

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

Present: L. Bate, G. Bradshaw, A. Buchanan, D. Buck, K. Critchley, M. Doyle, N. Etkin, R. Gallant, F. Gray, J. Hogan, M. Hughes, C. Keen, R. Kurial, C. Lacroix, K. Landry, F. Markham, J. Moran, M. Murray, M.J. McCarthy, R. MacDonald, S. MacDonald, P. McKenna, W. MacLauchlan, M. McNiven, J. Nimmo, T. Ogilvie, W. Peters, K. Schultz, J. Sentance, S. Thomas, V. Timmons, J. Velaidum

Regrets: D. Coll, D. Dahn, B. Davetian, M. Leggott, A. Lopez, G. Pike, D. Ryan, D. Seeler

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

Guest: Yuqin Gong

The Chair called the meeting to order and welcomed the new student senators, namely; Kristen Landry, and Sarah MacDonald. He also welcomed Yuqin Gong, Institutional Research.

1. AGENDA

Update on enrollments will be added to the agenda under item #3. Business Arising from the minutes.

Moved (C. Lacroix/R. MacDonald): that the agenda be approved as amended.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES - SEPTEMBER 8, 2006

It was noted that the last sentence on page 7 should read as follows: V. Timmons stressed the importance of depth and breadth in students' programs and, in order to achieve this, all departments are encouraged to justify any prerequisite which is requested.

Moved (C. Lacroix/R. MacDonald): that the minutes be approved as amended.

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF September 8, 2006

(i) National Survey of Student Engagement Presentation

C. Keen made an extensive presentation on the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE). The survey obtains information from first and fourth year students on 86 different aspects of their educational experience. Forty-two percent of invited UPEI students took part, compared to a NSSE average of 39%. UPEI gained benchmark scores for both first and fourth years in five categories: Level of Academic Challenge; Active and Collaborative Learning; Student-Faculty Interaction; Enriching Education Experience, and Supportive Campus Environment. The survey showed a very positive experience for fourth-year students at UPEI in the majority of areas researched. The overall evaluation of university experience for fourth year students was extremely high compared to Canada, US and NSSE.

UPEI is below average in two areas for first year students: Enriching Educational Experience, and Level of Academic Challenge. These two areas focus on the academic planning exercise under Theme 2: Making the student experience the hallmark of UPEI distinctiveness and Theme 3: Improving student preparedness and success. It is recommended that the University Community be asked to engage in curriculum discussion on how we can enhance first year and to look at these two benchmarks with a view to developing specific proposals via the Academic Planning Facilitation process.

Moved (V. Timmons/N. Etkin): that Senate support the Academic Planning Facilitation Committee in bringing forward a plan to engage the University community in curriculum discussions on how we can enhance the First Year Experience. **Carried.**

The Academic Planning and Facilitation Committee will provide Senate with an interim report on how the discussions are evolving around this issue.

(ii) Update on Enrollments

A. Buchanan introduced Yuqin Gong, Institutional Research Officer in the Registrar's Office. Alan gave an overview of the enrolment numbers thus far and mentioned that the official stats would be available at the December 1 Senate meeting. Presently, we have 3,333 full-time and 660 part-time students. There are 851 first-time first-entry students.

4. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

- International students enrollment has increased to 265 from 227.
- Number of International visitors to the campus in the past month -
 - High Commissioner for the Bahamas, Philip Smith - September 26
 - Canadian Ambassador to Afghanistan, David Sproule - September 28
- Canadian Ambassador to France, Claude Laverdure will visit campus on October 18
- Third-year psychology student, Sarah Simpson and political studies student, Jason Arseneault have begun three-month internships in South Africa.
- Lt. Governor has invited UPEI music students to hold recitals at Government House on the last Monday of each month. It was a very successful start. The second recital will be held on October 30.
- Lt. Governor is leading an initiative to match families with international students at UPEI. She is putting a call out to PEI families to serve as ambassador families to these students.
- Final figures on external research funding for 2005-06 - \$12.7 million compared to \$2.8 million, five years ago, and \$9.7 million in 2004-05.
- Congratulations to Dr. Tracey Doucette, Dept. of Biology; Dr. Catherine Ryan, Dept. of Psychology; Dr. Andrew Tasker, Dept. of Biomedical Sciences for receiving a US Patent on the Rat Model of Epilepsy.
- Also, note other researchers who hold/held US patents: Dr. Dan Hurnik, Dr. Luis Bate, Wendall Dawson, Dr. Thomy Nilsson, and Dr. William Ireland.
- Dean's Honours and Awards Nights were held in McMillan Hall on Monday, October 2 - Arts, Education and Business and Tuesday, October 3 - Science and Nursing.
- Awards Night for Veterinary students will be held on November 2.
- Academic All-Canadians evening was held on September 27 - these student athletes have an average of 80% or better. There were 31 students honoured.
- GEEE! in Genome exhibition being held at the Confederation Court Mall until November 10, 2006.
- Launch of Hung-Min Chiang 's book entitled "Chinese Islanders: Making a Home in the New World."
- Visitor from Tasmania - Writer-in-residence - Danielle Wood.
- On the Sports front - Fourth Mickey Place Basketball Tournament, Field Hockey Tournament hosted at UPEI.
- A number of universities have chosen not to participate in MacLean's survey. UPEI decided that the work was already done to complete the survey for 2006, and that the survey has been a vehicle for UPEI to gain some credit for our quality as an institution. It was our balanced judgment to submit the data. We expect that there will be further developments when the survey is released in early November and prior to the survey, if there is one, in 2007.

5. REPORT OF SENATE STANDING COMMITTEES

(i) Nominating Committee Report

Moved (J. Moran/R. Kurial): that Senate approve the following nominations for committees:

Student Academic Appeals Committee

Alfonso López (AVC)

Honorary Degree Committee

Ian Dowbiggin (History)

Senate Rep for Board of Governors

Dan Ryan (Math & Statistics) (new 3yr. term)

Elected by acclamation.

Steering Committee

Dave Seeler (Companion Animals)

David Buck (Classics)

Jeremy Hogan (Student)

Professor Emeritus Task Force

Doroley Coll (Senator)

Ron Collins (Hon. Deg & URC)

Ian Dowbiggin (Hon. Deg.)

Richard Walshaw (URC)

Moved (J Moran/N. Etkin): that Senate approve the expansion of the task force to look at UPEI's process for conferring the rank of professor emeritus from three to four members.

Carried

It was noted that the task force is expected to make a report at the December meeting.

Academic Planning and Facilitation Committee

There were three nominations received Clive Keen, Richard Kurial and Jim Sentance. An election was held. Clive Keen and Richard Kurial were elected.

(ii) Second Curriculum Report

Faculty of Arts

Moved (R. Kurial/J. Moran): that Senate approve the following new courses:

Music 107 - Highland Bagpipes

Music 108 - Highland Bagpipes

Music 207 - Highland Bagpipes

Music 208 - Highland Bagpipes

Music 307 - Highland Bagpipes

Music 308 - Highland Bagpipes

Music 407 - Highland Bagpipes

Music 408 - Highland Bagpipes

Carried.

Faculty of Education -

Moved (A. Buchanan/J. Nimmo): that Senate approve the following new courses:

Education 362 - Communication Practices
Education 371 - Introduction to Adult Education
Education 372 - Facilitating Literacy in Adult Learners
Education 373 - Special Needs of Adult Learners
Education 374 - Transformative Learning
Education 375 - Mentoring the Adult Learner

The courses introduced for the new BED Human Resource program are being held over for the next Senate meeting. There was a question raised regarding resource needs, in that, if there are new courses being introduced, there is no mention of needing instructors. Dr. Graham Pike was unavailable for comment. **Motion withdrawn.**

FACULTY OF SCIENCE

Moved (C. Lacroix/M. Hughes): that Senate approve the following new courses :

Biology 385 - Environmental Toxicology
Biology 465 - Marine Community Ecology

Carried.

For Information Only

Biology 121 - Change **from** 3 hours laboratory a week **to** 2.5 hours laboratory a week
Biology 122 - Change **from** 3 hours laboratory a week **to** 2.5 hours laboratory a week
Biology 382 - Change **from** a ninety minute tutorial a week **to** one hour tutorial a week

(iii) First Report of the Academic Review and Planning Committee

Moved (V. Timmons/R. Kurial): that Senate approve and offer, through the Faculty of Arts, a Bachelor of General Studies.

C. Keen spoke on this new proposal. Clive noted that there is a strong interest in this program through the Provincial and Federal Government employees. This is in response to their needs. It is a credential for mature students who do not wish to continue onto a graduate program. This program is not intended for students straight from high school. This will need to be defined in the admission requirements.

D. Buck stated he had concerns regarding the program in that it seemed more like a draft than a proposal. Some questions he had were who manages it? Where housed? How operational? Who will provide academic advising? How flexible is the structure? 30 semester hours at 3/400 level - could run into prereq problems. It is mentioned within the program courses from info tech, general science, modern language and music - why these areas?

It is being offered through the Faculty of Arts and it will be up to the Faculty of Arts where it will be housed.

2 Abstentions. Carried.

6. ACADEMIC CALENDAR DATES 2007-2008

Moved (A. Buchanan/J. Sentance): that Senate approve the calendar dates for 2007-2008 with the following changes being made.

It was suggested that a note be added regarding tests and exams held on the nights of Deans' Honour and Awards. In January , classes should begin on the 3rd rather than the 2nd.

T. Ogilvie will check with Academic Affairs regarding the date for pre-clinical classes.

The first summer session start after Convocation rather than before. All the dates then would be adjusted.

Moved (K. Schultz/D. Buck): that Senate continue on for another 15 minutes until 5:15.

7. ANNUAL REPORTS

1. Research Advisory Committee Report
Received
2. Admissions and Scholarships Committee
Received
3. Research Ethics Board Committee
Received
K. Critchley congratulated the Committee for its efficiency and expediency.
4. Academic Review and Planning Committee
Received

8. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business to report.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Alan Buchanan
Secretary