

**MINUTES OF MEETING #4 (2011 - 2012) OF THE
SENATE RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP POLICY COMMITTEE
HELD ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 17th, 2012 AT 10:00AM - 11:30AM
IN MC D350-L**

PRESENT: Professor Steven Renzetti (Chair), Professor Francine McCarthy (Vice-Chair), Professor Kimberly Cote, Dr. Gary Libben, Professor James Mandigo, Professor Diane Miller, Dean Michael Plyley, Professor Jennifer Rowsell, Professor Dragos Simandan, Ms. Judith Maiden (Recorder)

ALSO PRESENT: Ms. Maureen Murphy, Professor Brian Roy, Ms. Lori Walker

REGRETS: Mr. Daniel Anti-Amoa, Professor David Gabriel, Ms. Margaret Grove, Professor Lynn Rempel, Mr. Chris Ventura, Professor Elizabeth Vlossak

Introductions / Welcome

1. Approval of Agenda

MOVED (Plyley/Miller)

- a. **THAT** the agenda be accepted as revised with the addition of the 'Centre for Bone and Muscle Health' (renaming)

CARRIED

2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

MOVED (Plyley/Simandan)

THAT the minutes of the #3 (2011 - 2012) Senate Research & Scholarship Policy Committee held on November 29th, 2011 be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

3. Business Arising from Minutes

- a. FHB:III:8:1: Human Research at Brock (b) ... 'under the auspices or within the jurisdiction of Brock University', defined

Professor Renzetti noted that representatives from the Office of Research Services were in attendance. He provided an overview of the issue stating that members of the Research Ethics Boards requested the term be defined to make it clearer what it means since there is an increasing number of faculty/students from other universities who may be carrying out research at Brock and it would be useful to clarify how those researchers' work is to be governed.

Ms. Maureen Murphy was asked as legal counsel to look at policy and review the legal definition and general definition for the words/phrases: 'under the auspices' and 'within the jurisdiction'.

Ms. Murphy could not find a legal definition for 'auspice' or 'under the auspices'. She could only find a general meaning. She did find a legal definition for 'jurisdiction' and a general

meaning, but had to restrict the search to non-court related matters. Opinion was that phrase was too general and wide in scope. Since it cannot be defined properly, it will operate as overly inclusive. Her recommendation to the Committee was to consider revising the wording to limit its scope.

In the TCPS2, Article 6.3 states, *'The institution shall grant the REB the mandate to review the ethical acceptability of research on behalf of the institution, including approving, rejecting, proposing modifications to, or terminating any proposed or ongoing research involving humans. This mandate shall apply to research conducted under the auspices or within the jurisdiction of the institution, using the considerations set forth in this Policy'*. Ms. Walker spoke on the application of the article and referred members to TCPS2 Chapter 8 A. - Review Mechanisms for Research Involving Multiple Institutions and/or Multiple REBs. Under multiple jurisdiction review multiple institutions must undergo an independent ethics review by each REB unless they enter into an official agreement with an institution to accept their REB as a Board of Record.

Professor Renzetti felt this is could be a potential issue and inquired how the committee wished to proceed. It was agreed that this issue needs to be resolved before the CFHBRC is occupied since McMaster will be renting property in the new building.

Ms. Walker identified that the TCPS2 uses the phrase *'under the auspices or within the jurisdiction'*. Professor Renzetti inquired if it is feasible to seek advice from the Panel on Research Ethics (PRE) on this matter. Professor Renzetti asked Ms. Walker to contact the PRE to see if they have the interpretation of the languages. If not, he asked Ms. Murphy and Ms. Walker if they will think of new language and bring it back to the committee. Ms. Walker stated she had previously asked PRE for interpretation of this phrase, but will try again.

b. Centre for Bone and Muscle Health (renaming)

Professor Roy provided information on the proposed name change for the "Centre for Muscle Metabolism and Biophysics" to "Centre for Bone and Muscle Health". He stated the centre was formed in 2004 and formally approved in 2005. The Centre has had an expansion in its focus and this has led to the addition of seven people. With the new Cairns Building almost complete, and the timing of the move into new building, it was time to change the name to something health related. The process to receive opinions and ideas on what to name their centre was started over a year ago because they wanted to be inclusive. With this increase in membership, the fit with University Strategic Plan and their interdisciplinarity, this change was deemed appropriate.

Professor Renzetti asked for questions or comments. There were none.

MOTION We recommend to Senate the approval of the change in the name of the Research Centre

(Rowsell/Mandigo)

CARRIED

Ms. Maiden was asked to inform Professor Roy when this issue will be on the Senate agenda.

Conversation ensued in regard to the review process. Professor Renzetti said last years' committee looked into review but decided not to pursue the issue at the time. Since this year's committee wishes to begin the review process he suggested they decide how many centres to review in a year. Professor Mandigo suggested his '*Centre for Healthy Development*' be used as a design ground, since this will be a learning process for us all. It was suggested to let the other centres know that they will be reviewed as well. A suggestion was made to provide the centres with benchmarks and Professor McCarthy suggested a template be developed on the expectations. Professor Renzetti agreed to develop this template. Ms. Maiden has an updated list of existing Research Centres and Institutes that will be useful.

Professor Renzetti referred members to the Faculty Handbook for the guidelines on the review process.

4. Report from Vice-President Research

a. A revised timelines and (signatures) memo

In follow up regarding the timelines and deadlines memo sent out in July to the Deans requesting they forward it to their areas, numerous comments were received regarding the language used in the memo. Dr. Libben recognized the intention of the memo, but thought some other means of signing could be implemented to highlight what is being requested in the applications. He conducted several meetings with various stakeholders and proposed to have a new process in place by the end of January. A discussion ensued regarding what the new process would look like.

Concern was expressed at the downloading of work onto faculty members who would have to spend time reading their colleagues' proposals (usually not in their area of expertise), and particularly regarding the expectation that Chairs would sign off on all proposals issuing from their units, guaranteeing that requirements (such as space & equipment) were available to support the research proposed.

It was agreed that there has to be responsibility assumed for signing-off, but uncertainty was expressed as to where the responsibility lies.

b. Building a database with valid research data and measures

[The Report of the Vice-President Research dated January 17th was sent electronically to the SR&SP Committee on January 13th with meeting materials.]

Dr. Libben referred members to his report which contained detailed information from meetings recently attended and activities of the Vice-President, Research.

Dr. Libben plans to look at seven strategic domains and develop a list that can be measured and seek input from faculty members. Professor Renzetti would like to get the sub-committees operational and assign specific tasks and thought this list may be a good place to start.

c. The ACE Advisory Committee and the upcoming Tri-Council Monitoring Visit

The Tri-Council will be conducting a financial audit of the university sometime in 2012. In preparation for this visit a committee has been formed. The mandate of the Accountability & Compliance Engagement (ACE) Advisory Committee will be to offer advice that will facilitate best practices in the domain of the management of research funds and full compliance with Tri-council Guidelines across the Brock University community. They will also aid the implementation of new policies, processes, services and tools within faculties.

5. Other Business

The request for the name change from the Brock Environmental Sustainability Research Unit (BESRU) to the Environmental Sustainability Research Centre (ESRC) was brought to Senate on December 7, 2011 and was approved.

The Office of Research Services has undertaken a review of Brock's Intellectual Property policy. Dr. John Wilson is undertaking the process and has invited this committee to provide a representative to sit on the IP Policy committee for the purpose of conducting the review.

Ms. Maiden will provide suggested dates for upcoming meetings.

Date of Next Meeting:

TBD

6. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:20am