



(Circulated prior to approval)

Brock University Senate

MINUTES OF MEETING #6 (2011-12)

SENATE TEACHING AND LEARNING POLICY COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 2012, 11:00 AM

13TH FLOOR BOARD ROOM, SCHMON TOWER

PRESENT: Professor Roberto Nickel (Chair), Ms. Chris Gigler, Professor Calvin Hayes, Professor Barry Joe, Professor Sarah Matheson, Professor Bozidar Mitrovic, Professor Susan Sydor, Mr. Chris Ventura, Dr. Philip Wright, Ms. Margaret Thompson (Administrative Support)

ALSO

PRESENT: Dr. Jill Grose

REGRETS: Dean Fiona Blaikie, Professor Charles Conteh, Dr. Greg Finn, Ms. Margaret Grove, Professor Kelly Lockwood, Dean Michael Plyley

Professor Nickel welcomed members and called the meeting to order.

1. Approval of Minutes

[The minutes of Meeting #5 (2011-12) held on January 19, 2012 had been circulated with the meeting materials.]

MOVED (Mitrovic/Wright)

THAT the minutes of Meeting #5 (2011-12) of the Teaching and Learning Policy Committee held on January 19, 2012 be approved.

CARRIED

2. Business Arising from the Minutes - None

3. Report of the Chair

Professor Nickel reported on the following:

a) Large Class Discussion Group

With the support of the Centre for Pedagogical Innovation, a large class discussion group has been formed. The next meeting of the group will be held on April 3 at noon in Thistle 253.

Interested members were encouraged to attend and to extend the invitation to their colleagues. One of the long term anticipated goals of the group is to produce a document with recommendations on how to improve large class pedagogy.

b) Request for Representation on the Teaching and Learning Policy Committee from the Centre for Adult Education and Community Outreach (CAECO)

The Chair had received a request from Professor Sharon Abbey, Director of the Centre for Adult Education and Community Outreach (CAECO) that CAECO have representation on the Teaching and Learning Policy Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for discussion. In response to a question, the Chair indicated that included in Professor Abbey's rationale for the request was that CAECO could provide expertise in the area of pedagogical policy development.

Following discussion, members concurred that the request be referred to the Senate Governance Committee as that Committee recommends any changes to the terms of reference and composition of all standing Committees of Senate. Professor Nickel would advise Professor Abbey accordingly.

4. Intellectual Property Policy

[Section 5.0 "Intellectual Property" of Appendix B of the Collective Agreement between Brock University and the Brock University Faculty Association had been distributed with the meeting materials.]

Professor Nickel noted that both the Teaching and Learning Policy Committee and the Research and Scholarship Policy Committee had been requested by the Governance Committee to provide suggestions regarding the composition of a potential future committee to review section 5.0 "Intellectual Property" of Appendix B of the Collective Agreement between Brock University and the Brock University Faculty Association.

The Committee discussed the request during which it was noted that the Research and Scholarship Policy Committee had recommended to the Governance Committee that the committee investigating the Intellectual Property policy at Brock should include the Copyright Officer at Brock, a Graduate Student and an Associate Dean Graduate Studies".

Following discussion, it was

MOVED (Mitrovic/Hayes)

THAT the Teaching and Learning Policy Committee recommend to the Governance Committee that the Chair of the Teaching and Learning Policy Committee, an undergraduate student and a graduate student be included in the composition of a future committee to review the University's Intellectual Property Policy.

CARRIED

Professor Nickel would forward the recommendation to the Chair of the Governance Committee for consideration.

5. Discussion re: Pedagogical Innovation and Transformation

[The President's Report to Senate titled "Whither Pedagogy? A 'thought piece' in an era of transformative change at Brock" had been posted with the meeting materials.]

Professor Nickel referred members to the President's Report to Senate titled "Whither Pedagogy? A 'thought piece' in an era of transformative change at Brock". The document had been discussed at the recent meeting of Senate on March 21. A special meeting of Senate devoted to the further discussion of issues related to teaching/innovative pedagogy would be held on April 18, 2012. In preparation for the April 18 special meeting of Senate, Professor Mandigo, Vice-Chair of Senate, has requested that Senate Committees provide information to him regarding important themes related to teaching/innovative pedagogy to guide the discussion during the special meeting.

The Committee engaged in a comprehensive discussion. The following suggestions were presented and would be forwarded by Professor Nickel to the Vice-Chair of Senate for consideration during the special meeting of Senate on April 18:

- Provide examples of successful on-line courses as many instructors have no experience with on-line courses.
- Discuss the following issues:
 - a) Alternative pedagogies and pedagogical modalities, such as problem-based learning, inquiry based learning and service
 - b) Different approaches to group work
 - c) Choosing assignments for courses
 - d) Peer-learning and student-to-student mentorship such as that which Professor Murray Wickett, Department of History, has developed whereby 4th year honours History majors take a course for credit as part of which they are paired with a first or second year History major who is struggling
 - e) Large class teaching
 - f) Classroom infrastructure and its impact on pedagogy

6. Standing Reports

6.1 Centre for Pedagogical Innovation

Professor Joe provided the following update for the information of the Committee:

- Provincial Members of the Legislative Assembly and Regional politicians were on campus on March 13 for the COU "Back to Class" event, and CPI organized the Innovative Pedagogy segment of the tour:
 - Professor Barry Joe presented on transformative learning and digital literacies
 - Doctoral candidate Ryan Howard presented on Base Camp

- Federal MPs would be on campus today for a COU "Back to Class" event:
 - Professor Anna Lathrop would present on Base Camp
 - Professor Tanya Martini would present on e-portfolios and her research for HEQCO
- A second call for E-Learning Initiative is envisioned for the first week of April:
 - At this point from the courses approved in the first round, we have one course being offered, five courses well into development with completion dates of September 2012 for four and one for January 2013
 - Three others are still in consultation phase
- CPI has put out a call for a Faculty Associate in Service Learning as the Centre begins to assume responsibilities for that pedagogy.
- CPI is collaborating with Professor James Mandigo, Vice-Chair of Senate, in the planning for a Senate forum on pedagogy.
- Chabriol Colebatch, the Copyright Coordinator and Legal Advisor, has made significant progress in her educational outreach to faculty and staff. She has done departmental visits, individual consultations, and has an ambitious program of workshops and brown bag sessions advertised.
- CPI will host the annual TA Reception and Awards ceremony on April 10 at noon in Alpie's.
- CPI will host a Spring Perspective on Best Practices in Teaching and Learning on April 27 which will be open to the University community.

6.2 *Library* - None

6.3 *Information Technology Services*

Dr. Wright provided an oral update on activities within Information Technology Services. Of note, he continues to seek input from the Teaching and Learning Policy Committee and the Information Technology and Infrastructure Committee with respect to the Schedule 8 requests, which can be viewed on the ITS website, and prioritization of the projects. He noted that the Information Technology and Infrastructure Committee is also reviewing a faculty survey to be distributed to solicit input from instructors regarding information technology and infrastructure needs in the classroom.

7. **Other Business** - None

8. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.