

Faculty of Engineering

Faculty Council

Meeting 2019.03

13:00 Nov 20, 2019, in room CBY 707

PRESENT

Officers of the Faculty

J. Beauvais, M. Dube, L. Peyton, M. Labrosse, D. Taylor, J. Zhang, T. Lethbridge, B. Kruczek, C. D'Amours, N. Baddour, C. Rennie, C. Adams.

Professors

A. Sowinski, E. Baranova, B. Lessard, H. Aoude, B. Martin-Perez, J. Infante Sedano, M. Noël, H. Schriemer, H. Al Osman, D. Inkpen, E. Petriu, K. Dolgaleva, J. L. De Carufel, J. Yao, G.-V. Jourdan, B. Dhillon, I. Catelas, T. Uchida

Staff

S. Gandolfini, V. Samson, F. Bouchard.

Students

A. Steeves, N. Bagaria, Y. Liu, S. Knysh, A. Gowling, C. Choueifaty, G. Granata, V. Jidkov.

EXCUSED

Professors

JP St-Pierre, X. Cao, E. Dragomirescu, K. Hinzer, R. St-Gelais, A. Weck,

Part Time Professors

S. Abdul Majid.

Students

I. Alainachi, V. Patil, F. Amini, O. Benning, T. El-Helwani.

ABSENT

Part Time Professors

M. Majeed.

Students

E. Raji, F. Lavergne.

19.03.01 Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved.

19.03.02 Minutes of the last meeting (October 2019)

The minutes had been approved electronically.

19.03.03 Matters arising from the minutes

The following electronic votes had been passed since the last meeting:

ELG-11 To create a new Concentration in Applied AI for the MEng and MASc in Electrical and Computer Engineering.

CVG-12 To create a new Concentration in Sustainable and Resilient Infrastructure for the MASc in Civil Engineering

CVG-13 To allow students in the MEng, MASc, and PhD programs in Civil Engineering to take their compulsory optional courses in either EVG or CVG-coded graduate courses.

19.03.04 Members of Senate

On a motion duly moved and seconded, Faculty Council approved the nominations of Professors Claude D'Amours and Balbir Dhillon as members of Senate, for three-year terms.

19.03.05 Presentation by Jill Scott, Provost and Vice-President Academic Affairs

Dr. Scott introduced herself. Her previous position was at Queens University, where she had become familiar with engineering accreditation. She said that Faculty of Engineering research productivity is a well-kept secret and she wants to change that. She indicated that diversity in faculty, personnel and curriculum will be a priority. Our efforts to address indigenous issues will also be given high priority. She said it is not easy to run a bilingual, multicultural university.

She recently met the Minister regarding our Strategic Mandate Agreement, which she described as friendly.

She addressed several questions about what the university of the future will be like. She said the first question is what kind of citizens does Canadaneed, and following from that, what kinds of competencies do they need. She said people need competences that are transferrable. She believes in the rigor of an engineering education accompanied by experiential learning.

She was asked for a timeline for the budget. She said that there was a recent 5-hour meeting to establish the process.

She said we have to ensure that we are focused on preparing students for the knowledge-based economy.

She said that uOttawa is a good fit for her. Her background is in intercultural communication, language identity and related areas. She said uOttawa is on the upswing, and she is glad to be part of that.

She was asked about our Faculty's need for a pedagogy-focused stream of faculty members. She said that she has to be careful as she is new to the institution, but she recognizes the importance of this to Engineering, where we need P.Eng's to teach. She said that there had been some concern about such people being considered 'second class'. She also pointed out that such professors, if approved, ought to still have a role in pedagogical research. She said it is important not to 'change the channel' on professors who have been trained for a different purpose.

A question was asked about teaching load. Faculty of Engineering professors tend to teach more courses than at other competing Canadian Engineering faculties. She said she was surprised about the heavy teaching load here. She agreed that class sizes are increasing, as are requirements for accommodation and other aspects of student experience. She said she is very sensitive to this.

A question was asked about Kanata North. C. D'Amours said that everybody's plate is already full. We are leaving collaborations on the table. It was pointed out that we are relatively small, and suffered attrition after 2000, and have grown our student body, yet are clearly short of professors despite recent hiring. Dr. Scott pointed out that the university has many constraints and can only hire within the scope of its operating budget.

She was asked about how we could improve our branding. She pointed out the 'bombacity' of some institutions, and that we could learn from this.

There was a suggestion to name recent buildings after donors. She said we have a new VP External Relations who is evidence-based and data-driven, and we are moving in a new direction. She pointed out that we are trying to build emotional ties to the university.

She was asked about the extent to which we can highlight certain faculties during recruitment activities. She said we are going to have to be very aggressive regarding recruitment, given demographic trends. It was pointed out that we are getting much better data than a couple of years ago.

She said we do not leverage our co-op advantage enough, as number 2 in Ontario.

She was asked about whether when we hire a professor is it a priority that they be bilingual on day one of the job. She said it was too early to answer this, but she did talk about hiring criteria in general. She said a first priority is to be able to provide an education in French in our programs; a second priority is professional competence; and a third priority is to support the broader francophone community.

19.03.06 Report of the Dean

Health and Safety

There have not been any reported accidents in the past month.

Cybersecurity

There are several cybersecurity initiatives on campus, including research and training. The Dean is working with CIO Martin Bernier to create a cybersecurity dashboard. 58% of staff and 9% of academics have taken the training in Digital Self-Defense. There were 600 reported phishing attempts last year. All Deans have been impersonated and fake single-sign-on login pages have been used by phishers. 13 academic accounts were hacked in 2019.

Accreditation

We are interviewing for a quality assurance officer.

Professors must have an understanding of the graduate attributes and continual improvement process (GACIP). Performance is measured at the graduate attribute level, the indicator level and the course learning outcome level. The Vice-Dean QATI acknowledged that everybody is busy, but he said that everybody needs some basic knowledge, such as how to lay out course outlines. Professors have to identify the course learning outcomes associated with each indicator assigned to their courses, to assign one or more measurement tools to each course learning outcome, and to track the grades associated with each measured tool. Every syllabus must include a table listing the graduate attributes, indicators and learning outcomes.

The dean said that we can't escape this.

The Dean briefly discussed various approaches to teaching innovation

19.03.07 Report of the Vice-Dean (Research)

The Vice-Dean provided a written report.

Eight researchers visited TEC Monterey in Guadalajara.

19.03.08 Report of the Vice-Dean (Undergraduate Studies)

On a motion duly moved and seconded, Faculty Council approved CSI-01 This request is to change one course (CSI3130/CSI3530 Database II) in the program from “REQUIRED” to “ELECTIVE (CSI or SEG at 3000 or 4000 level)”.

On a motion duly moved and seconded, Faculty Council approved CSI-02 This request is to modify the prerequisites of some courses to better align with the course content.

On a motion duly moved and seconded, Faculty Council approved CSI-03 This request is to remove from our calendar a number of courses that have been deprecated (i.e., that have not been taught for many years and will not be taught again in the foreseeable future).

On a motion duly moved and seconded, Faculty Council approved ELG-09 Minor modification in course prerequisite for two compulsory courses in ELG program. Adding a new prerequisite for ELG4159/4559 and removing one prerequisite for ELG 3316/3716.

On a motion duly moved and seconded, Faculty Council approved SEG-11. Replacement of the Laboratory Component by a Research Component in the description of courses SEG4910 and SEG4911.

19.03.09 Report of the Vice Dean (Graduate Studies)

Ten years ago, we had 750 grad students of which 700 were thesis-based and 100 were international. Now we have 1738 students of which 700 are thesis students.

On a motion duly moved and seconded, Faculty Council approved EVG-14. Creating, modifying and abolishing many courses.

On a motion duly moved and seconded, Faculty Council approved GNG-15 Creating GNG5100 Introduction to Engineering Management, GNG5298 Stage en entreprise / Industry Internship, and GNG5301 Professional Development Workshops. Modifying GNG 5299. There was discussion of the importance of recognizing internship programs, to help our students get the correct visas, and also to ensure our students get experience.

19.03.10 Report of the Vice Dean (International)

The Vice Dean delivered a written report. International revenues are becoming 1/3rd of the university's revenue. We have trained about 400 professors, earning \$2.3 million, supporting 180 students to visit 28 countries. We are hoping to bring over 100 trainees next year.

We are working with TEC Monterey, and want to differentiate ourselves from other programs that also collaborate with them.

The university received a delegation of 14 African Universities.

19.03.11 Report of the Vice Dean (Quality Assurance and Teaching Innovation)

The Vice-Dean indicated that he had spoken during earlier agenda items. In response to a question he pointed out that every program has an Associate head.

The meeting concluded at 14:55.

Timothy C. Lethbridge

Vice-Dean (Governance)