

**SCIENCE FACULTY COUNCIL  
MINUTES**

Friday, October 6, 2023

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<b>Chair:</b>	Michael Hitch, Dean
<b>Present (In Person):</b>	Ian Affleck, Sanchit Arora, Cory Beshara, Margret Bollerup, Karen Cooper, Yvonne Dzal, Semir Hasic, Longlong Huang, J Hughes, Alida Janmaat, Stan Manu, Mariano Mapili, Steve Marsh, Pedro Montoya-Pelaez, Stefania Pizzirani, Renee Prasad, Vanessa Radzinski, Afia Raja, Alan Reid, Greg Schmaltz, Mitra Tabatabaee, Ben Vanderlei, Natallia Varankovich, Debbie Wheeler, Frank Zhang, Dylan Ziegler
<b>Present (Virtual):</b>	Jennifer Barrett, James Bedard, Nathan Bialas, Lauren Erland, Grant Fritzke, Carmen Herman, Ruwan Karunanayaka, Hongfei Li, Jake Spooner, Marina Tourlakis
<b>Regrets:</b>	Carolyn Atkins, Robin Endelman, Anna Kuczynska, Olav Lian
<b>Recorder:</b>	Caroline Majeau

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**1. WELCOME / TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

- 1.1. Michael welcomed our new Student Representatives: Sanchit Arora and Semir Hasic.

**2. AGENDA and MINUTES**

**2.1. Adoption of Agenda**

**MOTION:**

THAT the Science Faculty Council adopt the agenda as presented.  
*Vanessa R. / Steve M.; all in favour; adopted.*

**2.2. Approval of the Minutes - September 8, 2023**

**MOTION:**

THAT the Science Faculty Council approve the minutes of September 8, 2023 as presented.  
*J H. / 2nd Afia R.; all in favour; approved.*

**3. FSCC (Curriculum Committee) - Ben Vanderlei**

**For Decision:**

Stefania and Mariano spoke to **agenda items 3.1-3.3** (ENV 212, ENV 321, and ENV 321). ENV 321 and 345 have been running as a special topics course; ENV 212 is brand-new. Discussion followed on credits versus hours.

- 3.1. ENV 212: Environmental Field and Lab Techniques** (New Course Proposal)

- 3.2. ENV 321: Science of Waste Management** (New Course Proposal)

**3.3. ENV 345: Invasive species management (New Course Proposal)**

**OMNIBUS MOTION:**

THAT the Science Faculty Council approve all 3 new course proposals: ENV 212, ENV 321, and ENV 345 as presented.

*Stefania P. / Steve M.; all in favour; approved.*

Stefania spoke to **agenda items 3.4-3.6** (ENV 299, ENV 399, and ENV 499). These courses have never been used. Discussion followed.

**3.4. ENV 299: Environmental Portfolio I (deletion of course)**

**3.5. ENV 399: Environmental Portfolio II (deletion of course)**

**3.6. ENV 499: Environmental Portfolio III (deletion of course)**

**OMNIBUS MOTION:**

THAT the Science Faculty Council approve the deletion of courses ENV 299, ENV 399, and ENV 499 as presented.

*Ian A. / 2nd Vanessa R.; all in favour; approved.*

Ben spoke to the changes being proposed to the BES and BES-NS (**agenda items 3.7 and 3.8**). Discussion followed.

- Renee recommended adding AGRI 203 and AGRI 306 to the 'One of' list with all the AGRI courses.
- AGRI 371 is now called: Agroecology (to be updated in both BES and BES-NS, List 2A: Society, Culture, and Economy).
- Discussion followed regarding the Stat requirement. The note in the BES-NS preamble should also be included in the BES since PSYC 110 has been removed.

**3.7. Bachelor of Environmental Studies (BES) Calendar Update**

**3.8. Bachelor of Environmental Studies – Natural Sciences (BES-NS) Calendar Update**

**OMNIBUS MOTION:**

THAT the Science Faculty Council approve the calendar updates to the BES and the BES-NS as proposed.

*Steve M. / 2<sup>nd</sup> Mariano M.*

Friendly amendment to include AGRI 306 and AGRI 203 to the list of Agriculture courses.

*Steve M. / 2nd Mariano M.; all in favour; approved.*

**3.9. Bachelor of Regional and Community Planning (BRCP) Calendar Update**

There are no changes to the program. The only update is allowing direct admission into the program. Karen noted that this update will be a positive change for students.

**MOTION:**

THAT the Science Faculty Council approve the update to allow for direct admission to the BRCP as proposed.

*Karen C. / 2nd Mariano M.; all in favour; approved.*

4. **FSCC (Curriculum Committee)**

For Information: Nothing to report.

5. **DISCUSSION / DECISIONS**

5.1. **SFC Terms of Reference**

The updates are still in progress. Michael will bring back to the next SFC meeting for discussion.

6. **REPORTS**

6.1. **Dean's Report** - Michael Hitch

Michael is continuing to meet with everyone within the faculty and provided updates on what he is currently working on. He thanked everyone for their patience and support while he continues to settle in.

6.2. **Advising** - Karen Cooper

Karen advised that the earlier issues with viewing the waitlists have now been rectified. As Science Faculty Advisor, Stan M., is working on the annual plan. He asked if anyone has ideas or would be interested in hearing what Advising can provide to Faculty, please contact him directly. Studying Abroad was discussed. Although Advising does work with these students the initial contact should be through the International office.

6.3. **BSc Committee** - Stan Manu

Nothing to report. The committee is waiting on the decision from the MATH 1XX Committee. On behalf of the Math 1XX Committee, Ben V., advised that they are currently working on the memo and will report directly to SFC soon.

6.4. **Indigenization and EDI**

- Ian and Stefania are working on forming a formal Science Indigenization Committee. This committee will develop a formal Terms of Reference. There is an increasing standard of expectation on campus. If interested, please let Ian know by Tuesday, October 10.
- It was proposed to separate Indigenization and EDI for future agendas. Discussion followed. It was agreed to separate the reports going forward and J offered to lead the EDI discussion.

6.5. **Senate** - Pedro Montoya-Pelaez | Nathan Bialas

Pedro shared updates from the last Senate meeting. The Community Report and plans for UFV's 50-year celebration were presented. UFV's 2023 Community Report can be found here: [https://issuu.com/goufv/docs/p23-48\\_communityreport2023\\_p6](https://issuu.com/goufv/docs/p23-48_communityreport2023_p6)

6.6. **Students** - Sanchit Arora | Semir Hasic

Sanchit thanked the faculty for the opportunity and hopes he can help bridge the gap between professors and students.

**6.7. Other Reports**

- **University ILO Update:** An inquiry regarding the status of UFV's Institutional Learning Outcomes was brought forward. Discussion followed. The Teaching and Learning Centre will be sharing updates soon.
- **School of Computing:** Frank reported that the computing students are looking for good projects to work on. They have a lot of experience and specialties in programming and interfaces so if any faculty are interested in collaborating with their students to contact Frank directly and he can help find a good match.
- **Library:** Hongfei reminded faculty that the deadline to order science books is November 15. The library has a \$5K budget for science books. Questions can be directed to [Hongfei.Li@ufv.ca](mailto:Hongfei.Li@ufv.ca).

**7. INFORMATION ITEMS**

- 7.1.** Monthly reports to the Provost from the Faculty of Science can be found here: <https://ufv.ca/science/deans-office/monthly-department-highlights/>. If you have news to share, please email Caroline so it can be included on our next report.

**8. ADJOURN - 2:17 PM**