

Academic Planning in the Faculty of Science



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Faculty of Science Academic Planning

The Context



No comprehensive academic planning has been carried out since the formation of UCC.

- The existing Faculty of Science three-year plan focuses on issues related to the collective agreement (P&T standards), the development of the MSc Environmental Science, and Faculty Governance structure.

More Context



Academic plans are important because they:

- Enable the university's strategic plan and;
- Guide decisions around developing new programs, growing the faculty, and the budgeting for resources

The Context



If we get it right:

- the university will be able to enhance its reputation for being innovative, responsive, and for delivering an exceptionally high quality education;
- as such, it will become a destination for students from across the country and around the world.

The Expectation

The plan will identify how we can:

- improve the overall quality of all existing academic and skills-based programs;
- point out ways to integrate research (in its broadest sense) into teaching and learning;



The Expectation

It will also identify innovative and dynamic programs:

- with characteristics such as cross- and inter-disciplinary;
- that can be customizable;
- provide possibilities for international dual degrees and/or joint degrees;
- have options for accelerated completion.



The Expectation

Furthermore, the plan will provide strategies :

- to integrate Open Learning and face-to-face academic planning and programs;
- to integrate global empathy and global competencies into academic planning;
- to re-invigorate the Williams Lake campus and regional programs;

The Expectation



Finally, the plan will provide strategies:

- that recognize the educational needs and demands of all students, but particularly Aboriginal students;
- to improve student, staff and faculty engagement;

The Expectation



If we indeed get it right, then what our university will offer learners will be:

- a maximally transformative educational experience.

Shared Values



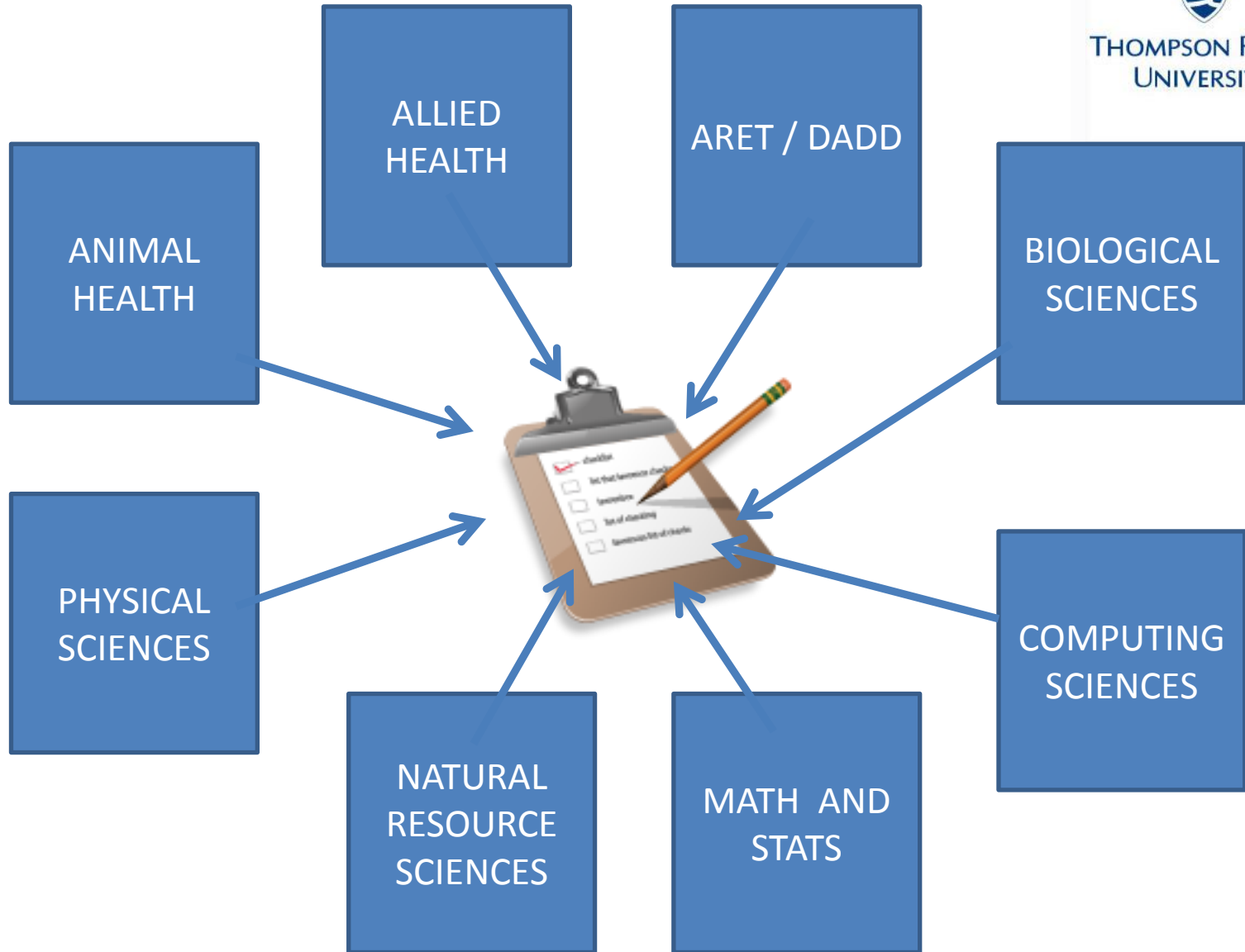
There are campus-wide values which need to be attributes of our graduates

Informed
Global
Citizens

Knowledgeable
and Skilful
Problem
Solvers

Engaged
Articulate
Individuals

Consultation—what we have heard!



What's Next?



Departments should identify what they think are emerging faculty-wide academic themes:

- Arts, for example, has identified several discipline involved with a 'sustainable communities' theme.

As well as themes that cross disciplinary borders.

What's Next?



Departments should identify what their aspirations are for capitalizing on new opportunities:

- Natural Resource Sciences, for example, has identified one University that shares many subject areas with our program;
- Students completing a suite of courses after study at both institutions may receive a dual degree.

What's Next?



The timeline for creating the University Plan is short:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Completion Date</u>	<u>Action</u>
Articulation of principles	November 2010	Provost's Office
Identify existing & planned academic emphases	February 2011	Deans and Departments
Collation/ Synthesis of Faculty documents into first draft	Mid-March 2011	Plan Steering Committee
Draft Academic Plan to Faculties and Schools	April 2011	Plan Steering Committee

Shared Values



In order to facilitate the exchange of ideas, I have set up a blog to connect people with the information they may need and to provide a chance to dialog.

<http://apscience.blog.mytru.ca/>