

**FACULTY OF SCIENCE  
ACADEMIC COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the meeting held on 27 April 2021 at 3:00 p.m. via the Zoom Conference Application.

**PRESENT:** Vice-Dean David Stephens, Associate Dean (Academic) Axel Hundemer, Associate Dean (Student Affairs) Anthony Mittermaier; Professors Amy Blum, Huy Bui, Caroline Dufour, Maxime Denis, Benjamin Forest, Eric Galbraith, Abigail Gerhold, Daryl Haggard, Barbara Hales, Greg Marczynski, Johanna Neslehova, Ana Nyzhnyk, Gillian O'Driscoll, Kathy Roulet, Clark Verbrugge, Natalie Waters; Rohan Bhutkar, Shereen Elaidi, Armaan Fallahi, Julia Forestell, Gabriela Moisescu-Pareja, Zoya Qudsi, Sneha Shinde; Faye Hughes, Josie D'Amico.

**DOCUMENTS: AC-20-76 to AC-20-96**

Vice-Dean Stephens called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

**1. Adoption of Agenda**

Item # 9, Joint Major in Physics and Computer Science (AC-20-95), was withdrawn from the Agenda.

Prof. Denis **moved**, seconded by Prof. Galbraith, that the amended Agenda be approved.

**The motion carried.**

**2. Minutes of 23 March 2021**

**AC-20-76**

Prof. Verbrugge **moved**, seconded by Prof. Denis, that the Minutes be approved.

**The motion carried.**

**3. Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

**4. Biology**

BIOL 342

Global Change Biology of Aquatic Ecosystems  
Changes: Course Title, Course Description, Restrictions  
3 credits

**AC-20-77**

Professor Gerhold said that the changes in title and description better reflected the course's current content and could increase enrolment.

Prof. Gerhold **moved**, seconded by Prof. Haggard, that the changes be approved.

**The motion carried.**

**5. Earth & Planetary Sciences**

EPSC 240

Geology in the Field  
Changes: Corequisites, Restrictions,  
Supplementary Calendar Information  
3 credits

**AC-20-78**

Prof. Galbraith explained that after running the above course for several years, it was now possible to remove the corequisites, thereby allowing UO students to take EPSC 240, with the permission of the instructor. A member remarked that EPSC 240 was a Required course in two Environment domains (B.A. Faculty Program Environment, Economics and the Earth's Environment, and B.Sc. Major Environment, Earth Sciences and Economics); therefore, the restrictions were revised to read:

Priority is given to students in programs for which this course is required.

Prof. Galbraith **moved**, seconded by Prof. Dufour, that the changes be approved with the above modification.

**The motion carried."**

## 6. **Biochemistry**

BIOC 300D1/D2	Laboratory in Biochemistry Course Retirement 6 credits	<b>AC-20-83</b>
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Prof. Denis said that BIOC 300D1/D2 had not been offered for over five years, and all the students who have taken the course have graduated. The course had been retired from the Biochemistry programs many years ago.

Prof. Denis **moved**, seconded by Prof. O'Driscoll, that the course retirement be approved.

**The motion carried.**

BIOC 220	Laboratory Methods in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology 1 Changes in Restrictions 3 credits	<b>AC-20-79</b>
BIOC 320	Laboratory Methods in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology 2 Changes in Restrictions 3 credits	<b>AC-20-80</b>
BIOC 396	Undergraduate Research Project Changes in Prerequisites 3 credits	<b>AC-20-81</b>
BIOC 462	Research Laboratory in Biochemistry Changes in Prerequisites 6 credits	<b>AC-20-82</b>

Prof. Denis said all the above changes were due to the retirement of BIOC 300 D1/D2 approved above.

Prof. Denis **moved**, seconded by Prof. Forest, that the above changes be approved.

**The motion carried.**

BIOC 311                      Metabolic Biochemistry                      **AC-20-84**  
Changes in Prerequisites  
3 credits

An equivalent prerequisite (CHEM 234) to CHEM 222 was added to the prerequisites.

Prof. Denis **moved**, seconded by Prof. Dufour, that the changes be approved.

**The motion carried.**

BIOC 458                      Membranes and Cellular Signaling                      **AC-20-85**  
Changes in Restrictions  
3 credits

BIOC 456 was removed from the list of restrictions because the course no longer exists.

Prof. Denis **moved**, seconded by Prof. Dufour, that the changes be approved.

**The motion carried.**

BIOC 470                      Lipids and Lipoproteins in Disease                      **AC-20-86**  
Changes in Restrictions  
3 credits

BIOC 570 was removed from the list of restrictions since the course no longer exists.

Prof. Denis **moved**, seconded by Prof. Forest, that the changes be approved.

**The motion carried.**

BIOC 503                      Biochemistry of Immune Diseases                      **AC-20-87**  
Changes: Title, Description  
3 credits

The changes in title and description were updated to bring them in line with the current course objectives and content.

Prof. Denis **moved**, seconded by Prof. Forest, that the changes be approved.

**The motion carried.**

**7. Microbiology & Immunology**

MIMM 503                      Honours Research Project in Immunology 1                      **AC-20-88**  
Course Retirements  
3 credits

MIMM 504                      Honours Research Project in Immunology 2                      **AC-20-89**  
Course Retirements  
6 credits

MIMM 505                      Honours Research Project in Molecular Microbiology 1                      **AC-20-90**  
Course Retirements  
3 credits



Program Revisions:  
- Honours in Physics

**AC-20-96**

Prof. Haggard said the reason for the revisions in the Honours Program in Physics was to allow more flexibility. Removing a Required course to the Complementary list offers students a wider variety of 400- and 500-level courses in the final year of the degree. The overall number of program credits remains the same.

Prof. Haggard **moved**, seconded by Prof. Dufour, that the changes be approved.

**The motion carried.**

## 10. **Other Business**

### **- Joint Programs**

Associate Dean Hundemer said he would like to raise awareness about joint programs, which may lead to graduation delays. The issue is that sometimes U2 (or U3) students no longer wish to complete a joint program but rather prefer one of the two sub-disciplines. However, it has been noted that switching from a joint program to a non-joint program may not be easy because the required courses do not necessarily align with the courses in the regular major program. Associate Dean Hundemer asked that units offering joint programs better harmonize their regular majors with the joint programs to make it easier for students to switch programs, when necessary. On a related note, units should also review their regular major programs. Sometimes, students cannot complete their majors because they postponed taking certain courses, etc. It would be helpful to offer students a fallback program like the Liberal program. Of course, the programs would have to be somewhat well aligned.

As the current meeting was the last Academic Committee meeting of the year, Vice-Dean Stephens said it would be interesting to revisit joint major programs in the 2021-2022 academic year. For the upcoming Fall 2021 semester, it may be necessary to modify the 2020-2021 assessment regulations implemented for remote teaching, including further changes that may be required for remote delivery of courses with an enrollment of over 150 students. Vice-Dean Stephens said more information would be available in the next six weeks.

Vice-Dean Stephens thanked the Committee members for their hard work during a very challenging year, and he added that the meetings ran very smoothly.

There being no further business, Prof. Denis **moved**, seconded by Prof. Gerhold, that the meeting be adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

**The motion carried.**