Minutes of the Mathematics Faculty Council held Tuesday, February 23, 2021 at 3:30 p.m. via Webex. There were 67 attendees.

1. The minutes of the Faculty Council meeting held November 17, 2020 were approved.

2. Report from the Associate Dean, Undergraduate Studies - B. Charbonneau
   - Updates
     - The current practice regarding the release of final exams will remain unchanged.
   - Motion Group 2. New Courses
     - Motion carried
   - Motion Group 3: Course Changes
     - Motion carried
   - Motion Group 4: Plan Changes
     - Motion carried

3. Report from the Associate Dean, Graduate Studies - A. Kolkiewicz
   - Motion Group 1: Combinatorics and Optimization
     - Motion carried
   - Motion Group 2. Computer Science
     - Motion carried
   - Motion Group 3: MMT
     - Motion carried
   - Motion Group 4: Pure Mathematics
     - Motion carried
   - Motion Group 5: Statistics and Actuarial Science
     - Motion carried

4. Report from the Dean – Mark Giesbrecht
   - The Dean noted that we have been almost a year working from home. The Dean thanked everyone for their efforts, and encouraged people who need support to reach out to the numerous resources available to support our employees.
   - The Math Employee Health and Well-being Committee has been formed, and is focused on informing and directing our faculty-wide efforts to improve health and well-being.
Budget update:

- In May 2020, there was a 15% budget holdback applied – 12% of that holdback has now been returned; the remaining 3% will be held by the centre.
- We are in a continuity budget which means that the increases associated with additional tuition and grant revenues did not automatically flow to the Faculty. However, we are receiving approvals for many additional hires.
- The budget outlook for the University is stable but still somewhat concerning; domestic tuition is expected to be frozen for an additional 2 years, and there continues to be a risk associated with our ability to attract and admit international students.
- Faculty hiring in all units of Math is ongoing and we have had a number of acceptances.
- For Spring term, we expect a fully online delivery of undergrad programs. There will be some capacity for in-person grad programs and meetings, if health conditions permit. For Fall term, there are demands on the part of students to have an on-campus delivery; this demand will be balanced against our ability to do so safely.
- The Math 4 project has received approval at Board of Governors; consultations will be starting with all stakeholders.
- Sabbatical relocation - requests for relocation for essential sabbatical purposes require approval from the Dean and Provost. All other University-sanctioned international travel remains suspended.

Strategic Plan Implementation Schedule

- March 4: MSPC will meet to establish priorities
- Spring 2021: Working groups will generate ideas and develop proposals
- Fall 2021: MSPC will meet to prioritize implementation and develop resource requirements.

5. Report from the Associate Dean, Undergraduate Admissions and Outreach - T. Vasiga

- Undergraduate applications for Math closed on February 1, 2021. We continue to have very strong applications, particularly in Computer Science and our Business programs. A full breakdown is provided in the attachment.
- Outreach and Recruitment Activities
  - Waterloo Virtual Open House will be held Saturday March 20th
  - Recruitment activities are focused on individual applicant counseling and webinars.
  - Both CEMC and UAO continue to run virtual school visits

6. Notice of election for Chair of Faculty Council – B. Ferguson

- The call for nominations will be sent via email with exact dates
7. Next meeting is Tuesday, April 20 at 3:30PM.
8. Other business
   - None.

The meeting adjourned at 5:03 PM.
Faculty of Mathematics Council
Faculty Council
Dean’s Report

Presented by: Mark Giesbrecht, Dean of Mathematics
Presented to: Faculty of Mathematics Faculty Council
Date: February 23, 2021
State of the Pandemic University

- It’s been almost a year working from home: Friday, March 13, 2020 was the last time we were all on campus, following the provincewide state of emergency in response to the pandemic.

- I am appreciative of every one of you for giving so much to the Faculty during these challenging times.

- Your enormous efforts are building a strong foundation for the future of the Faculty of Math and the University through the rest of the pandemic and beyond.

- I hope you share my cautious optimism about a coming end to the pandemic but recognize there are still difficult days ahead.

- We also need to think about how to carrying forward the great work we have done into the post-COVID academy

- All of us need help sometimes, and I encourage you to reach out – to your supervisors, Occupational Health, Human Resources, the Employee Assistance Program, FAUW, UWSA, or your Dean – should you need assistance or guidance, personally or professionally

- The Math Employee Health and Well-being Committee will focus on informing, directing, and monitoring our faculty-wide efforts to improve health and well-being for all employees (i.e., postdocs, staff, and faculty members).
Budget Update

- The University of Waterloo is still officially on continuity budget from 2019-2020 carried forward
  - There was a 15% holdback in May 2020 plus a “soft freeze” on hiring; 80% of the holdback has now been passed on automatically
  - Most projects which remained relevant during COVID have now been funded
  - Continuity means that the “true ups” did not arrive automatically
  - Many approvals on hiring and significant expenditures still require Provost approval

- Budget outlook for the university is stable but still somewhat concerning
  - Domestic tuition: expected to be frozen for an additional 2 years (on top of 10% cut + freeze in 2019)
  - Considerable COVID-related expenses
  - Risk/vulnerability on international students

- Math Faculty Budgeting is ongoing by all units under “normal” funding assumptions
  - Faculty hiring in all units of Math is ongoing and we have had a number of offers accepted
  - We have also had the ability to over-offer to some extent
  - You have my commitment, and I believe a strong institutional commitment, to hiring faculty in support of our strong student numbers
Outlook for now, spring and fall

Waterloo is back in the Red Zone

- As of yesterday (Feb 22) the university is open in a limited capacity as before the new year break
- Teaching of Math 136/138 is going on in reduced capacity classrooms
- DC and M3 are open while MC remains closed
- For access to your offices and labs please go through your department/school process as previously defined

Outlook for Spring

- Expectations are for a fully online delivery of undergrad programs
- Some capacity for in person grad programs and meetings is available with approval

Outlook for Fall

- Expectations and planning are for a significant on-campus and online component
- This presents a number of new logistical challenges
- Actual delivery choices will be adapted to the conditions as soon as we have sufficient information
Math 4 Approval at the Buildings & Properties and Board of Governors

Data Innovation Hub
- 142000 sq. ft
- 5 floors
- Estimated cost of $90m
- “Math only”
- Expect groundbreaking in 2022, completion in 2024
- Will be reaching out to units, faculty, staff and students for consultation over coming few months
Faculty & Staff Comings and goings

**Martin Lysy** (Statistics and Actuarial Science) is now Associate Dean for Computing and head of MFCF as of January 1, 2021.

**Bertrand Guenin** (Combinatorics and Optimization) incoming as Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and succeeding Adam Kolkiewicz on July 1, 2021.

**Troy Vasiga** (Computer Science) continuing as Associate Dean Admissions & Outreach, renewed for 3 years from July 1, 2021.

**Ian VanderBurgh** (CEMC) will be continuing as Director of the Centre for Education in Mathematics and Computing, renewed for 3 years from July 1, 2021.

**Lori Case** (Computer Science) is continuing as Associate Dean Co-Op, for 3 years from July 1, 2021.

**Diana Skrzydlo** (Statistics & Actuarial Sciences) will serve as Teaching Fellow starting from July 1, 2021, succeeding Brian Forrest.

**Steve Vavasis** (Combinatorics & Optimization) will serve as Interim Director of the MDSAI program from January 1, 2021 through August 31, 2021.

**Anar Jahangirli** will join as Math Director of Communications starting March 8, 2021, replacing Jodi Szimanski.
Sabbatical and Research Visits

- UW has suspended all University-sanctioned international travel until further notice
- Requests for relocation from faculty members for essential sabbatical purposes require approval from the Dean & Provost
  - This is separate from having your sabbatical approved at some location
- Travel for sabbatical purposes is defined as temporarily relocation for several months to one location.
- No short-term or series of multiple trips will be approved
- Please contact the Dean’s office for the full policy and application for Provostial approval
- Please do not book any travel until it is approved explicitly
  - Failure to do could easily result in no reimbursement
STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLEMENTATION CYCLE FOR 2022/23

MARCH 4
MSPC meets to establish priorities and framework.

SPRING
IWGs generate implementation ideas and develop proposals.

FALL
MSPC evaluates proposals and provides advice to the Dean.

WINTER
Select proposals are approved and funded for 2022/23.
STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLEMENTATION INITIATIVES

Ongoing

- Community engagement coordinator (student and employee wellbeing)
- Increases to top-end undergraduate scholarships
- Graduate student funding (Math IMAE and PhD entrance scholarship)
- MMT scholarships for Indigenous teachers
- Professional development support for teaching

Beginning in 2021/22

- Instructional support roles (MUO)
- Prestigious postdoctoral fellowships (hiring for 2022/23)
- Enhance assessment practices
- Faculty of Mathematics mental health training
- Staff professional development fund
STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLEMENTATION WORKING GROUPS

- People
- Undergraduate Recruitment & Admissions
- Undergraduate Studies
- Graduate Studies
- Research
- Innovation & Entrepreneurship
- Outreach
ENgAGE WIth THE STrATEGIC PLAN

Visit https://uwaterloo.ca/math/about/strategic-plan-2018 to:

- Read the Faculty of Mathematics Strategic Plan 2018
- Submit an idea for an implementation initiative
- Read the annual progress report

- Contact Martha Foulds, Director of Planning (mfoulds@uwaterloo.ca) to:
  - Ask questions
  - Share your feedback with MSPC
QUESTIONS?
Report from the Associate Dean, Undergraduate Admissions and Outreach

Troy Vasiga

February 22, 2021
Faculty application numbers as of February 19, 2021. (Note: These numbers are “final”, in the sense that Math (and Engineering) closed applications on February 1, 2021.)

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<td>785</td>
<td>810</td>
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<td>134</td>
<td>163</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>186</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>144</td>
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<td>FARM - Co-op</td>
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<td>1403</td>
<td>1384</td>
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<td>1521</td>
<td>1472</td>
<td>1194</td>
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<td>FARM - Online - Reg</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>23</td>
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<tr>
<td>FARM - Online - Co-op</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Math Bus - Reg</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>90</td>
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<td>115</td>
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<tr>
<td>Math Bus - Co-op</td>
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<td>532</td>
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<td>670</td>
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<td>2898</td>
<td>2668</td>
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Faculty application numbers as of February 19, 2021. (Note: These numbers are “final”, in the sense that Math (and Engineering) closed applications on February 1, 2021.)

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<td>709</td>
<td>593</td>
<td>639</td>
<td>577</td>
<td>506</td>
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<td>CS - Co-op</td>
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<td>7308</td>
<td>6065</td>
<td>6146</td>
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<td>4483</td>
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<td>2991</td>
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<td>1814</td>
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<tr>
<td>DD (CS/Bus)</td>
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<td>1269</td>
<td>1102</td>
<td>1031</td>
<td>1048</td>
<td>854</td>
<td>906</td>
<td>662</td>
<td>572</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total (CS)</td>
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<td>9286</td>
<td>7760</td>
<td>7816</td>
<td>7386</td>
<td>5843</td>
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<td>4034</td>
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Admissions Update for Fall 2021: Math (and Summary)

Faculty application numbers as of February 19, 2021. (Note: These numbers are “final”, in the sense that Math (and Engineering) closed applications on February 1, 2021.)

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<td>Math - Reg</td>
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<td>626</td>
<td>635</td>
<td>644</td>
<td>445</td>
<td>395</td>
<td>499</td>
<td>443</td>
<td>403</td>
<td>421</td>
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<tr>
<td>Math - Co-op</td>
<td>395</td>
<td>3735</td>
<td>3841</td>
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<td>2666</td>
<td>2629</td>
<td>2173</td>
<td>2030</td>
<td>1687</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total (Math)</td>
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<td>4451</td>
<td>3791</td>
<td>3061</td>
<td>3128</td>
<td>2616</td>
<td>2433</td>
<td>2108</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Faculty</td>
<td>1285</td>
<td>16926</td>
<td>15577</td>
<td>15880</td>
<td>13865</td>
<td>11807</td>
<td>11779</td>
<td>9609</td>
<td>8665</td>
<td>7187</td>
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<tr>
<td># Unique Apps</td>
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<td>12095</td>
<td>12461</td>
<td>10829</td>
<td>9171</td>
<td>8627</td>
<td>7590</td>
<td>6873</td>
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Admissions Update for Fall 2021: Other Statistics

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<th>Location</th>
<th>OSS</th>
<th>NOSS</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Domestic</td>
<td>7178 (42.4%)</td>
<td>2404 (14.2%)</td>
<td>9582 (56.6%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Visa</td>
<td>2096 (12.4%)</td>
<td>5248 (31.0%)</td>
<td>7344 (43.4%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>9274 (54.8%)</td>
<td>7652 (35.2%)</td>
<td>16926</td>
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**Historical Location Percentages**

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<tr>
<td>OSS</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visa</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>30%</td>
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Overall, 28.7% of applicants identified their gender as female, 2.9% did not identify their gender.
Admissions Update for Fall 2021: Other Programs

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<td>CFM</td>
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<td>1161</td>
<td>863</td>
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<td>734</td>
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<td>412</td>
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<td>302</td>
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<tr>
<td>SE</td>
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<td>1921</td>
<td>1517</td>
<td>1359</td>
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<td>1486</td>
<td>1224</td>
<td>1002</td>
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Recruitment & Outreach Activities

- The next recruitment event is the March Virtual Open House (Saturday March 20).
- Recruitment activities are focussed on individual applicant counselling, webinars, and unrelenting email questions.
- The moving of March Break to April has disrupted the original date for the Fryer, Galois, and Hypatia contests. Like all pandemic-related things, the CEMC is adapting and flexing to accommodate schools to write in a wider window. Thankfully, the date of Euclid has not been affected by the shift in March Break.
- Both CEMC and UAO continue to run virtual “school visits”.
- The UAO office has two new faces:
  - Heather Steinmetz is an Undergraduate Recruitment & Admission Officer, filling in on secondment while Amelia Burton is in the Student Success Office.
  - Leanne Zonneveld is the Undergrad Recruitment Coordinator, the role previously held by Jake Riesenkonig.