



Brock University Senate

MINUTES OF MEETING #590 (2010-11)

SENATE

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 2011, 3:30 PM

DR. CHARLES A. SANKEY CHAMBER, MACKENZIE CHOWN COMPLEX

PRESENT: Professor Susan Sydor (Chair), Professor James Mandigo (Vice-Chair),
Dean Fiona Blaikie, Dr. Ian Brindle, Interim Dean Rick Cheel, Ms. Barb Davis,
Dean Thomas Dunk, Dr. Greg Finn, Dean Douglas Kneale, Dr. Murray Knuttila,
Dr. Jack Lightstone, Interim Dean Joanne MacLean, Ms. Kim Meade,
Dean Marilyn Rose

Professors Maureen Connolly, June Corman, Christine Daigle, Nancy DeCourville,
Tamara El-Hoss, Sandra Felton, Calvin Hayes, Nota Klentrou, Maureen Lux,
John Lye, Ingrid Makus, Carol Merriam, Bozidar Mitrovic, Frances Owen,
Steven Renzetti, Stan Sadava, Larry Savage, John Sivell, Mark Spencer, David Vivian,
Michelle Webber, Barry Wright, Paul Zelisko

Mr. Christopher Lindley, Mr. Sebastian Prins

Ms. Helen Young

Mr. Mike Farrell, Secretary, Ms. Margaret Thompson, Associate Secretary

ALSO

PRESENT: Mr. Patrick Beard, Ms. Christine Lackner, Professor Phillip Mackintosh,
Ms. Joanne McKee, Mr. Steven Pillar, Ms. Margaret Sanderson,
Professor Skott-Myhre, Mr. Chris Ventura

REGRETS: Professors Tansu Barker, Tony DiPetta, Nancy Francis, Mr. Ned Goodman,
Mr. Daud Grewal, Ms. Margaret Grove, Dean Philip Kitchen, Mr. Rudi Kroeker,
Professors Diane Mack, Meri Jean Morrissey, Mr. Steven Nicholls,
Professor Roberto Nickel, Mr. Edward Nkyi, Professor Michael Plyley,
Ms. Astride Silis, Mr. Andrew Skelton, Mr. Kevin Smith, Ms. Betty-Lou Souter,
Mr. Luke Speers, Ms. Carly White, Dr. Thomas Winger, Dr. Philip Wright,
Professors Deborah Yeager-Woodhouse, Deborah Zinni

Professor Sydor welcomed members and called the 590th meeting of Senate to order.

1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the 589th meeting of Senate held on May 11, 2011 had been posted with the meeting materials.

MOVED (Zelisko/El-Hoss)

THAT the minutes of the 589th meeting of Senate held on May 11, 2011 be approved.

CARRIED

2. Business Arising from the Minutes - None**3. Communications - None****4. Report of the Chair****4.1 Senate Highlights**

[The Highlights for Senate 590 had been posted with the meeting materials.]

Professor Sydor referred members to the Highlights for Senate 590 which had been posted for the information of Senate.

5. Report of the President and Vice-Chancellor

Dr. Lightstone provided an oral update to Senate which included information regarding the Ontario government's future plans for post-secondary education. Of note, on May 30, the Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities will be discussing with the Canadian Club of Toronto what the future holds for Ontario students. A full policy document is expected to be released by the MTCU in the following weeks. As well, a Multi-Year Accountability Agreement and a "multi-year strategic mandate agreement" will be negotiated with each institution in the Fall of 2011. With Senate's previous endorsement of the strategic academic principles and direction articulated in the *Brock University Integrated Plan* and the Board's previous endorsement of the overarching strategy as outlined within the planning documents *The Brock University Integrated Plan* and *Brock 2020: Taking Our Own Tack - An introduction to the Over-arching Strategy of our Planning*, the University is well prepared to move forward with the multi-year strategic mandate agreement.

A discussion ensued, during which Dr. Lightstone responded to questions from Senators.

6. Report of the Provost and Vice-President, Academic

[The Report of the Provost and Vice-President, Academic to Senate dated May 26, 2011 had been posted with the meeting materials.]

Dr. Knuttila referred members to his Report. Noting that the Report had not been distributed within the five-day rule, he suggested it be reposted for the information of Senate at the next

meeting in September.

7. Report of the Academic Colleague - None

8. Report of the Actions of the Board of Trustees

[A Brief of the Board meeting held April 28, 2011 had been posted with the meeting materials.]

There had been no meeting of the Board of Trustees since the previous meeting of Senate.

9. Unfinished Business from the Last Meeting - None

10. Graduands – Spring 2011 Convocation

[The Report of the Registrar dated May 17, 2011 had been posted with the meeting materials.]

Ms. Davis referred Senators to the Report which contained a summary of the number of undergraduate and graduate degrees and certificates to be conferred during Spring 2011 Convocation.

MOVED (Klentrou/El-Hoss)

THAT the Spring 2011 Convocation Degrees and Certificates be approved as outlined in the Report.

CARRIED

11. Reports of Standing Committees

11.1 Teaching and Learning Policy Committee

[The Report of the Teaching and Learning Policy Committee dated May 17, 2011, together with an Information Item to the Committee “Proposed Integrated Accessibility Regulation” had been posted with the meeting materials.]

Professor Zelisko presented the Report of the Teaching and Learning Policy Committee for the information of Senate.

With respect to the appended report regarding the “Proposed Integrated Accessibility Regulation”, Ms. Margaret Sanderson, University Accessibility Coordinator was present and responded to questions from Senators.

11.2 Graduate Studies Committee

[The Report of the Graduate Studies Committee dated May 25, 2011 had been posted with the meeting materials.]

Professor Klentrou presented the Report of the Graduate Studies Committee.

- a) Addition to the Faculty Handbook – Section III, 14.1.1 (Graduate Studies Governance / Membership in the Faculty of Graduate Studies)

During the 588th meeting of Senate held on April 13, 2011, Senate had received, for information, a preliminary draft of a proposed policy on membership to the Faculty of Graduate Studies. Senators had been invited to provide feedback to Professor Klentrou on the proposed preliminary draft policy following the meeting. Professor Klentrou thanked Senators for the responses received.

MOVED (Klentrou/Sadava)

THAT Senate approve 14.1.1 as an addition to the Faculty Handbook, Section III as outlined in the Report.

Professor Klentrou reviewed the rationale for the proposed recommendation, noting that the proposed policy legitimizes the practices currently in place and strengthens the University's reputation and the Faculty of Graduate Studies both externally and internally.

With respect to the proposed approval process, it was suggested that the final decision of membership should rest with the Academic Faculties, as opposed to the Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies, and the following amendment was proposed:

MOVED (Makus/Corman)

THAT the following sentence within the proposed recommendation regarding the addition of 14.1.1 to the Faculty Handbook, Section III as outlined in the Report be amended as follows:

“Specific criteria for graduate teaching and supervision and decisions about membership rest with the Academic Faculties.

A discussion ensued regarding the proposed amendment. It was pointed out that the proposed policy states that no one will be appointed without being recommended by a Faculty Dean upon the advise of the Academic Faculty's Graduate Faculty Membership Committee, or equivalent. Dean Rose commented that it would be unforeseen that the Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies would refuse such a recommendation.

QUESTION on the amendment

DEFEATED

The Chair referred members to the main motion. During Senate's deliberations, and in an effort to further clarify the appointment process, the following amendment was proposed:

MOVED (Cheel/Rose)

THAT the following sentence within the proposed recommendation regarding the addition of 14.1.1 to the Faculty Handbook, Section III as outlined in the Report be amended as follows:

“Graduate faculty are appointed as members of the Faculty of Graduate Studies by the Dean of Graduate Studies after applying to and being recommended by their Faculty Dean. ~~to the Dean of Graduate Studies.~~”

CARRIED

Discussion ensued regarding the main motion, as amended. Several issues and concerns were presented regarding the proposed policy on membership in the Faculty of Graduate Studies which included the following: a Faculty Dean could potentially deny membership to a faculty member with undue cause; there was a lack of an appeals process should a member be denied membership; due to the University’s decentralization, different criteria would be developed by different Faculties for membership to the Faculty of Graduate Studies; there was no written information regarding the inclusion of a “grandfather clause”; there was no process for the removal of a member from the Faculty of Graduate Studies should the member transition into an inactive scholar; and a faculty member may choose not to apply to the Faculty of Graduate Studies in order to avoid non-scheduled teaching.

A comprehensive discussion ensued during which members spoke for and against the issues raised.

Following Senate’s deliberations, the Chair confirmed that members were ready to vote on the main motion, as amended.

QUESTION on the main motion, as amended

DEFEATED

- b) Additions to the Faculty Handbook – Section III, 14.1.2 (Graduate Program Director), 14.1.3 (Graduate Program Committee) and 14.1.4 (Graduate Program Handbook)

MOVED (Klentrou/Blaikie)

THAT Senate approve 14.1.2, 14.1.3 and 14.1.4 as additions to the Faculty Handbook, Section III as outlined in the Report.

During discussion, Professor Klentrou and Dean Rose responded to questions from members.

CARRIED

- c) Addition to the Faculty Handbook – Section III, 14.6.7 (Course Substitutions)

MOVED (Klentrou/DeCourville)

THAT Senate approve 14.6.7 as an addition to the Faculty Handbook, Section III as outlined in the Report.

CARRIED

- d) Addition to the Faculty Handbook – Section III, 14.6.9 (First Draft Status)

MOVED (Klentrou/DeCourville)

THAT Senate approve 14.6.9 as an addition to the Faculty Handbook, Section III as outlined in the Report.

CARRIED

- e) Changes to the Faculty Handbook – Section III, 14.8.1 (Graduate Supervision and Supervisory Committees)

MOVED (Klentrou/ DeCourville)

THAT Senate approve the changes to the Faculty Handbook, Section III 14.8.1 as outlined in the Report.

CARRIED

- f) Changes to the Faculty Handbook – Section III, 14.8.5 (Deposit of Theses)

MOVED (Klentrou/Sadava)

THAT Senate approve the changes to the Faculty Handbook, Section III 14.8.5 as outlined in the Report.

CARRIED

11.3 Undergraduate Program Committee

[The Report of the Undergraduate Program Committee dated May 25, 2011 had been posted with the meeting materials.]

Professor Connolly presented the Report of the Undergraduate Program Committee regarding changes to the course bank for the information of Senate.

11.4 Budget Advisory Committee

[The Report of the Budget Advisory Committee dated May 20, 2011, together with an Information Item to the Financial Planning and Human Resources of the Board “Draft Final 2011-12 Budget”, including Appendix 1, and a Memorandum to the Budget Advisory Committee “Academic Implication of 2011-2012 Budget Exercise) from the Provost and

Vice-President, Academic and the Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President, Academic dated May 18, 2011 had been posted with the meeting materials.]

Professor Vivian presented the Report of the Budget Advisory Committee.

MOVED (Vivian/Daigle)

THAT the Committee recognizes that the Administration has made every effort to maintain an effective budget development process and has aided the Committee in every way possible.

The Committee recognizes the difficult budget situation we are in given the insufficient funding to post-secondary institutions. The Committee does not disapprove of the multi-year budget strategy. At the same time, the Committee recognizes that the deficit reduction plan has affected the fulfillment of the academic mission of the University.

Whereas the Budget Advisory Committee recognizes the collective efforts undertaken to manage the 2011-2012 budget process, it is recommended that the draft final 2011-2012 budget estimates be deemed as consistent as is possible under the circumstances with the academic policy of the University

The Chair opened the floor for discussion, during which Professor Vivian and Mr. Pillar responded to questions from Senators.

The Chair noted that there was no longer a quorum present. Senate concurred to a suggestion that an additional meeting of Senate be scheduled to consider the vote on the pending question and any remaining outstanding agenda items from today's meeting.

13. Annual Reports

The 2010-11 Annual Reports from Senate Committees had been posted with the meeting materials for the information of Senate.

14. Other Business

a) Student Awards – In Camera

Senate received the confidential Report for information.

15. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m. An additional meeting of Senate would be scheduled to address the outstanding agenda items from today's meeting.