

Minutes of the Fifth Meeting of Senate
held Friday, January 13, 2006
ITEC Lecture Theatre, Robertson Library, 3:00 pm

Present: H. Barkema, A. Buchanan, D. Buck, S. Coady, K. Critchley, B. Davetian, M. Doyle, N. Etkin, R. Gallant, F. Gray, R. Herbert, M. Hughes, S. Jones, C. Keen, R. Kurial, S. Lee, F. Markham, L. Miller, J. Moran, M. Murray, M. J. McCarthy, R. MacDonald, W. MacLauchlan, J. Nimmo, T. Ogilvie, W. Peters, G. Pike, W. Rankaduwa, D. Ryan, D. Seeler, E. Spangler, H. Sutherland, K. Teather, S. Thomas, J. Velaidum, D. Wagner

Regrets: E. Coady, R. Gordon

Absent: G. Bradshaw, D. Coll, S. Qadri, K. Schultz, J. Sentance, S. Simpson

Guests: C. Toombs

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The Chair welcomed everyone to the Fifth Senate Meeting of 05-06 academic year. The Nominating Report will be #6 on the Agenda.

Moved (S. Coady/W. Rankaduwa): That the agenda be approved as amended.

Carried

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES from December 2, 2005

Moved (D. Seeler/J. Sentance): That Senate approve the minutes of December 2, 2005 with the following changes. On page 3 related to the Motion made by V. Timmons and D. Buck, the entire title should be inside quotations "UPEI Academic Planning 2005: Guiding Principles, A Report Prepared by the Academic Planning Facilitation Committee based on the 2004-2005 Consultative Process". In the President's Report, December was spelled incorrectly.

Carried

3. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

In his report to Senate, the President noted the following:

- The New Year's Levee at Charlottetown Hotel was a great success with almost 600 in attendance
- The New Residence is in operation with approximately 120 students registered
- UPEI extends a warm welcome to 20 new International students who enrolled for second semester
- Dr. Miles Turnbull, Associate Professor in the Faculty of Education, has been elected President of the Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers (CASLT)
- The Master of Education program in Fort McMurray was launched following the successful program in Grand Prairie
- December marked the release of PWC History, *A Century of Excellence: Prince of Wales College 1860-1969* by author Marian Bruce. Congratulations to Marian Bruce, the talented editorial team, and the UPEI Histories Roundtable
- Two Senior Level Search Committees are in place, seeking a new Dean of Science and the University Librarian
- The University has received a \$500,000 gift from Mrs. Margaret Duffy, to support renewal of the Duffy Building
- An unrestricted gift of \$100,000 has been received from the Chairman of the Board of Governors, Regis and Joan Duffy
- The Dominion of Canada General Insurance Company has made a gift of \$100,000
- On Monday at 7:00 p.m. an all candidates debate on post-secondary education issues organized by the Student Union will be held at the W. A. Murphy Student Centre
- January 16-20 marks the second annual Academic Integrity Week. A number of events have been organized by a team under the leadership of Dr. Wendy Shilton and the Webster Centre for Teaching and

Learning

- At its most recent Board meeting on Monday, decision to confer title of Chancellor Emeritus on Norman Webster, who served as UPEI Chancellor from 1996-2005

4. UPEI CALENDAR DATES FOR 2006-2007

The Registrar brought forward the calendar dates and made note of a couple of changes - the beginning of First Summer Session in May 2007 should be May 14 not the 7; Examination dates for April 2007 should read 11 Wednesday - 24 Tuesday; and within the First Summer Session the last day of First Summer Session courses should be June 21 not the 14.

There was some discussion of the mid-semester break; whether we should or should not have a break. R. Gallant said it was more of a psychological break and a chance for students to confer with their professors.

Moved (D. Seeler/S. Coady): That Senate approve the revised Calendar Dates.

Carried

5. FIRST SEMESTER STUDENT SUCCESS AND RETENTION

The Registrar presented data on student success and retention from first semester. It appears that the number of “warning” letters issued to students with poor performance has decreased by approximately 40 per cent over the past year.

W. Rankaduwa expressed his pleasure at the positive results within the report, but added some concerns regarding the process for determining academic status. In particular, he expressed his desire that Deans continue to be engaged in the process.

There was some discussion about number grades versus letter grades. The Registrar indicated that the Retention Analysis working group is looking at alternative definitions of the concept of “failed semester” including an examination of the merits of a GPA assessment approach.

6. FOURTH REPORT OF SENATE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Moved (J. Moran/D. Seeler): that Senate approve the Fourth report of the Senate Nominating Committee:

Research Grants Committee

Lisa Chilton (Arts)

Cezar Câmpeanu (Science)

University Review Committee (Replacement for Rosemary Herbert)

Mary Jean McCarthy (Nursing)

Carried

7. ADJOURNMENT

Moved (J. Moran/D. Buck): that Senate adjourn at 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Buchanan
Secretary