



MINUTES OF MEETING #542 (2006-07)

**SENATE**

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2006, 3:00 PM

DR. CHARLES A. SANKEY CHAMBER, MACKENZIE CHOWN COMPLEX

PRESENT: Professor Stan Sadava (Chair), Dr. Terry Boak, Dean Ian Brindle, Dean John Corlett, Ms. Barb Davis, Ms. Margaret Grove, Dean Rosemary Hale, Dean James Heap, Dean Martin Kusy, Dr. Jack Lightstone, Ms. Kim Meade, Dean Marilyn Rose, Dean David Siegel, Dr. Harald Tomesch

Ms. Karen Bordonaro, Professors Michael Carter, Rick Cheel, Maureen Connolly, Tamara El-Hoss, Greg Finn, Nancy Francis, Colleen Hood, Anton Jansen, Murray Kropf, Anna Lathrop, Herbert MacKenzie, Cheryl McCormick, Carol Merriam, Bozidar Mitrovic, Meri Jean Morrissey, Rebecca Raby, Miriam Richards, Anamitra Shome, Susan Sydor, Mary Louise Vanderlee, Louis Volante, Barry Wright, Paul Zelisko

Ms. Anna Lise Domanski, Ms. Alison Grevatt, Ms. Michelle Green, Mr. Brad Humble, Mr. Damien O'Brien, Ms. Lisa Piroli, Ms. Joy Rogers, Mr. Andrew Saunders

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

ALSO

PRESENT: Professor Jean Bridge, Mr. Ron Dubien, Mr. Rico Natale

REGRETS: Professor Irene Blayer, Professor Don Brown, Professor Tony DiPetta, Mr. Tom Goldspink, Mr. David Howes, Professor Nota Klentrou, Professor Pierre Lizée, Mr. Sohail Mall, Professor Dan Malleck, Dr. Raymond Moriyama, Dr. Michael Owen, Professor Jonathan Radue, Professor Raafat Roubi, Professor Murray Wickett

Professor Sadava welcomed members and guests to the 542<sup>nd</sup> meeting of Senate.

**1. Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the 541<sup>st</sup> meeting of Senate had been posted on-line with the meeting materials.

**MOVED** (Saunders/McCormack)

**THAT the minutes of the 541<sup>st</sup> meeting of Senate held on September 27, 2006 be approved.**

**CARRIED**

## 2. Business Arising from the Minutes - None

## 3. Communications

Professor Sadava reported that he had been forwarded a communication from a faculty member regarding the concept of the University's "structural deficit". The Chair referred the matter to the Senate Budget Advisory Committee.

## 4. Report of the Chair

The Chair reminded and encouraged members to attend the following upcoming events:

- Fall Convocation: Friday and Saturday, October 20 and 21
- Installation of the President: Friday, October 20 (during Convocation)
- Dr. Raymond Moriyama's Book Signing Event: November 5, 3:30 p.m., Sankey Chamber

On behalf of Senate, Professor Sadava extended congratulations to Dr. Moriyama on the publishing of his new book "*In Search of a Soul: Designing and Realizing the New Canadian War Museum*". As well, he offered congratulations to Mr. David Howes, Senator and Chair of the Board of Trustees, on his recent appointment to the Niagara Parks Commission Board.

With respect to negotiations currently underway, Chair Sadava stated the following: "Collectively we on the University Senate have the legal and effective responsibility for the academic program of this University, teaching, research, scholarship, and mentoring. Thus, as faculty, students and administrative officials, we have a deep and legitimate concern with the current labour difficulties between the administration and BUFA, particularly in the very real possibility of a disastrous strike. The time for good intentions and for posturing is over. As Chair of Senate, I simply want to urge both sides to act, by immediate, serious and unceasing negotiation to achieve a collective agreement."

## 5. Report of the President and Vice-Chancellor

[The Report from the President and Vice-Chancellor dated October 5, 2006 had been posted on-line, together with the following reports: *Multi-Year Agreement for Universities for 2006-07 to 2008-09*, including Appendix A: "*Reaching Higher*" *Measurement and Results Schematic for 2006-07 to 2008-09* and Appendix B: *Multi-Year Action Plan for Universities*, and a *Briefing Report* regarding the Deputy Minister's recent visit to campus including Appendix A: 3D Site Plan.]

Dr. Lightstone referred members to his written Report dated October 5, 2006 and appendices. He highlighted several issues within his written Report.

With respect to current negotiations underway between the University the Brock University Faculty Association (BUFA), the President conveyed the following remarks:

"BUFA and the Administration will be engaged in a mediation process next week with an experienced mediator, in whom both sides have confidence. The Administration is entering the mediation process committed to do its best to achieve a settlement. I believe that BUFA is entering the mediation process equally committed to achieving a settlement and avoiding a strike. I am concerned about, and would like to avoid, both parties being caught in a spiraling dynamic of 'brinkmanship' leading to an end that neither party wants and will do no one, least of all the students,

any good. One of the things that appealed to me about Brock was the strong sense of collegiality and commitment towards the institution. It is important that we maintain that collegiality as we work as a community in the best interests of the institution and its mission.”

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

[A Report *NSSE: An Overview of the Preliminary Results* had been posted on-line with the meeting materials.]

Dr. Boak referred Senators to his written Report regarding the preliminary results of the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE). The results were generally positive for the University and would be further examined by the NSSE Steering Committee to determine potential improvements to be undertaken by the University.

Dr. Boak recognized the recent challenges experienced with WebCT. The Chief Information Officer would be providing an update later in the meeting.

At the request of Dr. Boak, Mr. Dubien reported on a security breach within the alumni database. A thorough investigation was currently underway and a follow-up Report would be provided to Senate once completed.

## 7. Report of the Academic Colleague - COU

Dean Rose indicated that the Academic Colleagues had not met since the previous meeting of Senate. A Report would be provided at the next Senate meeting.

## 8. Report of the Actions of the Board of Trustees

[A Brief of the Board meeting held September 28, 2006 had been posted on-line with the meeting materials.]

The Chair referred members to the Brief of the meeting of the Board of Trustees held September 28, 2006.

## 9. Unfinished Business from the Last Meeting – None

## 10. Reports of Standing Committees

### 10.1 Graduate Studies Committee

[A Report from the Chair of the Graduate Studies Committee dated October 5, 2006 had been posted on-line with the meeting materials.]

Professor Richards referred members to the Report of the Graduate Studies Committee.

### 1. RE: Studies in Comparative Literatures & Arts

**MOVED** (Richards/Rose)

**THAT Senate approve the addition of SCLA 5P77 to the graduate course bank and the deletion of SCLA 5P60 and 5P70 from the graduate course bank.**

**CARRIED**

2. RE: Psychology

**MOVED** (Richards/Brindle)

**THAT Senate approve the re-addition of PSYC 5F90, 7F01, 7F02, 7F03 and 7F90 to the graduate course bank.**

**CARRIED**

**10.2 Teaching and Learning Policy Committee**

[A Report from the Chair of the Teaching and Learning Policy Committee dated October 10, 2006 had been posted on-line with the meeting materials.]

Professor Lathrop referred members to the Report distributed for information. She noted that the Committee continued to examine two outstanding items from the previous year, namely core and context requirements and standardized course evaluations.

At the request of the Committee, the Chief Information Officer had been invited to report on recent challenges experienced with WebCT. Mr. Dubien provided an overview of the inherent problem with the current version of WebCT (version CE 6). Mainly, the system was unable to handle the capacity of courses loaded at the beginning of the semester. He described the temporary solution which had been implemented for the remainder of the term; however, he emphasized that long term solutions and subsequent adjustments would continue to be addressed.

During discussion, Mr. Dubien and Professor Connolly responded to questions. Several outstanding concerns regarding the current and future utilization of WebCT were expressed by Senators including the system's capability for the remainder of the term, the number of courses that can be supported this term and next term, the functioning of the WebCT gradebook, funding implications, and the need for improved communications.

Professor Sadava requested that the Teaching and Learning Policy Committee address the outstanding concerns and report back to Senate at its next meeting on November 15, 2006.

**10.3 Undergraduate Program Committee**

[A Report from the Chair of the Undergraduate Program Committee dated October 10, 2006 had been posted on-line with the meeting materials.]

Professor Finn referred members to the Report of the Undergraduate Program Committee. A wording correction to Appendix 1 and to the title of the School of Fine and Performing Arts was noted.

**MOVED** (Finn/Hale)

**THAT Senate accept the Articulation Agreement between Brock University (Department of Visual Arts, School of Fine and Performing Arts, Faculty of Humanities) and Sheridan College Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning (School of Animation, Arts and Design) as outlined in Appendix 1.**

**CARRIED**

Professor Finn noted that the remainder of the Report had been submitted for information.

#### **10.4 Undergraduate Student Affairs Committee**

[A Report from the Undergraduate Student Affairs Committee dated October 10, 2006 had been posted on-line with the meeting materials.]

RE: Amendment to FHB III: 9.1.2.B, Examination, General

**MOVED** (Mackenzie/Finn)

**THAT Senate approve the following amendment to FHB III: 9.1.2.B Examination, General, as outlined in Appendix 1:**

**B. The following statements shall routinely be placed on final examination scripts:**

**- No examination aids other than those specified on the examination scripts are permitted (this regulation does not preclude special arrangements being made for students with disabilities.). *Translation dictionaries (e.g. English-French) or other dictionaries (thesaurus, definitions, technical) are not allowed unless specified by the instructor and indicated on the examination paper. ~~Electronic devices are never allowed.~~***

During a brief discussion, it was noted that electronic devices, such as calculators, may be permitted during exams at the discretion of the instructor. The mover and seconder accepted a friendly amendment and the last sentence of the motion was deleted.

**QUESTION on the motion, as amended**

**CARRIED**

#### **10.5 Governance Committee**

[A Report from the Chair of the Senate Governance Committee dated October 12, 2006 had been posted on-line with the meeting materials.]

Professor Connolly presented the Report of the Senate Governance Committee. She briefly reviewed the information items in the Report regarding the striking of a sub-committee to review the draft Report received from the UPRAC auditors and to remove the term “designate” as an editorial amendment to the Faculty Handbook with respect to the composition of Senate Committees.

A request was made that the elimination of the term “designate” be further examined as, for example, Associate Deans may frequently serve as Acting Deans during the Dean’s absence. Professor Connolly agreed to take the matter back to the Governance Committee for further consideration and to obtain advice from the Committee on Academic Deans.

The Chair noted that a motion was required to move *in camera* for the next item. Non-Senators withdrew from the meeting.

**MOVED** (O'Brien/Merriam)

**THAT Senate move *in camera*.**

**CARRIED**

Senate moved *in camera* at 4:15 p.m.

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Senate resumed **open session** at 4:20 p.m. Non-Senators rejoined the meeting.

[During the *in camera* session, Senate approved a recommendation from the Governance Committee regarding the appointment of two full-time faculty members to serve on the Advisory Committee on the Appointment of the Vice-President, Advancement.]

## **11. Other Business**

### **11.1 Student Awards**

[A memo from the Manager, Student Awards dated September 26, 2006 had been posted on-line with the meeting materials.]

Mr. Rico Natale, Director of Student Awards and Financial Aid, notified Senate of the recipients to be awarded the Governor General's Silver Medals during the Fall Convocation ceremonies (as per FHB III: 19.4.1).

On behalf of Senate, Professor Sadava expressed congratulations to Ms. Julianne Justine Tenhaaf and Mr. Thomas Joel Farrar.

## **12. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.