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Brock University Senate

MINUTES OF MEETING #2 (2011-12)

SENATE BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2011, 2:00 PM

13TH FLOOR BOARD ROOM, SCHMON TOWER

PRESENT: Professor June Corman (Chair), Professor Maureen Connolly, Dean Tom Dunk, Dr. Greg Finn, Professor Nota Klentrou, Dr. Murray Knuttila, Professor Carol Merriam, Professor Duncan MacDonald, Dean Neil McCartney, Professor Nota Klentrou, Professor Roberto Nickel, Professor Susan Sydor,

Ms. Joanne McKee, Ms. Margaret Thompson (Administrative Support)

REGRETS: Mr. Riaz Akseer, Professor Francine McCarthy, Professor Sheng Deng

Professor Corman welcomed members and called the meeting to order.

1. Ratification of Motion to Elect Committee Chair June Corman

At the previous meeting held on October 11, 2011, the Committee passed a recommendation that Professor June Corman be elected as Chair of the 2011-12 Budget Advisory Committee. As there was not a quorum present during that meeting, it was agreed that the motion be ratified at the next meeting.

MOVED (Klentrou/Merriam)

THAT the proposed recommendation presented at the meeting held on October 11, 2011 to elect Professor June Corman as Chair of the 2011-12 Budget Advisory Committee be ratified.

CARRIED

2. Election of Committee Vice-Chair

Professor Merriam nominated Professor Nickel who agreed to let his name stand. There were no further nominations.

MOVED (Merriam/Dunk)

That Professor Roberto Nickel be elected as Vice-Chair of the 2011-12 Budget Advisory Committee.

CARRIED

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

[The minutes of the previous meetings held on May 20, 2011 and October 11, 2011 had been distributed with the meeting materials.]

MOVED (Dunk/Finn)

THAT the minutes of Meeting #7 (2010-11) held on May 20, 2011 be approved.

CARRIED

MOVED (Klentrou/Nickel)

THAT the minutes of Meeting #1 (2011-12) held on October 11, 2011 be approved.

CARRIED

4. Overview of University Budget

[The 2011-12 Final Budget Report had been posted with the meeting materials.]

Ms. McKee provided a comprehensive review of the 2011-12 Final Budget Report and provided an overview of the key concepts of University funding.

During the presentation, Ms. McKee responded to all questions and received feedback from members.

Of note, members were encouraged to focus on the Budget Principles and Guidelines as outlined on pages 13 and 14 of the Final Budget Report. It was suggested to Ms. McKee that for future Reports, principle #9 be updated as the University had recently attained comprehensive status.

Dr. Knuttila, Provost and Vice-President, Academic, clarified that revenue from unexpected enrolments were allocated to address the deficit in 2010-11 to minimize the budgetary pressures on Faculties. He referred the Committee to the 2010-11 Final Budget Report for more details.

It was noted that the Mid-Year Budget Review 2011-12, which provides an update to the June 2011 approved budget assumption concerning revenues and expenditures, would be presented at the next meeting of the Committee.

5. Academic Implications due to the Budget Exercise

[Communications from the Department of Psychology and the Faculty of Social Sciences, together with a Response communication from the President and the Vice-President, Academic had been distributed with the meeting materials.]

The Chair referred members to the communication from the Department of Psychology which had been referred to the Committee for consideration from the Chair of Senate. An additional communication from the Faculty of Social Sciences and a response communication from the President and the Vice-President, Academic had also been distributed to members.

The Committee reviewed the communications as a starting point for its deliberations regarding the consistency of the operating budget with academic policy. It was noted that there had been other communications forwarded to the Senate Budget Advisory in previous years that were utilized by the Committee to assist with its deliberations. The issues raised in the communications, and any future communications shared with the BAC, will continue to inform the Committee's analysis of the budget process.

During further discussion, it was noted it would be beneficial for the University to promote collaboration across Departments and Faculties in order that shared initiatives for decreasing expenditures and/or increasing revenues may be implemented.

6. Other Business - None

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.