

Minutes of the Sixth Meeting of Senate
Held Friday, March 9, 2007
ITEC Lecture Theatre, Robertson Library, 3:00 p.m.

Present: L. Bate, A. Buchanan, D. Buck, K. Critchley, D. Dahn, B. Davetian, M. Doyle, R. Gallant, F. Gray, J. Hogan, M. Hughes, C. Keen, R. Kurial, C. Lacroix, K. Landry, M. Leggott, A. Lopez, F. Markham, M. Murray, M. J. McCarthy, R. MacDonald, S. MacDonald, M. MacEachern, W. MacLauchlan, M. McNiven, J. Nimmo, W. Peters, G. Pike, W. Rankaduwa, D. Ryan, D. Seeler, J. Sentance, W. Shilton, S. Simpson, H. Sutherland, S. Thomas, J. Velaidum

Regrets: N. Etkin, P. McKenna, K. Schultz, V. Timmons

Absent: G. Bradshaw, J. Moran, T. Ogilvie

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - February 9, 2007

B. Davetian and D. Ryan noted that they should be listed as “regrets” for the February 9 meeting .

Moved (G. Pike/): that the minutes of the February 9, 2007 meeting of Senate be approved as amended.

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES - February 9, 2007

The Chair updated Senators regarding the confirmation of honorary degrees. This was an *in camera* session.

4. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

- The President reported that the number of applications and early offers is up modestly over this time last year. Part of the reason for this can be attributed to the high calibre advertisement campaign which the university has launched using various media including newspaper, radio and the web. The objective is to encourage students to come for a campus visit.
- The university has also undertaken a re-profiling and enhancement of its scholarships, including changing the Inspiring Excellence award to \$1,000 and initiating a new scholarship called the Leaders of Tomorrow, a \$2000 entrance scholarship. The President noted that we are in a very competitive environment and universities around the region are all facing the same issues of declining numbers of high school graduates and increasing competition for students.
- UPEI has recently struck a new agreement with Misr International University in Cairo which will facilitate exchanges for both faculty and students.
- We recently hosted two open forums on research; last Thursday and Friday. As well, social sciences and humanities students and researchers in PEI will soon have direct access to many of the world’s largest leading electronic journals and resources through Robertson Library at UPEI. Robertson Library is part of the consortium of Canadian Research Knowledge Network who received funding to establish an electronic network.
- The President noted the observation of National Women’s Day on campus, and the fact that the recent Career Day was very successful. The new Campus Information Screens have been installed around the campus and appear to be well used by Departments to promote events.
- In upcoming events, the President noted that the Grad Studies and Research Days for Atlantic Veterinary College are coming up on March 25 & 26; the 30th Annual Business Society Luncheon will be held on March 23, with guest speaker Alex MacBeath, FCA, an alumnus of UPEI; the Annual PEI Science Fair will be hosted here on April 4.
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- The President noted the successful book launch for colleague, Dr. Etienne Côté, Assistant Professor of Companion Animals, on Valentine's Day.
- And on a sad note, the President acknowledged the death of former Chancellor Doris Anderson, who passed away recently in Toronto. There will be a memorial service for former Chancellor Anderson in Toronto on May 12, which is also the day of our Convocation.

5. REGISTRAR'S OFFICE CURRICULUM REPORT

FACULTY OF ARTS

Island Studies

Moved (R. Kurial/W. Rankaduwa): that Senate approve the following new courses:

Island Studies 209 - Special Topics
Island Studies 309 - Special Topics
Island Studies 409 - Special Topics

Carried

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Moved (R. MacDonald/M. MacEachern): that Senate approve the following prerequisite changes:

Accounting 302 - change prerequisite from Acct 301 to "A minimum grade of 60% in Acct 301 or permission of the instructor"

Accounting 322 - change prerequisite from Acct 302 to "A minimum grade of 60% in Acct 302 or permission of the instructor"

Accounting 401 - change prerequisite from Acct 302 to "A minimum grade of 60% in Acct 302 or permission of the instructor"

Accounting 402 - change prerequisite from Acct 302 to "A minimum grade of 60% in Acct 401 or permission of the instructor"

Accounting 411 - change prerequisite from Acct 302 or permission of instructor to "A minimum grade of 60% in Acct 302 or permission of the instructor"

Accounting 412 - change prerequisite from Acct 411 to "A minimum grade of 60% in Acct 411 or permission of the instructor"

Accounting 415 - change prerequisite from Acct 302 to "A minimum grade of 60% in Acct 302 or permission of the instructor"

Carried.

Moved (D. Seeler/W. Shilton): that Senate approve the following changes to General Academic Regulation 1 e): A candidate for a degree must complete at least one-half of the required course work at UPEI; normally, these will be the final 60 semester hours of the degree. Exceptions will be made only with the permission of the Dean.

Carried (with 2 Abstentions)

Moved (W. Peters/R. Kurial): that Senate approve the following change to General Academic Regulation 2:

Students...are cautioned that some courses over 10 years old may be deemed inappropriate by the Dean of the program to which the student has applied and may require substitution. [...]

Carried.

6. ANNUAL REPORT OF SENATE COMMITTEE ON THE ENHANCEMENT OF TEACHING

J. Velaidum drew Senate's attention to the second sentence of the report under Mandate, Goals and Overview. He questioned whether UPEI had identified "teaching excellence as the most important factor in all considerations for promotion and tenure". The Chair, in response, noted that the Report is that of the Committee, and it is not within the mandate of Senate to amend it. He assured Senator Velaidum that his observation would be noted in the minutes and drawn to the attention of the committee.

Received.

7. ENROLMENT ANALYSIS COMMITTEE REPORT

C. Keen presented enrolment statistics from the fall 2006 semester. In particular, it was noted that enrolment and graduation projections for PEI high schools continue to decline through to 2015. This will significantly impact enrolments at university. We have reached our highest number in terms of students this past term at 4075 full and part-time, however, course enrolments were at the second highest level in the university's history. The report also underlined the shift in gender balance over the past 35 years. Whereas in 1972 there were 127 male students for every 100 female students, now there are 56 males for every 100 females.

A. Lopez noted that Czechoslovakia was listed as a country of origin for one foreign student. He pointed out this should be either Slovakia or the Czech Republic.

J. Sentence commented that the graph regarding provincial enrolments is based upon September 2004 class enrolments. He asked why we wouldn't the update for 2005. The Chair responded that he had just received the updated information and it would be made available to Senators.

8. UPDATE ON CAMPUS-WIDE CURRICULUM DISCUSSION

D. Buck reported that the APFC continues to meet every two weeks and is working on the various themes outlined in the document. The Group of 7 also continues to meet with faculties to facilitate discussions on student engagement and curriculum. A technology sub-committee has been formed. Because the subcommittees will not have completed their work before April, APFC will not be able to report to Senate in April as had been originally planned. However, the Committee will report to Senate at the first meeting in September.

The Chair expressed his hope that the work of the APFC would be advanced to such a point as to guide our student engagement initiatives for the incoming class (fall 2007). It was suggested that a draft report be made available so initiatives could be taken for the first year class in September.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:26

Respectfully Submitted,

Alan Buchanan
Registrar and Secretary to Senate