



Brock University Senate

MINUTES OF MEETING #584 (2010-11)

SENATE

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2010, 3:00 PM

DR. CHARLES A. SANKEY CHAMBER, MACKENZIE CHOWN COMPLEX

PRESENT: Professor Susan Sydor (Chair), Professor Stan Sadava (acting Vice-Chair), Dean Fiona Blaikie, Dr. Ian Brindle, Interim Dean Rick Cheel, Ms. Barb Davis, Mr. Daud Grewal, Dean Philip Kitchen, Dean Douglas Kneale, Dr. Murray Knuttila, Dr. Jack Lightstone, Interim Dean Joanne MacLean, Dean Marilyn Rose, Dr. Thomas Winger, Dr. Philip Wright

Professors Maureen Connolly, June Corman, Christine Daigle, Nancy DeCourville, Tony DiPetta, Tamara El-Hoss, Nancy Francis, Nota Klentrou, Maureen Lux, John Lye, Ingrid Makus, Carol Merriam, Merijean Morrissey, Roberto Nickel, Frances Owen, Michael Plyley, Steven Renzetti, Cristina Santos, Larry Savage, Astride Silis, John Sivell, David Vivian, Michelle Webber, Barry Wright, Deborah Yeager-Woodhouse

Mr. Sebastian Prins, Mr. Luke Speers

Ms. Helen Young

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

ALSO

PRESENT: Mr. Patrick Beard, Professor Jonah Butovsky, Ms. Michelle Lea, Ms. Martha Nelson, Mr. David Petis

REGRETS: Professor Tansu Barker, Dean Thomas Dunk, Professor Sandra Felton, Dr. Greg Finn, Mr. Ned Goodman, Ms. Margaret Grove, Mr. Rudi Kroeker, Mr. Chris Lindley, Professor Diane Mack, Professor James Mandigo, Ms. Kim Meade, Professor Bozidar Mitrovic, Mr. Steven Nicholls, Mr. Edward Nkyi, Mr. Kevin Smith, Ms. Betty-Lou Souter, Professor Mark Spencer, Mr. Denis Ursov, Ms. Carly White, Professor Paul Zelisko, Professor Deborah Zinni

Professor Sydor welcomed members and called the meeting to order. She extended congratulations to those employees who had recently been recognized during the President's Holiday Celebration and Faculty and Staff Recognition for their 25 and 35 years of service to Brock University and to

those who had received special awards.

1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the 583rd meeting of Senate held on November 17, 2010 had been posted with the meeting materials.

MOVED (Merriam/Daigle)

THAT the minutes of the 583rd meeting of Senate held on November 17, 2010 be approved.

CARRIED

2. Business Arising from the Minutes - None

3. Communications - None

4. Report of the Chair

Professor Sydor provided a brief overview of the Highlights for Senate 584 which had been posted with the meeting materials for information. She congratulated Brock's researchers on the recent funding announcement of \$2.9 million from the federal government to support new or renewed Canada Research Chairs and welcomed to the University, Brock's newest Canada Research Chair, Jennifer Roswell.

Noting that December 6 marked the 20th anniversary of the Centre for Women's Studies, established in memory of the 14 women engineering students whose lives were taken at École Polytechnique in Montreal on December 6, 1989, Professor Sydor was pleased to express congratulations to the Centre for Women's Studies and to those who were instrumental in its establishment.

5. Report of the President and Vice-Chancellor - None

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

Dr. Knuttila provided an oral update on several activities underway within the Office of the Provost and Vice-President, Academic including several decanal searches and the search for the Vice-President, Research. As well, the new editor in charge of this year's edition of Maclean's University rankings was recently on campus for a tour. With respect to the pending expiration of license agreements between Access Copyright and post-secondary institutions, detailed information would be provided to faculty and staff following receipt of a legal opinion from the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada.

7. Report of the Academic Colleague – COU

[The Report of the Academic Colleague dated December 7, 2010 had been posted the day of the meeting and had been distributed in hard copy during the meeting.]

Dean Rose referred members to her Report which had been posted the day of the meeting and distributed to members in hard copy during the meeting.

In keeping with FHB II: 7.1.3 and to grant permission to introduce material not circulated to members five days in advance of the meeting, it was

MOVED (Savage/Plyley)

THAT the Five-Day Rule as outlined in FHB II: 7.1.3 be waived.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Dean Rose reviewed the Report which contained detailed information regarding the discussions held during the meetings of the Academic Colleagues held on October 21 and October 22.

During discussion, Dean Rose responded to questions. She noted that it was anticipated that a revised Brock IQAP would be submitted to Senate for consideration in February 2011 through the Academic Review Committee. With respect to the COU Academic Colleague draft discussion paper “On-Line Education: Academic Considerations” which had been provided to Senators following the previous meeting of Senate, it was noted that broad consultation of the draft paper, developed in response to the provincial government’s proposal to create an Ontario Online Institute, continues with various constituencies.

8. Report of the Actions of the Board of Trustees

[A Brief of the Board meeting held on December 2, 2010 had been posted with the meeting materials.]

The Report was received for information.

9. Unfinished Business from the Last Meeting - None**10. Reports of Standing Committees****10.1 Graduate Studies Committee**

[The Report of the Graduate Studies Committee dated November 30, 2010 had been posted with the meeting materials.]

Professor Klentrou presented the Report of the Graduate Studies Committee.

a) Amendment to FHB III: 14.5.3 Categories of Admission

MOVED (Klentrou/El-Hoss)

THAT Senate approve the proposed changes to Faculty Handbook III: 14.5.3 Categories of Admission as follows:

A. Regular Admission

Admission to Master's Program (degree and diploma/certificate)

To be admitted to a Master's program, a student will normally hold an four year honours undergraduate degree, or its equivalent, from an accredited university with a minimum overall grade average of 75% (mid-B) over the last two years of full-time undergraduate study from an accredited university.

A discussion ensued regarding the proposed amendments during which Professor Klentrou responded to questions. She indicated that the proposed changes would be effective following the approval of Senate. In an effort to further clarify the admissions process, the following motion was presented:

MOVED (Makus/Connolly)

THAT the motion be amended to strike out "To be admitted to a Master's Program" and insert "To be considered for admission to a Master's program".

CARRIED

Prior to calling the question, the Chair stated the amended motion as follows:

THAT Senate approve the proposed changes to Faculty Handbook III: 14.5.3 Categories of Admission as follows:

A. Regular Admission

Admission to Master's Program (degree and diploma/certificate)

To be considered for admission to a Master's program, a student will normally hold a four year honours undergraduate degree, or its equivalent, from an accredited university with a minimum average of 75% (mid-B) over the last two years of full-time undergraduate study.

QUESTION on the motion, as amended

CARRIED

10.2 *Undergraduate Student Affairs Committee*

[The Report of the Undergraduate Student Affairs Committee dated December 8, 2010 had been posted with the meeting materials.]

Professor Francis presented the Report of the Undergraduate Student Affairs Committee.

a) Amendment to Faculty Handbook III: 2.3.3 (d) *Equivalent Certificates*

Professor Francis reviewed the rationale for the proposed amendment as outlined in Appendix 1 of the Report.

MOVED (Francis/Lye)

THAT Senate approved the amendment to FHB III: 2.3.3 (d) Equivalent Certificates to include an admission policy that recognizes the Cambridge Pre-U curriculum as preparation for entry to undergraduate study and for the purpose of granting advanced standing as outlined in Appendix 1 of the Report.

CARRIED

10.3 *Governance Committee*

[The Report of the Governance Committee dated December 2, 2010, together with Appendix A: draft Brock University Integrated Plan dated 1 December 2010 and Appendix B: Brock 2020: Taking Our Own Tack – An Introduction to the Over-arching Strategy of our Planning dated 9 November 2010, had been posted with the meeting materials.]

Professor Sadava presented the Report of the Governance Committee.

a) Draft Brock University Integrated Plan

MOVED (Sadava/Daigle)

THAT Senate endorse the strategic academic principles and direction articulated in the Brock University Integrated Plan dated December 2010.

Professor Sadava reviewed the rationale for the proposed recommendation noting that broad consultation had occurred across the University and with Senators with respect to the development of the draft Brock University Integrated Plan.

Professor Sadava noted that BUFA members of Senate had recently received a communication from BUFA which raised several issues regarding the draft Plan.

At the request of the Chair, Dr. Knuttila reviewed the revisions that had been made to the draft Plan following the special meeting of Senate held on November 24, 2010 during which the document was discussed at length. He then addressed the issues raised in the BUFA communication.

The Chair of Senate opened the floor for discussion. During discussion, Dr. Knuttila and Dr. Lightstone addressed questions and received comments from Senators. It was clarified that the motion under consideration was to endorse the strategic academic principles and direction as outlined in section one of the Integrated Plan entitled “Brock University Strategic Plan”.

During discussion, it was suggested that the motion be amended to include the full date of the document and to include a reference regarding the evolving nature of the Plan.

MOVED (Daigle/Santos)

THAT the motion be amended to insert “1” prior to December 2010 and to insert “recognizing its evolving nature” after 2010.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the proposed amendment.

CARRIED

The Chair referred members back to the discussion of the main motion as amended.

With respect to the issues raised in the BUFA communication, it was questioned if the discussion should be deferred in order to provide an opportunity for BUFA to share the communication with all members of Senate. It was pointed out that, at the special meeting of Senate held on November 24, 2010 to discuss the draft Strategic Plan, those members present had, by a show of hands, expressed their support. With respect to the administration of the plan and associated funding implications, it was noted that these were ongoing matters which would be addressed by the bicameral governing bodies of the University.

MOVED (Savage/DeCourville)

THAT consideration of the motion be postponed until the next meeting of Senate in January 2011 in order to provide an opportunity for the BUFA communication to be circulated to all members of Senate.

Several members spoke to the proposed motion to postpone.

DEFEATED

Prior to calling the question, the Chair stated the amended main motion as follows:

THAT Senate endorse the strategic academic principles and direction articulated in the Brock University Integrated Plan dated 1 December 2010 recognizing its evolving nature.

CARRIED

Dr. Sydor noted that the two-hour meeting limit had been reached.

MOVED (Daigle/Blaikie)

THAT the Senate meeting be extended for no longer than an additional fifteen minutes.

CARRIED

b) For the Information of Senate

As detailed in the Report of the Governance Committee, there were several items reported to Senate for information regarding a discussion held in relation to the proposed Brock University Environmental Sustainability Institute, the eligibility of a student Senator to serve as Chair or Vice-Chair of a Senate Committee, and a call for submission of nominations for Honorary Degrees.

10.4 Undergraduate Program Committee

[The Report of the Undergraduate Program Committee dated December 8, 2010 had been posted with the meeting materials.]

The Report of the Undergraduate Program Committee had been posted with the meeting materials for the information of Senate.

11. Reports of Special Committees

11.1 Academic Review Committee

[The Report of the Academic Review Committee dated November 30 2010, together with Appendix A: Brief Submitted for the Standard Appraisal of the Proposed Joint Interdisciplinary MA Program in Canadian-American Studies Volume I: The Program dated November 2010, had been posted with the meeting materials.]

Dr. Knuttila presented the Report of the Academic Review Committee.

a) MA in Canadian-American Studies

Dean Rose provided an overview of the proposed Joint Interdisciplinary MA Program in Canadian-American Studies.

During discussion, an amendment to the proposed recommendation as contained in the Report was accepted by the mover and seconder to clarify that Senate was approving that the document be forwarded to the OCGS for review and approval of the program. The motion was stated as follows:

MOVED (Knuttila/Klentrou)

THAT the proposed Joint Interdisciplinary MA program in Canadian-American Studies, to be offered jointly by Brock University and the University of Buffalo, be approved by Senate for forwarding to the Ontario Council on Graduate Studies for their review and approval.

Several questions were raised regarding the proposed program to which Dean Kneale and Professor Merriam responded. As well, the statistics noted in the document regarding Canadian Studies courses and student demand at Brock University were questioned.

Professor Merriam indicated that additional names of participating faculty members and additional elective courses that had not been included in the original submission could be provided to the OCGS in an addendum to the document.

CARRIED

b) For the Information of Senate – IQAP Amendments

As outlined in the Report from the Academic Review Committee, information regarding the status of Brock's IQAP had been included for the information of Senate.

12. Other Business

a) 2011-12 Proposed Schedule of Academic Dates

[A Memo from the Registrar, together with the proposed Schedule of Academic Dates for 2011-12, had been posted with the meeting materials.]

The 2011-12 Proposed Schedule of Academic Dates had been posted with the meeting materials for the information of Senate.

13. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.