



MINUTES OF MEETING #565 (2008-09)

SENATE

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2009, 3:00 PM

DR. CHARLES A. SANKEY CHAMBER, MACKENZIE CHOWN COMPLEX

PRESENT: Professor John Sivell (Acting Chair), Dr. Terry Boak, Dean Ian Brindle, Ms. Barb Davis, Dean Thomas Dunk, Dr. Greg Finn, Ms. Margaret Grove, Dean Rosemary Hale, Dean James Heap, Mr. David Howes, Mr. Rob Lanteigne, Interim Dean Anna Lathrop, Dr. Jack Lightstone, Ms. Kim Meade, Dean Marilyn Rose, Interim Dean Barbara Sainty, Dr. Liette Vasseur, Dr. Thomas Winger, Dr. Philip Wright

Professors Tansu Barker, Irene Blayer, Dr. Karen Bordonaro, Professors Rick Cheel, Tony DiPetta, Tamara El-Hoss, Nancy Francis, Nota Klentrou, Murray Kropf, Dan Malleck, Phillip Mackintosh, Jamie Mandigo, Jane McLeod, Carol Merriam, MeriJean Morrissey, Roberto Nickel, Tom O'Neill, Frances Owen, Gary Pickering, Michael Plyley, Virginia Reh, Kirill Samokhin, Adonis Skandalis, R. Angus Smith, Garth Stevenson, Susan Sydor, Michelle Webber, Murray Wickett, Barry Wright, Paul Zelisko

Ms. Melissa Barnard, Ms. Lianne Bradley, Mr. Joseph Brown, Mr. Kurtis McCartney

Mr. Roelof Makken, Ms. Joy Rogers

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

ALSO

PRESENT: Mr. Patrick Beard, Professor Tony Bogaert, Professor Hugh Gayler, Professor Colleen Hood, Mr. Peter Opdan, Mr. David Petis, Ms. Jo Stewart

REGRETS: Professor May Bletz, Professor Maureen Connolly, Mr. Will Crothers, Professor Christine Daigle, Mr. Ned Goodman, Ms. Sheryl Huff, Mr. Hassan Kahlid, Mr. Ryan Klamot, Professor Louis Volante

Professor Sivell welcomed members and called the meeting to order. He noted that during this period of time when the Chair of Senate was away, the Chair of the Governance Committee may be called upon to serve as Acting Vice-Chair of Senate.

1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the 564th meeting of Senate held on December 10, 2008 had been posted on-line with the meeting materials.

MOVED (Sydor/Plyley)

THAT the minutes of the 564th meeting of Senate held on December 10, 2008 be approved.

CARRIED

2. Business Arising from the Minutes

Professor Sivell indicated that two items arising from the previous meeting, one regarding three-year degree programs and the other regarding the addition of FHB III. 14.7 *Examinations* would be considered later during the meeting.

3. Communications

[A memo from the Secretary of Senate dated January 14, 2009 had been posted with the meeting materials.]

Professor Sivell referred members to the memo from the Secretary of Senate with respect to the 2009 Senate Election.

MOVED (Sydor/Sainty)

THAT the election of representatives to fill Senate vacancies occurring at the end of Spring Convocation, with the exception of student representatives, take place on Friday, March 27, 2009.

CARRIED

4. Report of the Chair

Professor Sivell shared the following highlights for the information of Senate:

- Professor Emeritus Ken Kernaghan had become Brock University's first faculty member to receive the Order of Canada.

MOVED (Barker/Hale)

THAT Senate forward a letter of congratulations to Professor Emeritus Kenneth Kernaghan in recognition of his appointment to the Order of Canada and for becoming Brock University's first faculty member to receive this honour.

CARRIED

- The Canada Foundation for Innovation awarded \$25,542 to Brock University to support a project led by Professor Martin Lemaire, Department of Chemistry.
- Brock's MBA team finished the 2009 John Molson MBA International Case Competition as the top-ranked Canadian team.
- Brock's Faculty of Business was selected as one of the top 1,000 Best Business Schools around the world through Eduniversal.
- Professor Mary Breunig, Department of Recreation and Leisure, was recently named the Outstanding Experiential Teacher of the Year by the Association of Experiential Education.
- Professor Dolana Mogadime, Graduate and Undergraduate Department, Faculty of Education, has accepted a three-year appointment as an Extra-Ordinary Associate Professor at the North-West University, Potchefstroom, South Africa, where she will spend at least two weeks each year.
- The first event of the annual graduate research conference "Mapping the New Knowledges" was recently held and featured keynote speaker Dean Marilyn Rose.
- Professor James Allard, Department of English Language and Literature, has been selected as one of the final ten contenders in the 2009 Big Ideas Best Lecturer Competition.
- Mr. Robert Eagle was recently appointed as Director, Office of Research Services.
- The Nitsopoulos Family Entrepreneurship Award was recently established to support recent graduates who are committed to establishing their business in Niagara;
- Associate Dean Rodger Beatty, Faculty of Education, was recently presented with an Honorary Life Membership from the Ontario Music Educators' Association.

Professor Sivell welcomed and introduced Dr. Liette Vasseur, recently appointed Vice-President, Research Services.

5. Report of the President and Vice-Chancellor

[The President's Report dated January 5, 2009 had been posted on-line with the meeting materials.]

The President began by also extending a welcome to Vice-President, Research Services, Dr. Vasseur. Dr. Lightstone extended sincere appreciation to Dr. Brindle for serving as Acting Vice-President, Research and to Professor Mercier for serving as Interim Dean of the Faculty of Mathematics and Science.

Dr. Lightstone noted that his Report had been prepared for the January 21st meeting of Senate, which had been cancelled. While the President had intended to provide a presentation to Senate at that meeting regarding Brock's academic plan and the University's finances, there had been several town hall meetings recently held. Dr. Lightstone emphasized that the current financial situation must not deter the University from moving ahead with the work required to implement the plans outlined in *Brock 2014*.

A discussion ensued regarding the University's finances and potential impact to academic programs during which the President responded to questions and received comments from members. The importance of discussing the matter in greater detail with the full body of Senate was stressed. It was concurred that a special meeting of Senate be convened to continue the

discussion with the President prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting. Senators were encouraged to bring forward creative initiatives to generate additional revenue, decrease costs and enhance student education.

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

[A Report *15-Credit BA and BSc Degrees and 20-Credit BA and BSc Degrees* dated February 11, 2009 had been posted with the meeting materials together with the following attachments: 1. Ministerial Statement on Quality Assurance in Canada; 2. Should Three-Year Arts and Science Degrees be added to the Complement of Bachelor's Degrees Offered by Alberta Public Institutions?; 3. Brock University Bachelor's Degrees Awarded by Degree Class: 1999 to 2008; and 4. 3-Year Degrees Awarded in Ontario (Percentage of total) 1999-2008]

Dr. Boak referred members to the related documents that had been posted as a preamble to the discussion to be held at today's meeting regarding 15-credit and 20-credit degree programs. As outlined in *Brock 2014 - Knowledge, Engagement, Transformation- An Academic Plan for Brock University*, one of Brock's objectives is to eliminate three-year degree programs in the Faculties of Humanities, Social Sciences and Mathematics and Science by 2010. During Dr. Boak's overview of the reports, he noted a correction regarding eligibility for admission to the consecutive BEd program, specifically that a four-year honours degree is given preference.

The Chair indicated that there had not been any additional reports submitted from either the Undergraduate Program Committee or any other Senate Committee for consideration at today's meeting.

The Chair opened the floor for a time-limited discussion. During Senate's consideration, several issues were addressed regarding the elimination of three-year degrees including the potential impact on articulation agreements with colleges; quality of education; associated expenditures and revenues; physical space issues; proposed timelines and potential to phase out three-year degree programs; and economic pressures for students.

Professor Sivell encouraged Senate Committees such as Undergraduate Program, Undergraduate Student Affairs and Graduate Studies to further examine the issues at hand and provide feedback to Senate for further discussion.

7. Report of the Academic Colleague - COU

[The *Academic Colleague's Report* dated January 20, 2009 had been posted with the meeting materials together with a COU Update - November 28, 2008.]

The Report of the Academic Colleague was received for information.

8. Report of the Actions of the Board of Trustees

There had been no meeting held since the previous meeting of Senate.

9. Unfinished Business from the Last Meeting - None

10. Reports of Standing Committees**10.1 Undergraduate Program Committee**

[The Reports of the Undergraduate Program Committee had been posted with the meeting materials.]

Professor Mandigo referred members to the Reports of the Undergraduate Program Committee which included 103 separate motions. He expanded on the Committee's vigorous process of reviewing the submissions prior to bringing forward the recommendations to Senate.

Professor Mandigo expressed thanks to the members of the Committee, and particularly to Committee Chair Professor Hugh Gayler, Caroline Lidstone and Evelyn Di Fruscio, for their countless hours of support and expertise.

a) Report 1 - Re: Proposed Changes in the Undergraduate Course Bank

MOVED (Mandigo/Finn)

THAT Senate approve the 37 motions contained in items 1-18 as outlined in the Report from the Undergraduate Program Committee.

CARRIED

b) Report 2 - Re: Proposed Changes to the Undergraduate Course Bank

MOVED (Mandigo/Reh)

THAT Senate approve the 41 motions contained in items 1-27 as outlined in the Report from the Undergraduate Program Committee.

CARRIED

Professor Sivell indicated that in order to address the next report which contained additional time-sensitive calendar submissions, a motion to waive the Five-Day Rule, which must receive unanimous consent, was required.

MOVED (Reh/Morrissey)

THAT the Five-Day Rule outlined in FHB II: 7.1.3 be waived.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

c) Report 3 - Re: Proposed Changes to the Undergraduate Course Bank

MOVED (Mandigo/Finn)

THAT Senate approve the 25 motions contained in items 1-16 as outlined in the Report.

CARRIED

10.2 Graduate Studies Committee

[The Reports of the Graduate Studies Committee dated January 12, 2009 and January 30, 2009 had been posted with the meeting materials.]

Professor Klentrou presented the Committee's Reports.

a) Re: Faculty of Graduate Studies - 2009-10 Schedule of Important Dates

The 2009-10 Schedule of Important Dates had been included for the information of Senate. During discussion, it was noted that the January 4th start date for Winter Term 2010 did not coincide with the January 11th start date for undergraduate studies which had been previously presented at Senate. As well, the proposed dates for Family Day and the President's Holiday were questioned.

Professor Klentrou noted that she would ask the Director of the Faculty of Graduate Studies to clarify the dates with the Registrar and would report back to Senate.

b) Re: Proposed Amendments to FHB III: 14.3 - Graduate Calendar

MOVED (Klentrou/Brown)

THAT the proposed changes and additions to FHB III Section 14 be approved as outlined in the Report.

CARRIED

c) Re: Proposed Amendments to FHB III: 14.7 - Examinations

MOVED (Klentrou/Francis)

THAT the Faculty Handbook addition of Section 14.7 - Examinations be approved as revised.

It was noted that the recommendation had been presented at the previous meeting of Senate and had been referred back to the Committee for further clarification regarding the application procedure for a student to write a deferred examination. The changes made were noted.

During discussion, and on a separate matter, clarification was sought regarding the phrase "within ten days of the examination" and if the intent was ten days before or ten days after. It was noted that this was the same language used within the Undergraduate Calendar. It was suggested that further clarification be sought with the Registrar. As well, a suggestion was made to consider the utilization of the phrase "working days".

MOVED (Stevenson/Reh)

THAT the proposed addition of FHB 14.7 Examinations be referred to the Graduate Studies Committee for further clarification.

CARRIED

10.3 *Research and Scholarship Policy Committee*

[The Reports of the Research and Scholarship Policy Committee dated January 14, 2009 and February 6, 2009 had been posted with the meeting materials.]

Professor Pickering presented the Reports of the Committee.

a) Research Unit for Global Education (RUGE)

The proposal regarding the establishment of the Research Unit for Global Education within the Pre-Service Department of the Faculty Education had been provided for the information of Senate.

b) Application for Approval of New Research Institute – Niagara Community Observatory

Professor Pickering referred members to the proposal for the establishment of the Observatory which had been discussed during the Committee's most recent meeting held February 4, 2009.

The Chair noted that as the Report had not been distributed at least five days in advance of today's meeting, a motion was required to waive the Five-Day Rule which would require the unanimous consent of Senate.

MOVED (Sydor/Owen)

THAT the Five-Day Rule outlined in FHB II: 7.1.3 be waived.

DEFEATED

The proposal would be included on the agenda for the next meeting of Senate.

10.4 *Budget Advisory Committee*

[The Report of the Budget Advisory Committee dated February 4, 2009 had been posted with the meeting materials.]

Professor Sydor presented the Report of the Budget Advisory Committee for the information of Senate.

In response to a question, the President expanded on the process by which reductions could be offset by additional revenue sources and the differences within undergraduate and graduate systems.

Given the time constraints and noting the urgency of agenda item 11, Professor Sivell suggested, and Senate concurred that the matter be moved forward and addressed prior to the remaining items.

Agd. Item

11. Other Business

11.1 Approval of Early Issue of Degree Diploma - In Camera

Professor Sivell indicated that a motion was required to move in camera.

MOVED (Sydor/Malleck)

THAT Senate move *in camera*.

CARRIED

Senate moved *in camera* at 4:44 p.m.

Senate resumed **open** session at 4:47 p.m.

[During the *in camera* session, a confidential report from the Registrar was displayed on the overhead screen. Senate passed a motion approving the early issue of two degree diplomas as outlined in the confidential report dated January 29, 2009.]

Agd. Item

10.5 Governance Committee

[The Report of the Governance Committee dated February 4, 2009 had been posted with the meeting materials.]

Professor Cheel presented the Report of the Governance Committee.

a) Recognizing Service to Senate

MOVED (Cheel/Morrissey)

THAT Senate recommend to the senior administration that the Chair and Vice-Chair of Senate be granted release time in order to perform their Senate duties.

During discussion, it was clarified that the motion did not imply that the release time would be granted but that it would be considered by senior administration. It was noted that “senior administration” referred to the President and Vice-Chancellor and to the Provost and Vice-President, Academic. It was suggested that the appropriate Faculty Dean also be included in any consideration for release time. Specific details regarding the release time would be negotiated on a case-by-case basis between the Chair/Vice-Chair of Senate and senior administration.

In light of the discussion held, it was further suggested that those senior administrators included in the parameters outlined above abstain from voting.

CARRIED

MOVED (Cheel/Sydor)

THAT Senate recommend that the Office of the Registrar organize the Convocation procession in order that participating Senators march immediately behind the Mace Bearer and that all Senators are listed in the Convocation booklet.

It was noted that the names of all current Senators would be listed in the booklet, whether or not a Senator was in attendance at the ceremony.

CARRIED

b) Executive Committee for Senate Business Over Summer Months

MOVED (Cheel/Heap)

THAT Senate approve that the Chair and Vice-Chair of Senate consult with members of Senate, as appropriate, in making decisions on routine matters over the summer months, and that Faculty Handbook Section II: 7.1.1 be amended accordingly.

It was noted that, as indicated in the Report, all matters considered would be reported to Senate during its first meeting of the academic year in September.

A discussion ensued during which the rationale for the proposed recommendation was questioned in light of the current policies in place as outlined in the Faculty Handbook.

Professor Sivell noted the hour at 5:03 p.m. It was suggested that further discussion would be required regarding the recommendation on the floor, together with the next motion outlined in the Report regarding the Governance Committee serving as the Executive Committee of Senate over the summer months to consider non-routine matters.

MOVED (Klentrou/Brown)

THAT the proposed recommendation be laid on the table until the next meeting of Senate.

CARRIED

Agenda item 2 and the remaining agenda items within the Report of the Governance Committee (items 3-8) were deferred and would be considered at the next meeting of Senate.

12. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.