



**Faculty of Science**

**3-year B.Sc. (Pass) Degree**

**Major Program Modification –  
Removal of Program or Program Component**

**September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

The three-year B.Sc. (Pass) degree was originally approved in 2003 in conjunction with the UOIT Concurrent Science/Education Program (3 year B.Sc. and 1 year B.Ed). In 2004 the three-year B.Sc. degree was modified to be a separate and distinct degree. The objectives of this modification were as follows:

- To provide exceptional students with an appropriate credential to apply to medical school at the end of three years of study; or
- To provide an appropriate exit strategy for students in the Concurrent Science/Education Program who are unable to complete the Education component of that program.
- To offer an alternate pathway for undergraduate students who have not been able to attain the required cumulative grade point average to proceed to the fourth and final year of the Honours B.Sc. Program;

Currently, these objectives are either not being met or are no longer applicable. The three-year B.Sc. (Pass) degree does not provide an easily attainable route for students to achieve the established 3-year B.Sc. degree requirements. Students who achieve early entrance to medical school following their third year of undergraduate studies are not required to have completed a bachelor's degree, and often do not have the breadth of courses required to obtain the three-year B.Sc. degree. As such, the program has not been fittingly utilized for several years, and currently does not have any registered students.

Similarly, Concurrent Science/Education Program students who have been unable to complete the Education component of that program have successfully moved instead into the Comprehensive/Complementary Studies streams of their 4 year B.Sc. (Hons) program, and have thus not required the 3-year B.Sc. option. In 2012 the Concurrent Science/Education Program was closed (last cohort was admitted in the 2013-14 academic year), so the continuation of the 3-year B.Sc. program as an alternative exit strategy is no longer necessary.

The final objective of the 3-year B.Sc. program, as an alternative pathway for students who have not been able to attain the required cumulative GPA to proceed to the fourth year of their B.Sc. (Hons) program, has also become outdated. There are currently no specific GPA requirements to enter into the fourth year of the B.Sc. programs offered through the Faculty of Science. In accordance with UOIT policy, students must have achieved a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.00 to be eligible for graduation. This requirement applies towards the 4-year B.Sc. (Hons) programs and the 3-year B.Sc. degree and, given the particular program requirements within the 3-year B.Sc. degree, students with lower cumulative grade point averages are not benefiting from changing into this program as was originally hoped. Students within the 3-year B.Sc. will generally still require an additional (fourth) year of study to complete all the necessary program requirements. Similarly, the achievement of a 3-year B.Sc. degree (without honours) can severely limit a student's ability to continue in post-graduate education, and is not necessarily a beneficial asset in today's employment environment. Currently, there is no easy pathway for students who may have previously graduated with a 3-year B.Sc. degree to easily return to UOIT and upgrade to an honours degree. For this, and the reasons stated above, the Faculty of Science recommends the closure of the 3-year B.Sc. program.

**2. IMPLICATIONS**

- a. Faculty members  
There are no faculty members specifically associated with the 3-year B.Sc. (Pass) degree.
- b. Non-academic human resources  
There is no impact on non-academic human resources with the removal of this program.
- c. Courses  
There are no specific courses associated with the 3-year B.Sc. (Pass) degree. All courses which can be applied toward the degree's requirements are core or elective courses within other UOIT programs.
- d. Students (*current and prospective*):  
There are no current students enrolled in the program.

**3. PLAN OF ACTION**

- a. Proposed Date of Program Close and Proposed Plan of Action:  
The Faculty of Science recommends the immediate closure of the 3-year B.Sc. program (September 2015). Given the minimal implications of the closure outlined above, there should be no foreseeable issues with this timeline. The closure of the program will be communicated at the Faculty of Science Faculty Council. There are no current students registered in the program, and the program is not currently listed in the UOIT Undergraduate Calendar, so additional communication will be minimal in scope.

**APPROVAL DATES**

Date of Submission	October 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2015
Faculty Council Approval	October 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2015
CPRC Approval	October 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2015