

**MINUTES OF MEETING #6 (2011 - 2012) OF THE
SENATE RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP POLICY COMMITTEE
HELD ON MONDAY, MARCH 26th, 2011 AT 9:00AM - 10:30AM
IN MC D350-L**

PRESENT: Professor Steven Renzetti (Chair and acting Recording Secretary), Professor Francine McCarthy (Vice-Chair), Interim Dean Don Cyr, Ms. Margaret Grove, Dr. Gary Libben, Professor James Mandigo, Professor Diane Miller, Dean Michael Plyley, Professor Lynn Rempel, Professor Dragos Simandan, Mr. Chris Ventura, Professor Elizabeth Vlossak

ALSO

PRESENT: Professor Felice Martinello

REGRETS: Mr. Daniel Anti-Amoa, Professor Kimberly Cote, Professor David Gabriel, Professor Jennifer Rowsell, Ms. Judith Maiden

Introductions / Welcome

1. Agenda Item 1: Approval of Agenda

MOVED (Rempel/Cyr)

THAT the agenda be accepted as circulated.

CARRIED

The Chair asked for and received the committee's permission to deal with agenda items out of order so that members' schedules could be accommodated.

2. Agenda Item 6: Other Business

a. Distinguished Research & Creative Activity Adjudication

Professor Renzetti declared a conflict of interest and left the meeting. With Professor McCarthy as acting Chair, the committee discussed the need to appoint a representative from this committee to the panel adjudicating applications for the Distinguished Research and Creative Activity awards. Dragos Simandan has agreed to be a member of the Distinguished Research & Creative Activity Adjudication Committee.

3. Agenda Item 1(a): McMaster RDC - UW/WLU agreement

Professor Martinello (Economics) described Statistics Canada's Data Liberation Initiative and the workings of one of the Research Data Centres (at McMaster University) that was established under this initiative. He pointed out that a number of Brock faculty and students have benefited from having access to confidential data at the McMaster RDC at no cost. The Head of the McMaster RDC (Byron Spencer, McMaster Department of Economics) has approached Professor Martinello with the desire to establish a Memorandum of Understanding that would set out Brock faculty and student's future access to the RDC and also set out Brock's support for the

RDC. During the discussion that followed, it was pointed out that Brock had such an MOU with Waterloo's RDC in the past and that Brock considered the possibility of establishing its own RDC.

MOVED (Cyr/McCarthy)

THAT the Research and Scholarship Policy committee recommends that Brock University create a Memorandum of Understanding with McMaster University to allow continued access by Brock researchers to the McMaster Research Data Centre.

CARRIED

4. Agenda Item 2: Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

MOVED (Plyley/Simandan)

THAT the minutes of the #4 (2011 - 2012) Senate Research & Scholarship Policy Committee held on January 17th, 2012 be approved.

CARRIED

MOVED (Plyley/Rempel)

THAT the minutes of the #5 (2011 - 2012) Senate Research & Scholarship Policy Committee held on February 27th, 2012 be approved.

CARRIED

5. Agenda Item 1(b): Faculty of Business – possible centre

Professor Cyr indicated that the national professional association representing Certified General Accountants has expressed an interest in participating (and funding) in the establishment of a new centre in the Faculty of Business. This would be modeled on the existing centres (Brock Accounting Research and Education Centre and Brock Centre for International Issues in Accounting). In the discussion that followed, several points were made:

- That the existing centres had not been approved by Senate but that, at a previous meeting of this committee (October 18, 2011), it was agreed that they should be 'grandfathered' and not required to seek approval of Senate.
- On the other hand, any new centre would be required to conform with the provisions in the Faculty Handbook and to seek approval of Senate
- Of particular importance would be the governance structure of the proposed centre and the role, if any, for representatives of outside agencies in the centre's decision-making processes.

6. Agenda Item 5 (a): Report of Vice-President (Research): Associate Vice-President Research position

For the information of the committee, the VP(R) presented a draft job description for a new position. He indicated that it is his hope to have this position approved and advertised in the near future and to have the position filled through an internal competition. It was pointed out

by committee members that the FHB would have to be revised to include the responsibilities of the new position.

7. Agenda Item 5 (b): Report of Vice-President (Research): Special Seed Grants

For the information of the committee, the VP(R) indicated that the current budget situation is likely to allow him to provide additional funding for internal seed grants. The additional funds are expected to complement existing funds and have as their primary focus supporting the establishment of collaborative research teams seeking external research funding.

8. Agenda Item 3 (a): Business Arising from Minutes - President's Report Whither Pedagogy (595-Jan. 2012)

Professor Renzetti reported on the recent discussion in Senate on Innovative Pedagogy. In preparation of a special Senate meeting on this topic, all committees have been asked to provide ideas for themes for that meeting. Committee members made the following suggestions:

- How can more research get into classrooms? How can faculty be supported and encouraged to bring the most recent research results to students through classroom teaching?
- How can the REB revise its procedures for project approval in order to better facilitate undergraduate student research projects?
- What is the most recent research on innovative and effective pedagogy and how can CTL better provide this information to faculty?
- How can the research carried out by graduate students be better represented in classrooms?
- What can Brock do to ensure that students are exposed to its most productive researchers in classrooms and through other opportunities?
- Is the adoption of novel technologies either necessary or sufficient for innovation in pedagogy?

Professor Renzetti will forward these ideas to the organizers of the special Senate meeting.

9. Agenda Item 3 (b): Business Arising from Minutes – other items

Professor Renzetti reported on a number of items:

- At the next committee meeting, Lori Ann Walker (REB) will report on her findings regarding the Tri-Council's interpretation of the "under the auspices" phrase.
- Given the differing opinions expressed by committee members since the last meeting regarding what information will be required from Centres and Institutes undergoing review, this item needs further consideration by the committee and this will be taken up at the next meeting.
- The form to be used by teams which submitted successful LOI's under Brock's "Pillars" competition has been released. Several committee members noted that the wording of the form appears to conflict with the Faculty Handbook by not indicating that new Centres and Institutes must apply to Senate for approval. VP (R) Libben indicated that, even if the wording of the form does not reflect this, senior academic administrators are aware of

this requirement. The committee requested that Professor Renzetti write to the Vice President (Academic) to express its concerns.

All other Agenda items were deferred until the next committee meeting (April 30th).

The meeting adjourned at 10:20am.