



**Brock University Senate**

MINUTES OF MEETING #8 (2011-12)

**SENATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

WEDNESDAY, MAY 2, 2012, 3:45 PM

SANKEY CHAMBER, MACKENZIE CHOWN COMPLEX

**PRESENT:** Professor Carol Merriam (Chair), Mr. Mike Farrell (Recording Secretary), Dr. Greg Finn, Dean Douglas Kneale, Professor Ingrid Makus, Professor Dan Malleck, Professor Deborah McPhee, Professor Bozidar Mitrovic, Professor Hans Skott-Myhre, Professor Susan Sydor, Professor David Vivian

**REGRETS:** Mr. Riaz Akseer, Dean Fiona Blaikie, Mr. Luke Speers

Professor Merriam called the meeting to order at 3:55 p.m. The meeting was preceded by a meeting of the Committee with Senate Committee Chairs, Vice-Chairs and Secretaries.

**1. Approval of minutes**

[The minutes of meeting #7 (2011-12) of the Senate Governance Committee held on April 4, 2012 had been distributed with the meeting materials.]

**MOVED** (Malleck/McPhee)

**That the minutes of meeting #7 (2011-12) of the Senate Governance Committee held on April 4, 2012 be approved.**

**CARRIED**

**2. Business arising from the minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

**3. Report on the April 18 special Senate meeting**

The Committee discussed the special Senate meeting held on April 18 which was devoted to discussing issues related to Innovative Pedagogy. Members of the 2011-12 Senate and 2012-13 Senate-Elect were invited to attend. The special meeting was organized by Professor Mandigo, Professor Barry Joe and staff of the Centre for Pedagogical Innovation. Senate Vice-Chair Professor James Mandigo would provide a report on the special meeting to Senate on May 9. Senate Committee Chairs will be asked to discuss the Report with their respective Committees.

**4. Review and revision of FHB II: 26 Policy on Protecting Students as a Result of a Work Stoppage that Disrupts Academic Activities**

As this is the last meeting of the current Governance Committee, Professor Merriam noted that the 2012-13 Committee will continue the review and revision of the Policy on Protecting Students as a Result of a Work Stoppage that Disrupts Academic Activities. The review is a result of the strike by ESL Instructors and a need to improve the policy. The Committee discussed issues and possible revisions to the policy which were noted by the Chair for future discussions. The application of the policies of other universities would be reviewed

The Committee agreed that Senators would be asked to send suggestions on how to improve the policy to Professor Merriam. Members will be asked to consider what needs to be done with the focus being on protecting the interests of students. For background, Senators will be referred to the Governance Committee report to Senate 597 held April 11, 2012. The report provides a summary of the discussion and what was learned from the strike by the ESL instructors. A sub-committee of Governance will be formed to develop a report to be presented to Senate in the fall.

**5. Governance Committee Annual Report to Senate**

[The 2011-12 Governance Committee Annual Report, were circulated with the meeting materials.]

The Committee reviewed the draft 2011-12 Governance Committee Annual Report. The action to be taken with respect to the revision of the Policy on Protecting Students as a Result of a Work Stoppage that Disrupts Academic Activities will be included in the report. The report would be forwarded to Senate for information for the May 23, 2012 meeting.

**6. Other business**

Professor Sydor asked if there was a more effective way for Senate to discuss important issues apart from the regular business items presented during meetings. Professor Sydor will report back to the Committee with details on having informal discussions with Senate. She noted that the Centre for Pedagogical Innovation may be able to be of assistance.

Professor Sydor also questioned if the Senate Committee structure is appropriate at this time and if there should be more meetings with Committee Chairs, Vice-Chairs and Secretaries. It was suggested that each Committee could review its mandate.

Professor Merriam thanked the members of the Committee for their hard work and commitment over the past year. Professor Sydor expressed her appreciation, on behalf of the Committee, to Professor Merriam and to Professor Vivian for their leadership as Chair and Vice-Chair of the Committee over the 2011-12 year.

**7. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.