Minutes of the Sixth Meeting of Senate  
held Friday, February 11, 2005  
ITEC Lecture Theatre, Robertson Library, 3:00 pm


Regrets: G. Bradshaw, D. Dahn, K. Jaipal, S. Lee, R. MacDonald, W. Rankaduwa, D. Wagner

Absent: R. Gordon, K. Teather

Guests: C. Toombs, M. Hannaford, N. Hanus

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

C. Toombs noted that an item 5 (iii) Report of 4C’s re: the Date of First Summer Session be added under Reports of Senate Standing Committees. Senate Representative to bring greetings to the new Chancellor will be put under Nominating Report. Also, under Other Business - (ii) Update on Academic Facilitation Planning Process

Moved (J. Moran/G. Pike): that the agenda be approved with changes.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

L. Hale clarified his comments from the last Senate meeting regarding the selection committee for Registrar. His concern was that a member of senior management was nominated rather than a member of the teaching faculty to the Search Committee for the Registrar. The Chair noted that he had responded that a faculty member who is also a Dean would not be precluded from being nominated to serve on the search committee.

G. Pike clarified the statement in the Report of the Academic Review and Planning Committee regarding the Master of Education students. Fewer students in more recent cohorts are completing the thesis masters degree at UPEI, relative to the completion rate in earlier cohorts. It is surmised that this is due at least partly to the difficulty in completing a thesis and 36 semester hours of credit. The motion to decrease credits to 30 and offer a non thesis option was made at the previous Senate meeting January 14, 2005.

Moved (J. Moran/G. Pike): that the minutes of the Senate meeting held on January 14 be approved with changes.

3. BUSINESS ARISING

The Chair noted that a letter of congratulations was sent to Mr. William E. Andrew, Chancellor-Elect at the University of Prince Edward Island. A copy of the letter will be distributed to the Senators with their package for the next Senate meeting.

4. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

• International Development Week concluded with a fundraising luncheon on Friday, February 4 at the Rodd Royalty. It was a great success. Guest Speaker was Alexa MacDonald, Executive Director, Stephen Lewis Foundation. There were 300 people in attendance. Four scholarships were awarded to students from developing countries.

• International activities continue to grow - there are three students and one faculty member in Kenya; another group has just returned from Haiti; Nursing colleagues from Mexico will visit in March; thirteen Education students will be going to destinations overseas to do their practice teaching; and arts students will be taking part in a Model UN and NATO later in March.

• Canada Corps - this announcement was made in January for the university sector to nominate students to take part, as well as an opportunity to put forward “team” proposals together to work abroad. More can be learned about the Canada Corps from the website (http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/CanadaCorps).

• The EAP program at UPEI will receive a group of 20 English teachers from Hong Kong in June and July.

• The Centre for Life Long Learning announcing a program “Jump Start Your Business” - The program was developed by Doug Hall, founder of EUREKA! This grant will enable PEI companies to take part and
benefit from his work on marketing and business development.

• PEI Learning Partnership - a joint federal-provincial funding initiative with UPEI and Holland College, was recently signed and will bring accessible, affordable and relevant training to public servants in PEI.

• Maritime Education Job Fair is being hosted by UPEI today at the Rodd Charlottetown Hotel. Representatives from 40 school boards in Canada and the US, as well as representatives from Korea and Mexico, are present.

• There will be an event at Confederation Centre on 18th February to honour four graduates who are being recognized as 2004 Distinguished Alumni, Hon. Pat Mella, SDU ‘65 and UPEI ‘74 ; Marion Bruce, PWC ‘62; Luke Chan, UPEI ‘73; and Dr. Rob Arnott, UPEI (AVC) ‘97.

• February 21st a public forum on post secondary education organized by the Student Union, moderator will be Clare Henderson, President of Student Union. Members of the forum will be Hon. Mildred Dover, Minister of Education; Hon. Robert Ghiz, Leader of the Opposition; and Senator Elizabeth Hubley.

• The Installation of the Chancellor will be held on March 6th at 2:00 p.m. at the W. A. Murphy Student Centre.

• Two senior administrative positions are under review - Vianne Timmons, Vice-President, Academic Development and Katherine Schultz, Vice President, Research Development - they are in the latter part of their third year. Colleagues and Senators are invited to offer comments.

• The Registrar’s Search Committee has had its first meeting. The ad has been circulated.

• There are two Deans’ searches - Dean of Veterinary Medicine and Dean of Nursing. It was decided with consultation to have an Internal Search for the Dean of Nursing. Call for nominations was put out this week. The search committee for Dean of Veterinary Medicine will consider a possible extension of Dr. Timothy Ogilvie for a three year term. Comments are welcome.

• The Chair noted that last week he taught the English 101 classes (there are 14 sections), including an assessment of student reading practices and preferred sources of information.

5. Reports of the Senate Standing Committee

(i) Annual Report of the Tenure Committee

Report distributed for Senators’ information. It was noted that this will be last report from the Tenure Committee.

(ii) Nominating Report

University Review Committee - There are two outstanding members, one for Arts and one for Science. This report has taken a great deal of time because it is a very new process for nominating and electing which has not been done before. The Chair of the Nominating Committee feels that the time it has taken will be worthwhile.

The Search Committee for the Registrar has a full complement of members.

The Steering Committee for Senate needs two Senators. This may be an opportunity time to call for nominations. Erin Coady will be the student representative for this Committee. E. Spangler will serve as Acting Secretary of Senate.

E. Spangler, Acting Secretary of Senate, will bring greetings to the Installation of the Chancellor on behalf of Senate.

(iii) Course Curriculum and Calendar Change Committee

(Moved R. Kurial/V. Timmons): that Senate approve the change of the beginning of First Summer Session from May 16, 2005 to May 9, 2005 so that there will be six weeks for classes in the first summer session.


S. Jones noted that her report gives a brief overview of what led initially to the acquisition policy changes from departmental allocations to subject area allocations, and to the Conspectus analysis of the Library’s holdings. The report also speaks to where we stand with our collections budget. She mentioned that the Library is looking at e-books on a trial basis for the next year.
In response to questions from the floor, S. Jones and N. Hanus (Collections Librarian) clarified that there are a number of specialized readers (such as Microsoft Reader) used to access these e-books. The number of e-books available through this trial will total approximately 20,000 titles. The Library is interested in receiving feedback during the trial period. Regarding acquisition allocations, S. Jones recommended individuals contact Norine Hanus if they are curious about specific allocation totals. When funds are being allocated, the level of the program is a consideration. When a new program is introduced, the Library is contacted for input. The Chair expressed appreciation to S. Jones and N. Hanus for preparing the report.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

(i) Enrollment Report
It was noted that the school age population is decreasing and overall enrollment at UPEI is going up. The current grade one class is 25% smaller than the current grade 12 class. Interest was expressed in obtaining data for current and future Grade 12 enrollment. There will be a drop in the number of PEI High School graduates after 2007. This demographic trend is similar across the maritime provinces. Participation of PEI high school grads in UPEI has been rising. The International students enrollment has risen from 2% to 6.5%. The increased enrolment probably reflects the efforts of our relatively new positions of international advisor and international recruiter. We also work very closely with agents. Thanks to the Registrar’s Office team for putting this report together.

(ii) Update on Academic Facilitation Planning Process
There were 16 sessions/discussions with over 220 participants. A report summarizing activities to date went into the mail this week. There are two town hall meetings planned: one for February 23 from 3-5 p.m. in the Faculty Lounge and one on February 25 from 1-3 pm in the AVC Lecture Theatre A. There will be a faculty time social in the Faculty Lounge in Main Building following the February 25 meeting. All are welcome.

The Facilitation Committee does not have a preconceived academic plan, but rather, is developing the plan from process that is currently underway. So far, it has been a positive worthwhile exercise. The success of the exercise depends upon participation. Those wishing to know more can go to the website, which can be accessed from the UPEI home page. The tentative time line is as follows: after the town hall meetings a document will be prepared by the facilitator, the faculties will meet in late March or early April, and a report will be developed over the summer for submission to Senate in the Fall.

The President of the Student Union noted that it was very important to have student and alumni participation in the process, as it is for all members of the University community.

8. ADJOURNMENT
(Moved R. Kurial/J. Moran): that Senate adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 4:05. Carried.

Respectfully submitted

Liz Spangler
Acting Secretary of Senate