(Circulated Prior to Approval)

Brock University
Senate
St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada L2S 3A1
T: 905-688-5550, Ext. 3334 F: 905-688-9754
www.brocku.ca

MINUTES OF MEETING #556 (2007-08)

SENATE

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2008, 3:00 PM

DR. CHARLES A. SANKEY CHAMBER, MACKENZIE CHOWN COMPLEX

PRESENT: Professor Maureen Connolly (Chair), Professor Barry Wright (Vice-Chair), Dr. Terry Boak (following agenda item 5), Professor Ian Brindle, Dean John Corlett, Ms. Barb Davis, Dr. Greg Finn, Ms. Margaret Grove, Dean James Heap, Dr. Jack Lightstone, Dean Joffre Mercier, Dean Marilyn Rose

Professors Mohamed Ayadi, Tansu Barker, Shyamal Bose, Rick Cheel, Christine Daigle, Tamara El-Hoss, Nancy Francis, Anton Jansen, Nota Klentrou, Anna Lathrop, Herb MacKenzie, Dan Malleck, Cheryl McCormick, Carol Merriam, Bozidar Mitrovic, Merijean Morrissey, Tom O'Neill, Brian Roy, Anamitra Shome, John Sivell, R. Angus Smith, Garth Stevenson, Susan Sydor, Louis Volante, Paul Zelisko

Mr. Justin Carre, Ms. Victoria Howerton, Mr. Roelof Makken, Ms. Iva Mathews, Mr. Kurtis McCartney, Ms. Joy Rogers

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

ALSO PRESENT: Mr. Patrick Beard, Mr. Matt Clare, Associate Dean Don Cyr, Dr. Jim Kerr, Associate Dean Jane Koustas

REGRETS: Professor Irene Blayer, Ms. Karen Bordonaro, Professor Tony DiPetta, Mr. Ned Goodman, Ms. Alison Grevatt, Dean Rosemary Hale, Mr. David Howes, Professors Ken Klassen, Murray Kropf, Dean Martin Kusy, Mr. Rob Lanteigne, Mr. Sohail Mall, Ms. Kim Meade, Mr. Damien O'Brien, Dean David Siegel, Professors Mary Louise Vanderlee, Michelle Webber

Professor Connolly welcomed members and guests to the 556th meeting of Senate.

The Chair shared the following celebratory announcements:

- Professor Hans Skott-Myhre, Department of Child and Youth Studies, was recently featured in *The St. Catharines Standard* for his book *Youth and Subculture as Creative Force*;
- Professor John Mitterer, Department of Psychology, and Professor Tim Conley, Department of English Language and Literature, are both finalists in TVO's Big Ideas Best Lecturer

Competition;

- Men's Basketball Coach Ken Murray recently became just the 4th active coach in the Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) organization to record 500 career victories;
- Professor Ernest Biktimirov, Department of Finance, Operations and Information Systems, was recently featured in *Canadian Business* regarding his solutions to instructing international students in corporate finance; and
- Professor Maureen Connolly, Department of Physical Education and Kinesiology and Director of the Centre for Teaching, Learning and Educational Technologies, was recently featured in the *The Catharines Standard* and *The Welland Tribune* for her work in developing the annual Autism Spectrum Disorder Summer Movement Camp held at Brock University for children with autism.

1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the 555th meeting of Senate held on January 23, 2008 had been posted on-line with the meeting materials.

MOVED (Merriam/Mercier)

THAT the minutes of the 555th meeting of Senate held on January 23, 2008 be approved.

CARRIED

2. Business Arising from the Minutes - None

3. Communications - None

4. Report of the Chair - None

5. Report of the President and Vice-Chancellor

Dr. Lightstone provided an oral update on the University's endeavours to secure government funding. With respect to the recent $4.5 million one-time funding allocation to Brock through an investment by the Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities as part of the 2007-08 Campus Renewal Program, the funding would be used for infrastructure renewal, campus security, safety initiatives and deferred maintenance projects.

The President apprised Senators of a pending major funding announcement that would be made during a press conference to be held tomorrow, February 14, with respect to the planned Health and Biosciences Research Complex.

The Chair noted that a motion was required to move ***in camera*** for consideration of two items.

On a motion by Dr. Mercier, seconded by Dr. Finn and carried, Senate moved ***in camera*** at 3:14 p.m. Non-Senators retired from the meeting.

******

Senate resumed **open** session at 3:20 p.m. Non-Senators rejoined the meeting.

[During the ***in camera*** session, Dr. Lightstone advised Senate of a pending six-month extension to the term of office of the Vice-President, Academic and Provost.

The Registrar presented a student's request for the early issuing of a Degree Diploma, in keeping with the protocol approved during the 553rd meeting of Senate. Senate **passed a motion** approving the early issue of the diploma.]

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

Dr. Boak noted that as per Senate's recommendation at the previous meeting, Senate Committees had been provided an opportunity to review the draft document *Brock 2014: Knowledge, Engagement, Transformation - An Academic Plan for Brock University* in relation to each Committee's mandate.

Senate Committee Chairs/Vice-Chairs then provided an oral summary of their respective Committee's discussion. It was noted that the Research and Scholarship Policy Committee and the Budget Advisory Committee had yet to review the draft plan.

Dr. Boak thanked Senators for their feedback and welcomed members to forward written comments to him. The information provided during all of the discussions held would be further considered during the revision of the draft academic plan.

Professor Connolly turned the chair over to Professor Wright for discussion of the next item. In her role as Director of the Centre for Teaching, Learning and Educational Technologies and at the request of the Teaching and Learning Policy Committee and the Information Technology and Infrastructure Committee, Professor Connolly provided a presentation regarding the findings of the task force struck to examine options of remaining with a vendor-based learning management system (such as Blackboard) or moving to an open source product (such as Sakai or Moodle). A comparison report between the learning management systems was shown on the screen and copies were circulated.

Senators then engaged in a discussion and provided feedback to administration regarding the pros and cons of both systems. During the discussion, Professor Connolly, Dr. Kerr and Mr. Clare, Educational Technologies Support Specialist, responded to questions.

As the University's contract with its current vendor-based system, Blackboard (WebCT) expires in June 2009, Professor Connolly noted the need for a timely decision as a transitional period would be required whether the University remains with a vendor-based product or moves to an open source product.

7. Report of the Academic Colleague - COU

[The Report of the Academic Colleague dated February 12, 2008 was circulated at the outset of the meeting.]

Dean Rose referred members to the Report which included the recommendations forwarded on behalf of the Academic Colleagues to the Executive Heads with respect to the Van Loon Report on Graduate Appraisals (discussed at the previous meeting of Senate) and the outcome of the meeting of the Executive Heads.

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 Research and Scholarship Policy Committee
[The Report of the Research and Scholarship Policy Committee dated January 24, 2008 had been posted on-line with the meeting materials, together with related appendices.]

Professor Klentrou presented the Report of the Research and Scholarship Policy Committee.

a) Re: Centre for Sport Capacity

MOVED (Klentrou/Frances)

THAT Senate approve the formation of the Centre for Sport Capacity for a term of five years, from September 1, 2007 to August 31, 2012 as outlined in the Report and appendices.

Professor Klentrou and Dean Corlett responded to questions and expanded on the creation of the Centre which will assist in building capacity in the Canadian sport system, as outlined in the appended submission, and provide new opportunities for research and research funding. Dean Corlett, in response to a question, confirmed that the Centre was to be self-funded.

A correction was noted regarding the commencement date of the term of the Centre and the motion was amended as follows:

THAT Senate approve the formation of the Centre for Sport Capacity effective today, February 13, 2008, for a term of five years.

Question on the motion, *as amended* **CARRIED**

10.2 Information Technology and Infrastructure Committee
[The Report of the Information Technology and Infrastructure Committee dated February 4, 2008 had been posted on-line with the meeting materials.]

Professor Stevenson presented the Report for the information of Senate.

10.3 Teaching and Learning Policy Committee
[The Report of the Teaching and Learning Policy Committee dated February 4, 2008 had been posted on line with the meeting materials.]

Professor Sivell presented the Report for the information of Senate.

10.4 Graduate Studies Committee

[The Report of the Graduate Studies Committee dated February 5, 2008 had been posted on-line with the meeting materials together with related appendices.]

Professor Shome presented the Report.

a) Re: Degree Requirements for the Master of Education

MOVED (Shome/Mercier)

THAT Senate approve the proposed changes in degree requirements for the Master of Education as outlined in the Report.

In response to a question, Dean Rose reviewed the rationale for the modifications to the fields of study, noting that the changes had been approved by the Ontario Council on Graduate Studies.

CARRIED

10.5 Undergraduate Student Affairs Committee

[The Report of the Undergraduate Student Affairs Committee dated February 13, 2008 had been posted on line with the meeting materials.]

Professor MacKenzie presented the Report of the Undergraduate Student Affairs Committee.

a) Re: Proposed amendment to FHB III: 9.1.4 (C) *Examinations*

MOVED (MacKenzie/Volante)

THAT Senate approve the amendment to FHB III: 9.1.4: (C) Examinations as outlined in the Report.

CARRIED

b) Re: Proposed addition of FHB III: 19.1.9 *Distinguished Graduating Student Award*

MOVED (MacKenzie/Brindle)

THAT Senate approve the addition of FHB III: 19.1.9 Distinguished Graduating Student Award as outlined in the Report.

CARRIED

10.6 Undergraduate Program Committee

[The Report of the Undergraduate Program Committee had been posted on line with the meeting materials.]

Professor Jansen presented the Report of the Undergraduate Program Committee.

a) Re: Education-Aboriginal Adult Education

MOVED (Jansen/Brindle)

THAT Senate approve the changes to the Course Bank for the Tecumseh Centre for Aboriginal Research and Education-Aboriginal Adult Education as outlined on page 1 of the Report.

CARRIED

b) Re: Education-Adult Education

MOVED (Jansen/Brindle)

THAT Senate approve the changes in the Course Bank for the Centre for Adult Education and Community Outreach as outlined on page 1 of the Report.

CARRIED

c) Re: Geography

MOVED (Jansen/Brindle)

THAT Senate approve the changes in the Course Bank for the Department of Geography as outlined on page 2 of the Report.

CARRIED

d) Re: Labour Studies

MOVED (Jansen/Brindle)

THAT Senate approve the changes in the Course Bank for the Centre for Labour Studies as outlined on page 2 of the Report.

CARRIED

10.7 Governance Committee

[The Report of the Governance Committee dated February 7, 2008 had been posted on line with the meeting materials.]

Professor Cheel presented the Report of the Governance Committee.

a) Re: Senate Budget Advisory Committee - Terms of Reference

Professor Cheel noted a slight amendment to the proposed motion in the Report which would ensure that the Chair of Senate could also convene the inaugural meeting of the Committee.

MOVED (Cheel/Barker)

THAT Senate approve that the Chair or Vice-Chair of Senate annually convene the inaugural meeting of the Budget Advisory Committee and oversee the election of the Committee Chair and that FHB II: 9.4.2 be amended accordingly.

CARRIED

b) Re: Senate Budget Advisory Committee - Composition

MOVED (Cheel/Barker)

THAT Senate approve that the composition of the Budget Advisory Committee be amended to include an undergraduate and a graduate student member and that FHB II: 9.4.2 be amended accordingly.

CARRIED

Also, for the information of Senate, Professor Cheel noted that the Governance Committee had reviewed and approved the Self-Study documents and the list of those to be interviewed by the reviewers for both the Department of Sociology and the Department of Economics.

11. Other Business

11.1 Academic Dates: 2008 Winter - 2009 Winter Term

[The updated Academic Dates: 2008 Winter - 2009 Winter Term had been posted with the meeting materials.]

The Registrar presented the updated Academic Dates for the 2008 Winter - 2009 Winter Term for the information of Senate.

11.2 In Memory

Professors Brindle and Cheel related that Professor Wayne Jolly, Department of Earth Sciences, had sadly passed away on February 9, 2008. Members were invited to attend the celebration of Professor Jolly's life and work to be held later in the day at 5:00 p.m. in the Pond Inlet.

12. Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.