Minutes of the First Meeting of Senate  
Held Friday, September 18, 2009  
ITEC Lecture Theatre, Roberston Library, 3:00 p.m.  

Present:  

Regrets:  
G. Bradshaw, D. Seeler, A. Trivett  

Absent:  
C. Song  

1. Approval of Agenda  
The agenda was approved with the addition of #11 Synopsis of Enrollments and the re-ordering of Adjournment to item #12. Moved (C. Lacroix/L. Edwards)  

2. Welcome New Members  
The Chair welcomed the new Senators, namely, Doreley Coll, Kathy Gottschall-Pass, Greg Doran, Henrik Stryhn and Marva Sweeney-Nixon; two new students - Tim Cullen, President of Student Union and Jarrod Faria and returning student Sarah MacDonald. He also welcomed back returning or re-elected Senators, Roberta MacDonald, Jo-Anne MacDonald, David Buck, Alfonso López, and Joe Velaidum.  

3. Approval of Minutes of April 29, 2009  
Moved (T. Goddard/R. Kurial) approve the minutes of the meeting. Carried.  

4. Business Arising from April 29, 2009 Minutes  
The Registrar reported that for the purposes of Convocation there were 14 of the 19 problem cases approved to graduate and another 5 new students added to the graduating class bringing the total of graduates for the Class of 2009 to 846. This is the largest graduating class to date.  

5. President’s Report  
• New faculty dinner will be held tonight with 25 new faculty expected to attend. It is always uplifting to take part in this dinner especially to hear our new colleagues speak about why they chose to come to UPEI, accompanied by their high expectations and optimism.  
• NSO was a huge success. There were 600 participants representing the highest attendance ever. NSO is available to all new incoming students and this year marks the first year there was no registration fee required. Congratulations to all participants and especially the organizing team.  
• Congratulations to organizers of Shinerama. $22,000 raised. UPEI spearheaded by students traditionally has a strong commitment to Cystic Fibrosis and the Shinerama initiative.  
• Enrolment indicators are positive with both new and returning students.  
• Congratulations to the Recruitment Team - In anecdotal conversations with students, it seems many choose UPEI because of word of mouth. Good job.  
• Founders’ Day will be held on Friday, September 25th at 2:00 p.m. Founders being recognized are Barbara Macnutt, Fr. Charles Cheverie, and Bob Gray. Long time AVC Colleague, Robert Curtis will be the recipient of the Green Hat Award.  
• Etienne Côté received the 2009 AAU Distinguished Teaching Award. This prestigious award recognizes outstanding teaching over a number of years and is presented to individuals considered by the association to be the region’s top university educators. Three UPEI colleagues were in the top five considered for AAU Awards this year.
Sue Dawson was named the 2009 recipient of the Janet Pottie Murray Award recognizing UPEI teaching contributions and effectiveness.

Let’s Talk Teaching day organized by the Faculty Development Office was held on September 8, 2009. Dr. T. A. Loeffler was the guest speaker. 75 colleagues took part.

There were rave reviews for the Canada Games hosting 2200 athletes on campus.

UPEI received a special recognition award for its commitment to the beautification of University Avenue, improving the safety of the area and enhancing the campus.

Pandemic preparedness and planning at UPEI has been underway for the past several months. An infectious disease policy and draft plan to guide the university is in the works and the working group will meet regularly over the coming months to ensure the university is well-prepared to deal with potential outbreaks that may occur on campus or in the broader community.

Deans’ Honors & Awards Nights are being planned for Tuesday, October 6 and Wednesday, October 7, and AVC Awards night is being held on October 8.

Homecoming Celebrations are being held the weekend of September 25-28.

Honorary Degree Nominations deadline is October 16, 2009.

6. Search Committee for Vice President Academic

The report to the Board recommended to rename the position to Vice President Academic from Vice President Academic Development and the search will take place this year. The Board is meeting next week and will be asked to strike a search committee, two members of which are to be appointed by the Senate.

The Chair asked the Chair of the Nominating Committee if there was a report and there will be one for the October Senate meeting.

7. Academic Review and Planning Committee Report

R. Herbert asked the Registrar to introduce the First Curriculum Report. K. Kielly called on the Dean of Arts to introduce his motions -

Faculty of Arts

Department of English

Moved (R. Kurial/B. MacLaine): motion to change course levels and prerequisites -

(i) Courses at the 100 level are introductory courses that provide a basic framework for critical reading and writing at university. English 192 and 195 are general introductions to literature, taught from a variety of perspectives. English 121 and 122 are required courses for a major, minor, or honours in English. They are also prerequisites for many 300-level English courses. Detailed descriptions of each year's courses will be available in the Department’s Calendar Supplement.

(ii) Courses at the 200 level are either general interest courses or foundational courses that develop the skills necessary for further study in English. English 201 and 202 are required courses for major, minor, or honours English degree. They are also prerequisites for many 300-level English courses. The prerequisite for 200-level courses is at least one 100-level English course or permission of the instructor.

(iii) Courses at the 300 level provide detailed study of areas of language and literature. The prerequisites for these courses are (a) at least one 100-level English course, and (b) at least one 200-level English course, or permission of the instructor. Some courses require specific 200-level courses.
Courses at the 400 level are designed to give students the opportunity for advanced study of a chosen topic within a specific area of English language or literature. The classes are usually seminars that require active participation and independent study. Students must have completed English 296: Writing About Literature and at least two 300-level courses before enrolling in a 400-level course. Carried.

Moved (R. Kurial/B. MacLaine): change prerequisites for Honours English from English 201, 202, and 204 to English 121, 122, 204 and 296. Carried.

Moved (R. Kurial/B. MacLaine): change prerequisites for English major from English 201, 202, and 204 to English 121, 122 and 204. Carried.

Moved (R. Kurial/B. MacLaine): change III under English major - English Electives (15 18 semester hours) In addition to the required courses, students choose five six other English courses, at least one two of which must be at the 300 level and one two at the 400 level. For guidance in the choice of electives, please consult the Department’s Calendar Supplement or the Department Chair. Carried.

Moved (R. Kurial/B. MacLaine): change the requirements for Minor in English - Students in the English minor program complete English 201 and 202 121 and 122, and at least five other English courses above the 100 level as electives... Carried.

Moved (R. Kurial/B. MacLaine): change English 201 to English 121 and delete prerequisite. Carried.

Moved (R. Kurial/B. MacLaine): change English 202 to English 122 and delete prerequisite. Carried.

Moved (R. Kurial/B. MacLaine): English 204 - delete the prerequisite. Carried.


Moved (R. Kurial/B. MacLaine): English 455 - change course title from Advanced Studies in Shakespeare to Advanced Studies in Early Modern Literature and change prerequisites from English 255 and 355, or permission of the instructor to English 355, 356 or 358, or permission of the instructor. Carried.

Moved (R. Kurial/B. MacLaine): English 475 - change the prerequisite from English 201 or permission of the instructor to English 372, 375, 376 or permission of the instructor. Carried.

Moved (R. Kurial/B. MacLaine): English 456 - delete this course. Carried.

Moved (R. Kurial/B. MacLaine): change the prerequisite from English 201 or permission of the instructor to English 121 or permission of the instructor in the following courses - English 356, 357, 358, 365, 366, 367, 372, 375, 376
Carried.

Moved (R. Kurial/B. MacLaine): change the prerequisite from English 202 to English 122 in the following courses English 332, 335, 336, 337
Carried.

Department of Music

Moved (R. Kurial/F. Gray): to approve the following new course Music 458 - Musicianship Workshop
Department of Religious Studies
Carried
Department of Religious Studies

Moved (R. Kurial/J. Velaidum): to delete the prerequisite for the following courses - RS 221, 244, 251, 261
Carried.

Faculty of Science

Department of Biology

Moved (C. Lacroix/M. Sweeney-Nixon): Biology 121 and 122 - delete “except by permission of the instructor” from the prerequisite.
Carried.

Moved (C. Lacroix/M. Sweeney-Nixon): changes to notes regarding 100 level Biology courses -
Add following sentence to the first paragraph regarding notes on page 87 of the 2009-2010 Academic Calendar - Biology 101 and 102.....Honours program. Biology 101 and 102 are not accepted for credit in the Biology majors and honours program. Delete the sentence Credit will not be allowed for Biology 102 if completed after Biology 121.
Carried.

Moved (C. Lacroix/M. Sweeney-Nixon): Biology 331 - Change title, description and lab hours -
RESEARCH METHODS AND COMMUNICATIONS IN BIOLOGY
This course is an introduction to research methods and the basic principles of scientific communication, as expressed in the Biological Sciences. Lectures and assignments focus on the principles of study design; analysis, interpretation, and presentation of biological data; and the preparation of scientific papers and reports. Students critically evaluate papers in their areas of interest, and gain experience in presenting scientific information to their peers (both orally and as scientific posters).
PREREQUISITES: Biology 131 and 132, and 6 semester-hours of core Biology courses
Three hours lecture, two-three hours laboratory a week
Carried.

Moved (C. Lacroix/M. Sweeney-Nixon): Biology 411 - Change course description and prerequisites to the following -
This course focuses on the basic principles of wildlife biology, wildlife management, and contemporary wildlife issues. The laboratory/field component includes an introduction to techniques used in wildlife research, habitat assessments and debates on local wildlife issues
Prerequisite: Biology 214 or permission of the Instructor. Biology 202 and 204.
Carried.

Moved (C. Lacroix/M. Sweeney-Nixon): Biology 890 - Change grade from a percent to a pass/fail.
Carried.

Moved (C. Lacroix/M. Sweeney-Nixon): to approve the following new course -

Biology 421 - Design and Analysis of Biological Studies

Department of Mathematics & Statistics

Moved (C. Lacroix/J. Sentence): add the following courses to the note following Math 221 - Credit will not be allowed for Math 221 if a student has received credit for any of the following courses - Business 251, Education 481, Psychology 271, 278, 279 and Sociology 332.
Carried.
Moved (C. Lacroix/J. Sentence): delete the note following Math 321.
Carried.

Miscellaneous

Moved (C. Lacroix/M. Shaver): Replace the list of Departments under Structure of the Program within the Master of Science Program on page 268 of the 2009-2010 Academic Calendar

- Department of Biology
- Ecology & Wildlife Biology
- Plant Science
- Molecular Genetics & Biotechnology
- Neurobiology & Stroke
- Cancer Cell Biology, Vascular Cell Biology

- Department of Chemistry
- Inorganic Chemistry
- Organic Chemistry
- Physical Chemistry
- Biorganic Chemistry & Biotechnology

- Faculty of Science
- Molecular and Materials Science
- Environmental Sciences
- Human Development and Health

Carried.

Moved (K. Kielly/R. Kurial): to change Dean’s Honours Nights for October 2009 from Monday, October 5 and Tuesday October 6 to Tuesday, October 6 and Wednesday, October 7.

REMINDER - no tests or exams are to be held on the Tuesday and Wednesday portion of the first week of October, when the Dean’s Annual Honours and Awards ceremonies are held.

The question was asked why this date was being changed. The Chair explained that Honourable Thomas Cromwell, Supreme Court of Canada, will be the guest lecturer at the Chief Justice Thane A. Campbell Lectureship in Law being held at UPEI on Monday, October 5. Changing the date would give students and faculty a chance to attend this lecture without it interfering with the Awards night.

There was discussion noting that the Academic Calendar dates were set a year ago and amending the dates now would have an impact on delivery of curriculum, particularly around the setting of examinations. Also noted was the implication that a defacto change in dates had already occurred if students were invited to attend ceremonies based upon revised dates.

T. Cullen voiced his concern that the awards night is for honoring students who have worked very hard to get this honor and they should feel welcomed to attend without having to worry about tests and exams that week. R. Herbert encouraged faculty not to have tests that week.

3 Opposed, 2 Absences
Carried.

8. Research Advisory Committee and Research Grants Committee

K. Schultz commented on the membership of these two committees for the upcoming year and explained that there are vacancies that need to be filled.
Moved (K. Schultz/T. Goodard): that John MacIntyre and Blake Jelley be approved to sit on the Research Grants Committee and Jon Vanleeuwen, Richard Raiswell and David LeBlanc sit on the Research Advisory Committee. Carried.

9. Annual Reports

Academic Review and Planning Committee

Report received.

10. Election of Presidential Search Committee

The Chair introduced this item. We are beginning the year with a couple of elections, one being Senate membership on the Presidential Search Committee. Senate is a nominating committee as a whole and we could proceed to nominations and elections today or we could serve notice today and call for nominations to be sent to the Secretary of Senate prior to the next meeting of Senate. All nominations coming forward would be captured on the VRE prior to the October 16 meeting.

In response to a question from the floor, the Chair clarified that a nominee need not be a member of Senate; however, only a Senator may bring forward a nomination. The student position can be either an undergraduate or a graduate student. Administrators are colleagues in senior roles who are neither faculty or students.

The majority felt that there should be time for consultations, phone calls, visits to seek agreement to let names stand, etc. It was decided that the Secretary of Senate would send out a notice to receive nominations until Thursday, October 8 at 4:00 and names will be posted on the VRE.

On a separate election matter, S. Thomas will put out a call for nominations for the search committee for Vice President Academic.

The Chair reminded Senators that there is a vacancy for a Senate representative on the Board of Governors, to be elected at the October meeting.

11. Synopsis of Enrollments

R. Herbert noted that, based upon the current preliminary snapshot, enrollments were up 3.2% compared to this time last year. Course enrollments were up 4.3%.

Scheduling of courses and classroom assignments were challenging this year based upon higher numbers and the loss of the Classroom Centre. The Chair commented that there is an initiative in place for the construction of a new School of Nursing building.

12. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen Kielly
Registrar, Secretary of Senate