Faculty of Arts and Science Council

Minutes June 3, 2013

1.0 Quorum was not attained, so the meeting addressed items of information only.

2.0 There was a request to add item 6.5, Announcement from the Library, to the agenda. This was agreed to.

3.0 Approval of the minutes of April 4 was deferred to next meeting

4.1 Dean’s report:

- The new Dean, Craig Monk, starts July 1. Shahram will return to the position of Associate Dean.
- Review of the year – a lot of time invested in standards for titling, and the first round of performance evaluation.
- Budget status update 2013/14– we will be hiring three new faculty members (Statistics, Psychology, Chemistry); some savings will be achieved through increased class sizes. It was pointed out that there are likely to be further savings required in future years.
- Shahram thanked everyone for their participation and support in the past year. He expressed gratitude to Pat, Bob and Heather for their counsel and support, to Naomi and the chairs, and noted the particular contribution of Lee-Ann Jeffrey to the considerable workload related to the new rank and title processes.

4.2 Program Committee report:

The committee has had one meeting to discuss the mandate question referred to it. The form of future work on this will be determined in the fall after Craig joins us. Thanks to Gaelan Murphy for his initiative and work on this.

Bob provided an update on the Transitions program proposal, explaining the issue of characterization as a new program or a program change, and the question of whether the program would be considered upgrading by the Student Finance Board.

The Economics, French and Spanish proposals have all been approved for 2014-15.

The proposal for honours in Anthropology may or may not require further approvals, depending on the proposed credential (Bachelor of Arts Honours or Bachelor of Arts, with Honours in...).
5.0 Approval of Department Council TOR was deferred to next meeting.

6.0 David McLaughlin addressed some issues with the 2013/14 timetable, including the time required for referees, and whether department peer committees are free to address these by setting and publicizing their own deadlines. He will take these issues back to URTC for discussion.

6.5 Valla announced that the e-reserve system will be in use July 15. Material can be accessed and digitized for student use through this system. There have been copyright updates that relax the rules around format changes when items are scanned.

7.0 Question period – the University has announced its launch of gmail. Student e-mail accounts will be switched to gmail July 1, but staff and faculty accounts will be at a later date. Student addresses will change from “@mymacewan” to “@macewan”.