

- In consideration of the time constraints today, his report will be done next month.

R. Hornsey, Associate Dean, School of Engineering

- All of the Lassonde School of Engineering (LSE) initiatives will come through FSE's Council this year. Senate is set to move ESSE and CSE to LSE effective May 1, 2013. It is good to allow these faculty members time to decide. LSE is having a town hall meeting on September 18th at 3:00 pm, place TBA, primarily aimed at the two departments involved, but all are welcome to attend.
- The Lassonde School of Engineering Dean's Office is located in 150 Atkinson, please visit.
- The 11-12 hiring is almost finished; there will be two Chairs of Departments hired one for each of Mechanical and Civil. They have also been hiring staff members directly into LSE to get things started. A logo for LSE is also forthcoming. Meetings / workshops are ongoing with architects about the new engineering buildings.

1.8 **Reports from Science and Engineering Representatives on Senate Committees**

There were none.

1.9 **Reports of Committees**

For Action

- *E&P Report – Vacancies on Senate & FSE Committees*
- Moved (D. Hastie), seconded (P. Delaney) that the report be accepted as written with the following additions:
Bridget Stutchbury – Academic Policy, Planning and Research Committee (APPRC)
Ian McDade – Committee on Examinations & Academic Standards Committee (CEAS), ESSE representative.

Carried.

1.10 **Other Business**

- Moved (P. Delaney), Seconded (J. Amanatides) that the meeting be extended by 15 minutes. **Carried.**

Terms of Reference for the Decanal Search Committee – A. Mills

- Professor E. Hamm was consulted as the Chair of Council when the last Dean's Search took place. The Draft Terms of Reference were updated and are attached. The recruitment process usually takes 14 months, but we have only 10. Nominations will be sought to fill the slate of the search committee, and e-votes will take place if necessary.
 - N. Madras suggested changing the number of people one can vote for from three to six which is equal to the number of positions to be filled by faculty members.
- Moved (A. Mills), seconded (M. McCall) that the terms of reference be accepted with the suggested changes.

Carried.