

**Minutes of the Sixth Meeting of Senate
Friday, February 7, 2014
3:00 – 5:00 pm
AVC Rooms 286-287N**

- Present:** A. Abd-El-Aziz (Chair), A. Braithwaite, D. Buck, B. Campbell, G. Conboy, B. Deziel, R. Gilmour, T. Gordon, R. Herbert, D. Hurnik, B. Jeffery, A. Johnston, K. Kielly, N. Kujundzic, C. Lacroix, L. Lamont, M. Leggott, R. Lemm, J. Magrath, L. MacArthur, P. MacAulay, D. MacDonald, G. MacDonald, R. MacDonald, A. MacFarlane, D. MacLellan, T. Miller, S. Myers, S. Opps, J. Podger, J. Sentance, M. Sweeney-Nixon, K. Tilleczek, and J. Witchell.
- Regrets:** W. Bradley, M. Doyle, L. Edwards, J. Krause, L. McDuffee, C. Ryan, A. Smallwood, and L. Wisener
- Absent:** G. Germain, S. Graham, J. Mitchell, S. McConkey, and Don Reynolds
- Recorder:** D. MacLean, Acting Assistant to Senate

President Alaa Abd-El-Aziz welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. **Approval of Agenda**
MOTION (C. Lacroix/D. Buck) to approve the agenda as presented. **CARRIED**
2. **Approval of Minutes, January 10, 2014**
MOTION (C. Lacroix/J.Sentance) to approve the minutes of January 10, 2014 meeting. **CARRIED.**
3. **Business Arising from Minutes**
The President stated that the only item under this category was a report on the ad hoc Curriculum committee that would be covered in his President's Report.
4. **President's Report**
President Abd-El-Aziz updated Senate on the following issues:
 - **Search for Vice President Academic**
(Update provided by Committee member J. Sentance)
The search is progressing, candidate information is being considered, additional candidate information is being sought, the competition remains open.
 - **Strategic Plan 2013-2018**
The Strategic Plan—incorporating Board requested additional information (operational plan, scorecard, and enrolment management plan)—was approved by the Board at their January meeting.
 - **Alumni Engagement**
11 per cent of our Alumni donate to UPEI—one of the highest percentages in Canada.

The President asked C. Lacroix to speak on the Ad Hoc Committee on Curriculum. C. Lacroix reported that the committee is looking at a cross section of academic programs and will be consulting with all faculties and community members working towards recommendations that will be brought before Senate.

In response to a question from a member of Senate, the President advised that the University, Holland College, and College Acadie may work together to offer some courses in Summerside. UPEI has offered courses in Summerside in the past. A discussion related to an arrangement to share space is also taking place between UPEI and Holland College.

5. **Senate Reports**

1) Nominating Committee Report

S. Opps updated Senate on the status of the decanal searches. The Searches for the Deans of Arts, Education, and AVC are progressing with most Committees ready to go. Lists will to be finalized by mid-February. Terms for three members of the Senate Research Advisory Committee were up for renewal and all three agreed to renew. He also indicated that he had neglected to make a “call for additional nominations from the floor” regarding the membership of the Senate Library Committee as well as that of the Senate Research Grants Committee. He then made the call and no additional nominations were received. S. Opps stated that some committees still require members and suggested that the Chairs seek membership. He expressed concern that some committees had not met in the last three years. The President indicated that the University Act dictates what committees are required, so a review should be undertaken in this regard. A suggestion to join the Student Discipline Appeals committee with the Academic Appeals Committee will be discussed by M. Sweeney-Nixon and S. Opps and will be raised at the next Senate Steering Committee meeting.

2) Academic Planning and Curriculum Report – Sixth Curriculum Report

C. Lacroix brought forward a motion to change the name of the Department of Engineering to the School of Engineering. He provided a letter from the Acting Chair of Engineering, Stephen Champion, to the Interim Dean of Science, Debbie McLellan, requesting the same. Discussion ensued. G. MacDonald was concerned that there was limited background provided to support this request. The President indicated that in order for the School of Engineering to stand alone, approval from the Board of Governors would be required, and it is far too early in the planning phase to make such a request. He also indicated that C. Lacroix, D. MacLellan, and B. Jeffery have been meeting on how such a change would impact the collective agreement. It is hoped that this change would facilitate recruitment of a Chair or Director. In order to stand alone as a School, a Dean would have to be hired. C. Lacroix indicated that as it stands now, it is very difficult to secure a Chair.

MOTION (C. Lacroix/D. MacLellan) that the Department of Engineering in the Faculty of Science, name be changed to the School of Engineering within the Faculty of Science.

2 abstentions
Gordon MacDonald
Jeff Wichtel

CARRIED

6. **Other Business**

The President thanked B. Jeffery and T. Gordon for joining him at the Liberal Caucus meeting held on campus while he presented the University Strategic Plan. The President stated that he stressed the importance of post-secondary education to the caucus and explained the three documents that fall under the Strategic Planning document – Operational Overview, Scorecard, and Short-Term Enrolment Management Plan. B. Jeffery indicated that the meeting was excellent and there were a number of questions that followed. T. Gordon applauded the University for inviting the Student Union and Faculty Association to join this meeting.

7. Adjournment

MOTION (B. Campbell/J.Sentance) to adjourn meeting at 4:12 p.m. **CARRIED**

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Kielly
Registrar and Secretary to Senate