

Minutes of the Third Senate Meeting
Held Friday, November 5, 2010
ITEC Lecture Theatre, Robertson Library, 3:00 p.m

Present: B. Banks, D. Buck, B. Campbell, L. Chilton, K. Critchley, D. Dahn, S. Dawson, B. Deziel, R. Domike, T. Goddard, K Gottshcall-Pass, F. Gray, K. Kielly, R. Kurial, C. Lacroix, M. Leggott, R. Livingstone, R. MacDonald, J. McIntyre, W. MacLauchlan, K. Murnaghan, J. Randall, R. Saada, K. Schultz, M. Shaver, D. Sims, H. Stryhn, M. Sweeney-Nixon, S. Thomas

Regrets: B. Davetian, I. Dowbiggin, B. MacLaine, D. Reynolds, D. Seeler, B. Wagner

Absent: G. Bradshaw, P. Callbeck, D. Coll, G. Doran, M. Doyle, L. Edwards, A. López, J. MacAulay, M. Murray, F. Papps

The Chair called the meeting order.

1. Approval of Agenda

Moved (M. Shaver/M. Sweeney-Nixon): to approve the agenda.

Carried.

2. Approval of Minutes of October 15, 2010

Moved (T. Goddard/M. Leggott): to approve the minutes.

Carried.

3. Business Arising from the Minutes of October 15, 2010

None

4. President's Report

- UPEI has been named number one in two major categories in Re\$earch Infosource's annual report. UPEI was the top university in Research Income Growth and Research Intensity Growth from 1999 to 2009.
- The University Update and Service Awards will be held November 18 at 2:30 p.m.
- The John and Judy Bragg Family Foundation made a major contribution in memory of David W. Rodd, to support human health research facilities at UPEI's Atlantic Veterinary College. The area has been named The David W. Rodd Health Research Floor.
- Another major donation will be made public on November 22.
- Congratulations to Mark Leggott and his team on the launch of Discovery Garden Inc. It will provide service for Islandora - open-source software for the long-term management and archiving of digital information.
- Congratulations to recent UPEI graduate, Bobby Cameron, on receiving the 2010 Canadian Red Cross Young Humanitarian Award for PEI
- Congratulations to Duncan Shaw of Cogsdale who has been named Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year 2010 for the Atlantic region.
- Second Annual Fundraising event for "Light Up Papua New Guinea: The Captain Nichola Goddard Project" takes place Saturday, November 6 at the Wanda Wyatt Dining Hall.
- Research on Tap returns Tuesday, November 2 at 7:00 p.m. with Malcolm Muray speaking on "Atheism: It's not so bad, really"
- National Interuniversity Sport Women's Soccer final is taking place this weekend.
- Upcoming theatre performances from November 3 - 7 held on campus
- We express our condolences to the family of Donna Meincke who passed away on Thursday, November 4.

She and her husband, former UPEI President Peter Meincke, visited UPEI in mid-October for the unveiling of the presidential portraits.

5. **Senate Reports**

Third Nominating Report

Moved (S. Thomas/M. Shaver): to approve the following names for Committees -

Long Weekend Committee

Kyle Murnaghan (undergraduate student)
Angela Douglas (graduate student)

Research Grants Committee

Collin Arens (graduate student)
Rob Livingstone (undergrad student)

Senate Committee on Enhancement of Teaching

Kate VanGerven (undergraduate student)
Rob Livingstone (undergraduate student)

Long Weekend Committee

Sanda Badescu (Arts)
Khym Goslin (Education)
Carolanne Nelson (Science)
Alan Duncan (Business)

Carried.

Third Academic Review and Planning Committee Report

Moved (J. Randall/C. Lacroix): to approve the following changes to Faculty of Science Entrance Requirements
i) Canadian Education system

3. Science

~~English, Mathematics, two *Sciences, and one other academic course.~~

~~If Grade 12 Chemistry is not selected to meet the Science requirement, Grade 11 Chemistry is required.~~

Grade 12 Academic English

Grade 12 Academic Mathematics

Two Grade 12 Academic Science subjects

(acceptable subjects: Chemistry, Biology, Physics, Computer Science, Oceanography, Animal Science, Environmental Science)

One additional Grade 12 Academic course

Some introductory Science courses at UPEI have high school prerequisites (Biology 131 – at least academic grade 11 Biology; Chemistry 111 – at least academic grade 12 Chemistry)

These requirements will be in effect for admission in September 2012.

Notes

a. Social Studies electives include the following: Economics, Global Issues, Canadian and PEI History, and Advanced Political Studies.

~~b. Science electives include the following: Animal Science, Biology, Chemistry, Oceanography, Physics.~~

c. Exceptional students from Grade XI may be considered for admission.

d. Applications will be considered from students who have completed programs of study in CEGEP, Community

Colleges or CAAT. Transfer credits, if any, will be considered on an individual basis.

Carried.

6. Annual Senate Reports

Student Academic Appeals Committee Report

Report received.

7. Preliminary Discussion on November Long Weekend

The Chair introduced the topic by requesting that Senators reflect on the merits of a November Weekend Break and raise any areas they deem important for the Ad-hoc Committee to address in their evaluation of the pilot break for this year, which includes Friday, November 12 as a non-teaching day.

The President of the Student Union reinforced that students will benefit from the extra break by having more time to prepare for upcoming exams.

In anticipation of a committee report and in assisting the committee to arrive at an informed decision in its recommendation to continue or not a Fall Weekend Break, Senators made the following points:

- Will Faculty be able to see a more positive difference between a student's mid-term grades and their final results?
- Will there be a discernable difference in student retention numbers, compared to last year?
- Will students experience less stress, perhaps fewer visits to student services for help?
- How will this impact the Faculties, graduate versus undergraduate students, professional programs, etc?
- What happens when November 11 falls on a Wednesday?
- Will there be an effect on Faculty? Less stress?
- What will be the result of gearing up and gearing down in terms of curriculum delivery?
- Will students take more time off?
- What will be the impact on staff?
- What will the loss of another teaching day have on an already stretched semester, particularly for those using textbooks based on a 16 week delivery model?
- What will be the impact on courses with lab components?
- Will there be a discernable difference in the patterns of usage in the library?

Everyone agreed that it is imperative to have evidence to support a decision and there is little right now in terms of comparator data. However, we may be able to benefit from the experiences of other universities that have implemented the fall break, Ottawa, Toronto, Trent, Mt. A, Dalhousie, MUN and Moncton.

In addition to researching the impact other universities have experienced, there was a suggestion to poll Faculty about their views on one less teaching day, perhaps extending the term further into December, or reframing the 'day off' to be more focused on service learning or a day of guest lectures. In other words, while there might be no classes that day, students would still be on campus engaged in another type of educational experience.

The Chair thanked Senators for their valuable input and asked that the Ad-hoc Committee consider these points in their fact-finding. A report of the Committee will be expected in the new year.

8. Honorary Degree Committee Report (*In Camera*)

Moved (W. MacLauchlan/K. Murnaghan): that the four nominations be approved for Honorary Degrees for Convocation, May 2011.

Carried

Moved (W. MacLauchlan/K. Murnaghan): that the two nominations be approved for Speakers at Convocation 2011.
Carried.

9. Adjourment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen Kielly, Registrar
Secretary of Senate