

Minutes of the Fourth Meeting of Senate
Held Friday, December 1, 2006
ITEC Lecture Theatre, Robertson Library, 2:00 pm

Present: A. Buchanan, D. Buck, D. Coll, K. Critchley, D. Dahn, B. Davetian, M. Doyle, N. Etkin, R. Gallant, F. Gray, M. Hughes, R. Kurial, C. Lacroix, K. Landry, M. Leggott, F. Markham, J. Moran, M. Murray, R. MacDonald, S. MacDonald, P. McKenna, W. MacLauchlan, M. McNiven, J. Nimmo, T. Ogilvie, W. Peters, D. Ryan, D. Seeler, J. Sentance, S. Thomas, J. Velaidum

Regrets: L. Bate, G. Bradshaw, J. Hogan, C. Keen, M.J. McCarthy, G. Pike, K. Schultz, V. Timmons

Absent: A. López, M. MacEachern, W. Rankaduwa, S. Simpson, H. Sutherland

Guests: I. Dowbiggin, D. MacEwen

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The Chair, W. MacLauchlan called the meeting to order and asked for approval of the agenda.

Moved (R. Kurial/D. Buck): that the agenda be approved.

Carried

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - NOVEMBER 3, 2006

Senators suggested three minor amendments to the minutes of November 3, namely: item in the report on the Notice of Motion, should read “feels”; “Stephen” Wakelin should be noted in the President’s Report, and the word “late” should be omitted in reference to the submission by Engineering.

Moved (D. Seeler/J. Moran): that the minutes of the November 3, 2006 meeting of Senate be approved as amended.

Carried

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 3, 2006

None

4. PRESIDENT’S REPORT

- W. MacLauchlan noted that this was the last day of classes. Congratulate undergraduate student on the semester’s work and wish everyone well for the exams.
- Faculty recognition night - December 1st 4:00-6:00pm, Main Building Faculty Lounge. Three colleagues will be presented Faculty Awards for Outstanding Scholarly Achievement (Dr. Ray Doiron, Dr. Robert Haines, Dr. Herman Barkema) and three will receive the Hessian Awards for Excellence in Teaching. (Dr. Susan Dohoo, Dr. Fionna Papps, Dr. Lori Weeks). The event would also be an opportunity to honor 25 year faculty member, Leonard Cusack, and retirees Dr. Elizabeth Epperly, Dr. William Ireland and Lothar Zimmerman.
- The Canadian Bureau for International Education (**CBIE**) has selected the Dean of Education, Dr. Graham Pike for The Innovation in International Education Award for 2006. The announcement was made recently at the CBIE annual meeting in Quebec City.
- Dr Brian Wagner was invited to join 16 other Chemistry faculty from across Canada in recognizing RISE scholars (Reactive Intermediates Student Exchange). Two UPEI Chemistry students were named 2007 RISE Scholars - Laura Callaghan and Jaclyn O’Brien. Of the 15 participating schools, only three have more than one student selected for this honour.

- UPEI received more than \$2.3 million in **Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI)** funding to support research taking place at UPEI's Atlantic Veterinary College and Centre for Aquatic Health Sciences. The research team consists of: Dr. Larry Hammell (Principal Investigator), Dr. Franck Berthe, Dr. John Burka, Dr. Jeff Davidson, Dr. Collins Kamunde, Dr. Jeff Lewis, Dr. Fred Markham, Dr. Don Rainnie, and Dr. Rick Cawthorn. This CFI competition involved a success rate of 18% on proposals and 23% on funding. There were 86 projects approved at 55 institutions. For UPEI, all three proposals submitted made it to the semi-finals, in a process which reduced the pool from 487 to 181. The President extended congratulations to all colleagues involved.
- UPEI will launch the new Bachelor of Child and Family Studies degree in partnership with Holland College, permitting students to transfer early childhood care and education courses from Holland College to UPEI and to finish their degree in two years. The launch will take place on December 5, at 10:00 am in the Faculty Lounge of Main Building.
- Thursday, November 23 saw the release of the University Update. There was good participation and feedback and it was covered on Eastlink and on Radio UPEI. The report focused on the five R's: Recruitment, Retention, Research, Reputation and Resources. The President circulated copies of *University Update 2005-06*.
- The President reminded everyone of the Annual Campus Christmas Reception December 19th McMillan Hall 3-5pm, which includes the presentation of 2006 ASG Staff Achievement Award.

5. DISCUSSION OF POLICY ON COURSE CANCELLATION

The Chair drew the attention of Senators to two items that were part of the documentation for today's meeting: a memo from the VP Academic Development, and a letter from Senator M. Murray. The Chair pointed out that the memo from the VP Academic effectively retracts the policy on course cancellation.

M. Murray offered that his letter had been prompted by a concern with the policy itself, but also by the fact that a policy with academic implications could be set without Senate consultation.

D. Ryan indicated that he felt the concern addressed by his original motion was still relevant, in that the memo from the VP Academic did not preclude the item coming back on the table. He proposed that he modify his original motion to read: "It is moved that the 'Course Cancellation Due to Low Enrolment Policy' *or any other course management policy* to be brought before Senate."

R. Kurial responded that in light of the fact the policy had been shelved, a motion calling for a discussion of a policy that does not exist would be moot. Further, in terms of course management, we are guided by the terms of the collective agreement.

C. Lacroix expressed his concern that broadening the motion would not allow even the most minor of changes to programs without the approval of Senate. N. Etkin responded that the two are separate issues. The adoption of policy is within the purview of Senate, whereas the management of policy is the responsibility of the Chairs and Deans.

The Chair noted that the issue of class size is not one that lends itself well to policy, and we at Senate are not likely to have a meaningful discussion about something in the abstract. He proposed instead that the item be referred to the Senate Steering Committee to ask that there be a document developed to permit an informed discussion by Senate on the question of enrolments and class sizes to take place at the March meeting of Senate.

The Chair sought and received the approval of Senate to have the Steering Committee report on the issue to the March 2007 meeting.

6. REPORT OF SENATE STANDING COMMITTEES

(I) Nominating Committee

None

(II) Third Curriculum Report

The Registrar introduced the Third Curriculum Report and called on each of the Deans to speak to proposals relevant to their faculty. D. MacEwen was invited to speak to the Engineering proposals which had been approved in principle at the November meeting.

D. Dahn wondered at the prerequisite requirement for Geology 211, particularly given that this is the only geology course available. D. MacEwen indicated there is no difficulty to opening the course to the broader university community providing that Engineering students who require it for completion of their program are not denied access. After some discussion it was agreed that the prerequisite item be resolved by the Dean, Chair, and Registrar.

Moved (C.Lacroix/W. Peters): that the following new courses for Engineering be approved:

Engineering 272 - Engineering Project Design I
Engineering 322 - Engineering Measurements
Engineering 372 - Engineering Project Design II
Engineering 382 - System Dynamics
Engineering 391 - Safety Engineering
Engineering 392 - Project Management

Carried

Moved (C. Lacroix/W. Peters): that all the items submitted in this report on the fast track form for the Engineering program be approved.

Carried

Moved (C. Lacroix/W. Peters): that the Calendar entry for Engineering be approved

Carried

Moved(C. Lacroix/D. Dahn): that the Calendar entry for Radiography be approved.

Carried

Moved(R.Kurial/B. Devitian): that the course title for Environmental Studies 202 be changed from “Introduction to Sustainability” to “Sustainability and Sustainable Development”.

Carried

Moved(S. Thomas/M.Doyle): that the following new course in Education be approved:

ED494- Introduction to Teaching, Methods and Schools - French Immersion Specialization

Carried

(III) Second report of Academic Review and Planning Committee

The report of the committee dealt with a proposal for the establishment of a minor in Christian Studies. M. Murray suggested a wording change in one of the stated objectives of the program to reflect, “ understanding how Christian thought has influenced and continues to influence *many of* the social and intellectual movements of Western society”.

Moved(C.Lacroix/R. Kurial): that the report of the ARPC be accepted as amended.

Carried

(IV) Professor Emeritus

I. Dowbiggin was invited to present the findings of the Professor Emeritus Committee. Because Senators had not had an advance copy of the Report, it was suggested that the item be withdrawn and be considered as part of the January 2007 agenda. It was noted that its delay would have no bearing on the consideration of candidates for Professor Emeritus for this year.

7. ANNUAL REPORTS

(I) Academic Appeals Committee

J. Velaidum presented the report of the Academic Appeals Committee. He noted that because of Senate’s decision to consider performance in the first semester only in 2005-06, there were fewer appeals than other years. K. Critchley noted the importance of having a faculty member with experience in supervising and adjudicating clinical rotations as part of the Academic Appeals Committee.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

(I) December Enrolment Report

A. Buchanan presented the enrolment report for December 1, 2006 with comparative figures for 2005. Full time enrolment has declined by 54, but part time enrolment has increased by 230 year over year. Course registration has increased by 161.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Alan Buchanan
Secretary