

**Minutes of the Fifth Meeting of Senate**  
held Friday, January 14, 2005  
ITEC Lecture Theatre, Robertson Library, 3:00 pm

Present: L. Bate, G. Bradshaw, D. Buck, E. Coady, A. Cohen, K. Critchley, D. Dahn, M. Doyle, R. Gordon, L. Hale, C. Henderson, K. Jaipal, S. Jones, C. Keen, R. Kurial, S. Lee, S. Loucks, M.J. McCarthy, R. MacDonald, M. MacKinnon, W. MacLauchlan, L. Miller, J. Moran, J. Nimmo, M. O'Halloran, G. Pike, W. Rankaduwa, K. Schultz, D. Seeler, J. Sentance, S. Simpson, E. Spangler, K. Teather, V. Timmons, J. Velaidum, L. Weeks

Regrets: P. Courtney-Hall, B. Wagner

Absent: P. Curley, G. Irvine, D. Ryan, T. Ogilvie

The Chair announced Karen Smythes' resignation as Registrar effective January 1, 2005. V. Timmons, Vice President for Academic Development, has agreed to serve as acting Registrar until a new Registrar is appointed. The Chair would like to nominate Dr. Liz Spangler as acting secretary for the completion of the Senate year. The Registrar's Office will continue to provide the secretarial support to Senate.

**Moved (W. MacLauchlan/W. Rankaduwa):** that L. Spangler be nominated to serve as Acting Secretary for Senate. There being no further nominations, the motion was carried.

### 1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Chair added the Report of the Nominating Committee to the Reports of the Senate Standing Committees and move the Report of the Honorary Degree Committee to the end of the agenda since it will be dealt with *in camera*; and under #3 - Business Arising it should read (iii) Academic Regulation # 17

**Moved (G. Pike/D. Wagner):** that the agenda be approved with changes.

### 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Corrections to the minutes included two changes to attendance. C. Toombs stated that K. Jaipal was present at the last meeting. Her name was inadvertently missed. D. Wagner noted he was listed as regrets but he was not a member of Senate at that meeting. He is replacing M. MacEachern who is on maternity leave.

**Moved (G. Pike/D. Seeler):** that the minutes be approved with changes.

### 3. BUSINESS ARISING

#### (i) University Review Committee (URC)

J. Moran reported that the voting process is almost completed with one position in Arts to fill. Dr. Moran will handle the process of receiving nominations for the one vacant position in the Arts faculty. Once this position is filled, an e-mail will be sent to Senators so that they are aware of the completed membership of the University Review Committee.

#### (ii) Update on the Installation of the New Chancellor

The installation of the Chancellor-elect, Bill Andrew, will be held in the afternoon on Sunday, March 6 in the W.A. Murphy Centre. This will be a chance for campus community and others to join in this celebration.

**Moved (C. Henderson/J. Sentance):** that Senate send a letter of congratulations and welcome our new Chancellor. Carried.

**(iii) Academic Regulation #17**

Academic Regulation #17 which dealt with students on probation, dismissals and restrictions was amended at the December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2004 meeting of Senate. It worked quite efficiently through the Registrar's Office on its trial run at the end of the fall semester. It is expected that the Appeals Committee will have some feedback, as it removes the Deans from the process of appeals. V. Timmons thanked W. Rankaduwa for the hard work of the Senate Appeals Committee through the first round of student appeals. The intention of the regulation is to clarify the students' right to appeal decisions regarding their academic progress. It states as follows:

**Academic Regulation #17**

After each semester students are automatically assigned one of the following standings based on academic performance for the semester:

**Good Standing**

Good standing indicates satisfactory performance, with no more than one failed course and 60% in at least half of courses taken in that semester.

**Academic Probation**

Academic Probation signifies unsatisfactory performance which, while not poor enough to warrant academic dismissal, places the student's academic future in question. Any student who fails a semester will be placed on academic probation for a one-calendar period. In addition, restrictions on maximum course loads may be adjusted, and enrolment in an academic support program may also be required.

At the end of the academic year in addition to the above standings, an academic performance review may also result in:

**Academic Dismissal**

Any full- or part-time student who fails one semester while on academic probation will be reviewed by the Registrar and the result of this review may be academic dismissal. A student who fails two semesters in one academic year will be academically dismissed.

Dismissed students are eligible to reapply to UPEI or any other Canadian post-secondary institution after one year. Any post-secondary studies completed during the first year after dismissal are not eligible for credit towards a degree or other credential.

Probationary or Dismissal standings and restrictions on course loads are subject to Appeal.

**Note:** *Any full- or part-time student fails a semester when he or she fails more than one course in one semester or does not pass at least one half of the courses taken within a semester with a mark of at least 60% or better.*

**Note:** *An academic year is from September to April.*

**4. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

- Dr. Smythe resigned as Registrar effective January 1. The Registrar's Office staff is working very well together and doing excellent work in carrying out the functions of the office. Vianne Timmons continues to serve as Acting Registrar. A search committee will be struck and James Moran will speak to that on behalf of the nominating committee with a view to making an appointment effective July 1.
- This was our best year ever for colleagues turning in marks on time. Congratulations to all colleagues.
- At Christmas reception on December 22, the ASG Staff Achievement Award was presented to Maureen

MacKay, Secretary in the Political Science and Philosophy departments.

- The reception held on December 22 for Peter Mansbridge and Rex Murphy was a tremendous success.
- The New Year's Levee saw approximately 800 people within 75 minutes which shows an indication that UPEI is on the main track for the levee going crowds. This is a positive sign of how UPEI is seen in the community.
- On January 20<sup>th</sup>, the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Friends of UPEI Winter Banquet will be held in the Murphy Student Centre. Students from our Music program as well as Improv group Sketch 22 will be performing.
- The International Development luncheon will be held on the 4 of February at the Rodd Royalty. Alexis MacDonald, Executive Director, for the Stephen Lewis Foundation will be the guest speaker. She was previously involved with international development at St. Francis Xavier University.
- Congratulations to all colleagues and students who have taken the initiative to respond to the Tsunami in South Asia. Great response and appreciation to everybody who has been part of that.
- Faculty time follows today's meeting of Senate. We will be welcoming Almut Beringer, the new Director of Sustainability, and a colleague in Environmental Studies; and Dr. Irene Novaczek, Director of the Institute of Island Studies.

## **5. REPORTS OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE**

### **(i) Report of the Academic Review Planning Committee**

**Moved( V. Timmons/G. Pike):** moved that Senate accept a proposal to modify the Master of Education Program introducing a non-thesis program, as well as, the thesis program.

Many students go off Island to complete their Master of Education program because of the non-thesis programs offered elsewhere. It was noted that roughly 70% of the students that went through the MED program reduced to 55%. It was suspected that because UPEI did not offer the non-thesis option this is why students went elsewhere.

The changes are twofold: one of these is the introduction of the non-thesis program and the second is the reduction of courses to 30 semester hours from the 36 semester hours. The question was asked can the thesis be submitted in both English and French. That would be decided if we have the capacity at the time.

### **(ii) Nominating Report**

The Chair of the Nominating Committee brought forward three names for the Search Committee for Registrar:

Richard Kurial - Arts

Stephen Howard - Science

Clare Henderson - student nominee

President's Nominee - Jeanne Lofstedt, AVC

Administrative Support Group - Clive Keen

Three names have been submitted from the Registrar's Office and the office will hold an election

This follows the composition of the committee that was struck in 2002 and it largely follows the composition of the previous Registrar's search committee. J. Moran called for any other nominations. There being no further nominations. Nominations closed.

D. Buck queried whether there was sufficient time to carry out a search. It was felt that the Committee would be in a better position in March, to estimate if the deadline of July 1 was a suitable timeline.

L. Hale noted that he was saddened to hear of the resignation of the Registrar. He was not aware that UPEI was looking for a new Registrar until today. He expressed some concern that the selection committee was a bit rich in the representation of senior management, and lean in members of the regular teaching faculty. He wondered how the committee was struck. The Nominating Committee acted on the initiative from the President. We would like to have the position filled by July 1.

**6. OTHER BUSINESS**

There is the matter of completing the work of the Honorary Degree Committee. Following the December meeting and the approval by Senate of the six honorary degrees for the May 14<sup>th</sup> convocation, the President has been in touch with the recipients for this year. It was noted that one of the candidates may not be able to attend. Our policy is to not award degrees "in absentia" then we would award five as opposed to six this year. The President met with the students who are on the Honorary Degree Committee, and representatives of the graduating class to discuss the question of the recommended speaker at Convocation, and the line up for those who would receive the degrees at the morning and afternoon convocations.

**Moved (R. Kurial/J. Velaidum):** that Senate approve the two speakers and the line up for each convocation.

*Carried.*

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved (R.Kurial/J.Veladium):** that Senate adjourn. *Carried.* The meeting adjourned at 3:55.

Respectfully submitted

Liz Spangler  
Acting Secretary of Senate