



(Circulated Prior to Approval)

Brock University Senate

MINUTES OF MEETING #596 (2011-12)

SENATE

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21, 2012, 3:00 PM

DR. CHARLES A. SANKEY CHAMBER, MACKENZIE CHOWN COMPLEX

PRESENT: Professor Susan Sydor (Chair), Professor James Mandigo (Vice-Chair),
Dean Ejaz Ahmed, Dean Fiona Blaikie, Interim Dean Don Cyr, Ms. Barb Davis,
Dean Thomas Dunk, Dr. Greg Finn, Dean Douglas Kneale, Dr. Murray Knuttila,
Mr. Rudi Kroeker, Dr. Gary Libben, Dr. Jack Lightstone, Dean Neil McCartney,
Ms. Kim Meade, Dean Michael Plyley

Professors Maureen Connolly, June Corman, Patricia Debly, Tamara El-Hoss,
Bareket Falk, Nancy Francis, David Gabriel, Nota Klentrou, Phillip Mackintosh,
Ingrid Makus, Dan Malleck, Francine McCarthy, Carol Merriam, Diane Miller,
Bozidar Mitrovic, Ms. Laurie Morrison, Professors MeriJean Morrissey, Roberto Nickel,
Lynn Rempel, Ms. Astride Silis, Professors Dragos Simandan, John Sivell,
David Vivian, Elizabeth Vlossak, Michelle Webber

Mr. Joe Robertson, Mr. John Suk

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

ALSO

PRESENT: Professor Maurice Feldman, Professor John Mitterer

REGRETS: Mr. Riaz Akseer, Mr. Cameron Alderdice, Professor Christine Daigle,
Mr. Tyler Dennis, Professor Tony DiPetta, Mr. Ned Goodman, Ms. Margaret Grove,
Mr. Aaron Harpwood, Ms. Christine Lackner, Professor Kelly Lockwood,
Professor Duncan MacDonald, Mr. Steven Nicholls, Professor Steven Renzetti,
Ms. Naomi-Alan Robbins, Professor Hans Skott-Myhre, Mr. Luke Speers,
Professor Mark Spencer, Mr. Chris Ventura, Dr. Thomas Winger, Dr. Philip Wright,
Professor Deborah Zinni

Professor Sydor welcomed members and called the meeting to order. The Chair recognized and introduced Dean Ejaz Ahmed, Faculty of Mathematics and Science and welcomed him to his first meeting of Senate.

1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the 595th meeting of Senate held on February 8, 2012 had been posted with the meeting materials. A typo was noted on page three of the minutes.

MOVED (Merriam/Finn)

THAT the minutes of the 595th meeting of Senate held on February 8, 2012 be approved as amended.

CARRIED

2. Business Arising from the Minutes

Professor Sydor reported that she had not received any negative comments on the suggestion presented at the previous meeting to hold a separate forum of Senate to focus on pedagogical innovation. Hence, a special meeting is being organized by Professor Mandigo to be held on Wednesday, April 18, 2012 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Sankey Chamber. Senate Committee Chairs and Vice-Chairs will soon be contacted to provide feedback from their respective Committees regarding potential themes to be discussed at the special meeting. In the interim, members were invited to e-mail any suggestions, ideas or comments to Professor Mandigo.

3. Communications - None**4. Report of the Chair - None****5. Report of the President and Vice-Chancellor**

[The President's Report to Senate dated March 12, 2012 had been posted with the meeting materials.]

Dr. Lightstone referred members to his written Report to Senate. He provided oral comments with respect to policy initiatives underway at different government levels regarding post secondary education.

During discussion, Dr. Lightstone responded to questions from members regarding his Report and shared some thoughts with respect to the potential outcome of next week's provincial budget announcement.

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

[The Report of the Vice-President, Research to Senate dated March 21, 2012 had been posted with the meeting materials.]

Dr. Knuttila referred members to his written Report. He provided an oral update on several activities and responded to questions from Senators.

7. Report of the Vice-President, Research

Dr. Libben provided an oral update on activities within the Office of Research Services. Noting that he had been unable to attend the previous meeting of Senate on February 8, he highlighted several items within his Report to the 585th meeting of Senate (http://www.brocku.ca/webfm_send/20117).

8. Report of the Academic Colleague – COU

[The Report of the Academic Colleague dated March 12, 2012 had been posted with the meeting materials.]

Professor Sivell referred members to the Report of the Academic Colleague. As noted in the Report, a draft position paper being prepared by the COU had been available for the perusal of Senators in the Office of the University Secretariat for several days prior to the meeting.

9. Report of the Actions of the Board of Trustees

[A Brief of the Board meeting held on February 16, 2012 had been posted with the meeting materials.]

Senate received, for information, the Report of the Actions of the Board of Trustees from the Board meeting held on February 16, 2012.

10. Unfinished Business from the Last Meeting – None

11. Reports of Standing Committees

11.1 Undergraduate Program Committee

[The Report of the Undergraduate Program Committee dated March 13, 2012 had been posted with the meeting materials.]

Professor Connolly presented the Report of the Undergraduate Program Committee.

a) For Information

The changes in the Undergraduate Course Bank which were approved by the Undergraduate Program Committee had been included in the Report for the information of Senate.

b) Approval of Social Science Context – PSYC 1F25

MOVED (Connolly/Finn)

THAT PSYC 1F25 be added to the list of Social Science context credits.

With the permission of the Chair, Professor John Mitterer, Department of Psychology, expanded on the rationale for the proposed recommendation as outlined in the Report.

CARRIED

Professor Connolly noted that UPC is receiving more courses with hybrid and on line components which necessitates further education and consultation regarding implications, such as support that may be required by Information Technology Systems. UPC is currently liaising with the Centre for Pedagogical Innovation and the Information Technology and Infrastructure Committee regarding the establishment of a consultation process.

A discussion ensued regarding the benefits and rationale for offering on-line courses, options to pursue to ensure server capacity will not be a limiting factor, potential policies that may need to be developed by Senate, for examples, such as those related to how many on-line courses a student make take, intellectual property and copyright. The Chair noted that this discussion would continue and many of the issues raised would be further discussed by Senate during the special meeting on April 18, 2012.

11.2 *Graduate Studies Committee*

[The Report of the Graduate Studies Committee dated March 2012 had been posted with the meeting materials.]

Professor Klentrou presented the Report of the Graduate Studies Committee.

a) Change to Degree Requirements – Master of Education (International Student Program)

MOVED (Klentrou/Morrissey)

THAT the proposed minor changes in degree requirements for the MEd ISP program be approved as outlined in the Report.

CARRIED

b) Change to Degree Requirements – Applied Disability Studies: MA, MADS and Graduate Diploma

Professor Makus provided an overview of the rationale for the proposed changes. She noted that Professor Maurice Feldman, Director of the Centre for Applied Disability Studies, was in attendance to respond to specific questions.

i) **MOVED** (Klentrou/Kneale)

THAT the proposed minor changes in degree requirements for the MA in Applied Disability Studies be approved as outlined in the Report.

CARRIED

ii) **MOVED** (Klentrou/Connolly)

THAT the proposed minor changes in degree requirements for the Master of Applied Disability Studies be approved as outlined in the Report.

CARRIED

iii) **MOVED** (Klentrou/Mackintosh)

THAT the proposed minor changes in degree requirements for the Graduate Diploma in Applied Disability Studies be approved as outlined in the Report.

CARRIED

11.3 Budget Advisory Committee

[The Report of the Budget Advisory Committee dated February 8, 2012 had been posted with the meeting materials.]

Professor Corman presented the Report of the Budget Advisory Committee from its meetings held on January 17, 2012 and February 7, 2012. She noted that the Committee continues to deliberate during its monthly meetings with respect to the advice it will provide to Senate regarding the budget's consistency with academic policy.

During the recent meeting of the Committee held on March 20, 2012, it was reported that the pension valuation had been completed. The annual payment was increased which will increase the annual shortfall and further increase current accumulated deficit projections. The Committee would be kept apprised of updated projections and strategies.

12. Other Business

The Chair thanked those colleagues who had accepted the nomination to stand in the next Senate election. Professor Sydor was pleased to note that 30 nominations had been received for the 18 vacant positions, and she encouraged members to participate in the election.

13. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.