

Science Faculty Council Meeting
October 12, 2017
10:00-11:30 WSC 240

Minutes

Faculty of Science Council Minutes – April 13, 2017

The minutes from the April 13 Faculty Council meeting are posted on the Faculty of Science website for review.

United Way

Louise Milligan and Sabrina Tingle, this year's sponsored employee, provided a presentation regarding this year's United Way campaign. Western has been a major supporter of the United Way for the past 12 years and is hoping for an increase in donations over last year. United Way hopes to increase awareness and participation, which will result in a more substantial impact for the community. All funds raised locally are used to support community programs within London, including a breakfast program for children and a support program for local seniors. There is also a matching program in effect and some donation levels will be matched by a generous, anonymous donor. For more information, please contact Sabrina Tingle at stingle@unitedwaylm.ca.

Naylor Report

Mark Daley and Peter White attended the meeting to discuss aspects of Canada's Fundamental Science Review, informally known as the Naylor Report. They also discussed the best ways to reach politicians to garner their support, which include sending only positive messages, and including items that voters will pay attention to, including the benefit to graduate students through research opportunities. It was also mentioned that the former director for the Canadian Foundation for Innovation, Gilles Patry, is now Director of U15, which will have a positive impact in Ottawa for universities. If you would like to communicate with government regarding research or any other science related topic, please do so through our local MPs, Peter Fragiskatos and Kate Young, who can take your messages to Science Minister, Kirsty Duncan. Invitations for MPs to visit your lab or engage in discussion are welcome: please coordinate with Peter White's office.

We Speak Survey

The 2017 We Speak survey had a very good response rate with 58.3% of staff responding and 53.1% of faculty responding. Various aspects of the survey results were discussed and one area for improvement for both faculty and staff was communication. Meeting participants were asked to form small groups to discuss ideas to improve communication within departments, as well as faculty-wide. A follow-up will be provided at the December Faculty Council meeting.

Information Items – presented in the meeting agenda but not discussed at the meeting

- a) **Update on Decanal Search** – The search for a new Dean of Science is proceeding. External reviewers visited on September 18 and 19 and have provided a report to the search committee. Thank you to all members of Science who participated in the review. The committee is

developing a position profile and it is expected that an advertisement for the position will be released shortly. Further updates are expected once the shortlist has been developed, likely no earlier than December.

- b) **School of Mathematical and Statistical Sciences** – See attached memo
- c) **Undergrad Teaching Retreat** – The Faculty of Science will host the 2017 Undergraduate Teaching Retreat at Ivey Spencer Leadership Centre on October 13th. One of the goals for the retreat is to help departments prepare for the Ministry's new Strategic Agreements in boosting our metrics for high impact teaching practices, educational experiences rated by students, and graduate employment rate. **Everyone involved in undergraduate teaching is invited.** The retreat will be delivered in an interactive manner and will work best with representation from every department. Please plan to attend.
- d) **WIN 4.0 Symposium** – IDI-WIN 4.0 (Western's Industry 4.0 Network) program, will be hosting their first annual Industry 4.0 symposium to be held on October 16th. More than 80 industry representatives, faculty members and researchers are expected to attend this symposium.
- e) **Announcements**
- Beth Gillies – Acting Director of the Centre for Advanced Materials and Biomaterials Research
 - Gordon Osinski - Acting Director of the Centre for Planetary Science and Exploration
 - Nusha Keyghobadi - Director of the Centre for Environment and Sustainability
 - Denis Maxwell - Assistant Dean, Recruitment and First Year Studies
- f) **International Week** – International Week at Western will be held November 13-17 and is a campus-wide celebration of all things international (<http://www.internationalweek.uwo.ca/>). International Week is open to the campus community, alumni, and the wider London community. The purpose of the week is to:
- Celebrate Western's international community, diversity and international collaborations
 - Learn about international opportunities for students, staff, faculty, and alumni both at home and abroad
 - Engage the London and campus communities in global learning and intercultural sharing

Instructors will be receiving requests to help Western International advertise the events occurring during International Week to students. First year instructors of key classes will be encouraged to allow a volunteer to come into the classroom for a 5-minute presentation. Upper year instructors will be provided with a PowerPoint slide to advertise International Week within their classes. Your cooperation in helping us to advertise this week is greatly appreciated!

The Faculty of Science will be host for one event during the week: Professor Howard

Alper, O.C., Distinguished University Professor, Chair of the Canvassing Committee to Enhance Global Recognition for Canadian Research Excellence will present a seminar entitled: "Innovation, Science, and Economic Development—Policy Advice and Benchmarking to Shape the Future of a Nation" on Monday, November 13, 2017 at 3:30 pm in PAB 100. Please mark your calendars.

Finally, Kim Baines is working with the International Opportunities Fair and the International Exchange Fair coordinators to help identify students who may be excellent ambassadors. If you know of a student with appropriate expertise who may be willing to participate in these events, please let her know (kbaines2@uwo.ca)

g) **Dean's office move** - With the opening of the new FIMS and Nursing building, FIMS relocated from the 1st, 2nd and a portion of the 4th floor of NCB. This space was assigned to the Faculty of Science. After consultation with several departments, it was decided the best use of NCB was to relocate the office of the Dean and co-locate interdisciplinary professional programs to 2nd Floor NCB. The 4th floor was assigned to the Department of Biology, which already has research labs and faculty and students on the remainder of 4th floor. The 1st floor space will house the Suffel-Dana collection, from the Department of Earth Sciences. The renovated space will consist of collaborative learning spaces for use, primarily, by MES, MMASc and MDA programs. Academic counselling will move to a larger, more engaging space in recognition of the large numbers of students they routinely see. We anticipate relocating in summer of 2018.



MEMORANDUM

To: Members of Faculty of Science

From: Pauline Barmby, Acting Dean of Science

Date: September 15, 2017

Subject: The School of Mathematical and Statistical Sciences

It gives me great pleasure to announce the establishment of The School of Mathematical and Statistical Sciences (SMSS) within the Faculty of Science. Under the leadership of Matt Davison, SMSS will build on the strengths of the departments of Applied Mathematics, Mathematics, and Statistical and Actuarial Sciences to increase the competitive position of Western University's training and research enterprise in the quantitative/mathematical sciences.

This new addition to our faculty will lead cross-disciplinary research in niche and rapidly emerging areas of mathematical and statistical sciences and related areas, while stewarding the strategic development of training programs in these disciplines to prepare our students for pivotal roles in industry, government and academia.

Rick (John) Jardine, Chair of the Department of Mathematics, has agreed to assume the founding role of Director of Research for the School. Geoff Wild, Chair of the Department of Applied Mathematics and Rogemar Mamon, Chair of the Department of Statistical and Actuarial Sciences complete the leadership group supporting the management of the School.

Should you require more detail or wish to engage in collaboration with the SMSS, please contact Matt Davison directly. Alternatively, feel free to bring your questions to the next Faculty Council meeting scheduled on October 12, 2017.

Best wishes to the entire team for an inspired and successful year.

Pauline Barmby