

Chronological events in the development
of
the Bachelor of Medical Sciences (BMSc) Program

June 1998

Meeting of The Basic Medical Science Chairs Committee (Anatomy, Biochemistry, Biostatistics & Epidemiology, Medical Biophysics, Microbiology& Immunology, Pathology, Pharmacology & Toxicology, and Physiology: Chaired by Dr. Theodore. Lo) with Dr. Michael Owen (Associate Dean, Faculty of Science) to consider a 4 year General Degree Program in Biomedical Life Sciences.

July, August, September, 1998

Meetings were held with chairs of the Basic Medical Sciences departments, and the chairs of the Departments of Plant Sciences, Zoology, and Chemistry from the Faculty of Science. Support was received from Dr. McMurtry (Dean of Medicine and Dentistry), and Dr. Yong Kang (Dean of Science). Drs. Judy Ball (Undergraduate Chair of Biochemistry) and Sally Galsworthy (Undergraduate Chair of Microbiology & Immunology) were recruited to help Dr. Lo in preparing the required documents.

February 12, 1999

The Executive Committee of the Faculty Council (ECFC) of the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry approved the motion: "the ECFC supports in principle a 4 year general Bachelor degree in Biomedical Sciences, be offered through the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry".

March 10, 1999

This above motion received approval from the Faculty Council.

April, 1999

Consultations with the Faculty of Health Sciences, Faculty of Science, Ivey Business School, Brescia College, Faculty of Information and Multimedia Studies, Science Student Council, Dr. Roma Harris (Vice Provost) and Dr. Greg Moran (Provost). Meetings were held with teachers and students in local high schools.

Dr. Roma Harris suggested the name "**UWO Life Science Program**" and that the program be a partnership between the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, Faculty of Science and Faculty of Health Sciences.

April 30, 1999

The Executive Committee Faculty Council in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry approved the "formation of the Life Sciences Program at UWO", and the "establishment of the Biomedical Sciences Educational Policy Committee". This committee was comprised of representatives from each of the 8 Basic Medical Sciences departments, one representative from the undergraduate medical program, two representatives from the Faculty of Science, one student representative. Dr. Theodore Lo was appointed to chair this committee.

June 6, 1999

The "Life Sciences Program" was approved by the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry.

March 8, 2000

The "Life Sciences Program" was approved by the Faculty of Health Sciences.

April 10, 2000

The "Life Sciences Program" was approved by the Faculty of Science.

April 11, 2000

The proposal "Life Sciences Programs at the University of Western Ontario" was submitted to SCAPA by Dr. Theodore C.Y. Lo, Dr. Michael D. Owen, and Dr. Joyce R. MacKinnon. The sponsoring Faculties were: Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, Faculty of Health Sciences, and Faculty of Science.

May 10, 2000

Dr. Lo presented the Life Sciences Program proposal to SCAPA. The Faculty of Health Sciences subsequently decided to withdraw from its participation in the proposed program.

June 28, 2000

The UWO Board of Governors approved the following motions:

"That effective September 1, 2001, a Four-Year General Bachelor of Medical Sciences (BMSc) program be introduced jointly in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry and the Faculty of Science".

"That effective September 1, 2001, the following Four-Year Bachelor of Science Honors Programs be changed to Bachelor of Medical Sciences Honors degree programs:

Four-Year BSc Honors Biochemistry

Four-Year BSc Honors Biophysics
Four-Year BSc Honors Microbiology & Immunology
Four-Year BSc Honors Pharmacology & Toxicology
Four-Year BSc Honors Toxicology with Environmental Science
Four-Year BSc Honors Physiology

July, 2000

Dr. Lo was appointed as the founding BMSc Program Director, and Dr. Judith Ball (an emeritus Professor of Biochemistry) as the part-time Program Counsellor.

September, 2000

Drs. Lo, Ball and Galsworthy promoted the program at the Ontario University Fair in Toronto.

November, 2000

An information booth was set up at the Nov. 18 UWO Fall Preview Day for high school students. A BMSc Open House was held on Nov. 24 for 1st and 2nd year university students.

February 7, 2003

ECFC approved the following motion:-

"That the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry approved the proposed Biological and Medical Sciences **First Entry Program**. The effective date of the proposed program is September 1, 2004".

February 12, 2003

The "Biological and Medical Sciences First Entry Program" was approved by SCAPA on Feb. 12, 2003. This was subsequently approved by the Senate.