



Senate

St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada L2S 3A1  
T: 905-688-5550, Ext. 3334 F: 905-688-9754

www.brocku.ca

MINUTES OF THE

**536<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF SENATE**

HELD ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2006

AT 3:00 PM

IN THE DR. CHARLES A. SANKEY CHAMBER, MACKENZIE CHOWN COMPLEX

**Present:** Professor Stan Sadava (Chair), Professor Donald Brown (Vice-Chair), Ms. Barb Anderson (Registrar), Dr. Terry Boak (President and Vice-Chancellor), Dean Ian Brindle (Faculty of Mathematics and Science), Dean John Corlett (Faculty of Applied Health Sciences), Dean Rosemary Hale (Faculty of Humanities), Dean Martin Kusy (Faculty of Business), Dr. Michael Manley-Casimir (Vice-President, Academic and Provost), Ms. Kim Meade (Associate Vice-President, Student Services), Dr. Michael Owen (Associate Vice-President, Research), Dean Marilyn Rose (Graduate Studies), Dean David Siegel (Faculty of Social Sciences), Dr. Harald Tomesch (President, Concordia Seminary)

Professors Michael Carter, Jane Dywan, Heather Gordon, Herbert MacKenzie, Dan Malleck, Angela Mills, MeriJean Morrissey, Roberto Nickel, Rebecca Raby, Jonathan Radue, Miriam Richards, Barbara Sainty, Anamitra Shome, Adonis Skandalis, Mary Louise Vanderlee, Michelle Webber

Mr. Tom Goldspink, Mr. David Howes, Mr. Andrew Saunders, Mr. Bill Tays, Ms. Beth Visser

Mr. Mike Farrell, Secretary  
Ms. Margaret Thompson, Associate Secretary (Recorder)

**Also**

**Present:** International Graduate Students, Master of Education (ISP)

**Regrets:** Professor Maureen Connolly, Ms. Margaret Grove, Dean James Heap, Professor Debra Inglis, Dr. Raymond Moriyama, Mr. Kithio Mwanzia, Professor Danny Rosenberg, Professor Susan Sydor, Professor Barry Wright

**Absent:** Professor Tony DiPetta, Professor Nota Klentrou, Professor Bozidar Mitrovic, Professor Dolana Mogadime, Mr. Damien O'Brien, Mr. Michael Sidenberg, Professor David Vivian, Professor Bob Welch, Professor Murray Wickett, Mr. Sean Woodhead, Professor Allister Young

Professor Sadava welcomed members and guests to the 536<sup>th</sup> meeting of Senate.

### 1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the 534<sup>th</sup> meeting and the 535<sup>th</sup> (special) meeting of Senate had been posted on-line with the meeting materials.

**MOVED** (Saunders/Kusy)

**THAT the minutes of the 534<sup>th</sup> meeting of Senate held on January 18, 2006 be approved.**

**CARRIED**

**MOVED** (Saunders/Dywan)

**THAT the minutes of the 535<sup>th</sup> (special) meeting of Senate held on February 1, 2006 be approved.**

**CARRIED**

### 2. Business Arising from the Minutes - None

### 3. Communications

- a) Professor Sadava noted that he had received a communication from Mr. Larry Savage, Chief Steward, CUPE 4207 dated February 18, 2006. For the record, the communication read:

“I am contacting you in your capacity as Chair of the University Senate. At your last meeting, the Senate made a decision to eliminate lab demonstrator positions for 1<sup>st</sup> year courses in Modern Languages. This decision will result in the elimination of up to fifty bargaining unit positions governed by the CUPE 4207 collective agreement. The Senate’s decision violates Articles 3, 4, and 5 of the CUPE 4207 collective agreement and was not made in consultation with either CUPE 4207 or Human Resources.

CUPE 4207 is seeking standing at the next meeting of Senate. The fact that we were neither consulted nor informed about the deliberations which resulted in this decision is completely unacceptable to our Union. We would like the opportunity to make our case for preserving these jobs and we would like members of Senate to receive a copy of this correspondence. I look forward to hearing from you.”

Professor Sadava read his reply to Mr. Savage which indicated that he would further consult regarding the concern; however, Senate was ultimately responsible for the educational policy of the University, as constituted by the *The Brock University Act*, which included the determination of academic programs and program requirements. While Senate’s decision may have had implications, Senate did not directly pass a specific motion to eliminate positions. It did, however, concur to a recommendation from the department to eliminate the requirement for language labs as course requirements.

The Chair noted that following further consultation, it was confirmed that the motion passed by Senate was in keeping within its mandate. Senate has no role in the negotiation of union-

management contracts.

- b) Professor Sadava reported that he had received a communication from Professor Barry Grant, BUFA President. Professor Grant had indicated that apparently BUFA expressed concern last year that the position of the Academic Colleague should be held by a current academic member of BUFA, not a member of the senior administration. The BUFA President was now requesting the rationale for the approval of this appointment and consideration to reappoint an academic member to the position. Professor Sadava indicated that he had referred the matter to the Senate Governance Committee for clarification.

Dean Rose, Brock's Academic Colleague, indicated that it certainly was not an anomaly for deans to serve as the Academic Colleague. She noted that she would be pleased to consult with the Governance Committee regarding her appointment by Senate. Professor Brown, previous Chair of the Governance Committee, confirmed that during the Committee's review of the proposed 2005-2006 Senate slate, there were no concerns received from BUFA.

Senators Dywan and Visser voiced their appreciation to Dean Rose for her continuous exemplary undertakings as Brock's Academic Colleague and Dean of Graduate Studies.

**4. Report of the Chair - None**

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

[The Report from the President dated February 22, 2006 had been posted on-line with the meeting materials.]

Dr. Boak referred members to his written Report dated February 22, 2006.

Dr. Boak related that during a recent meeting of the Executive Heads, Board Chairs and the Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities, The Honourable Chris Bentley, there was no news was shared by Minister Bentley regarding tuition fees or 2005-06 graduate program funding. Dr. Boak indicated that the Board Chairs of the universities would be working with various committees to further advocate for the institutions.

As outlined within his Report, Dr. Boak reviewed the mandates of the Medical Emergency Planning Committee, chaired by Dean Corlett, and the Task Force on Community-University Relationships, chaired by Mr. Pillar. Dean Corlett expanded on the initiatives taken to date and future plans with respect to medical emergency planning.

Dr. Boak highlighted several other issues within his Report, including the outstanding performance of Brock's Faculty of Business students who participated in the Inter-Collegiate Business Competition finals. He encouraged members to attend the Office of Graduate Studies and the Office of Research Services upcoming conference "Mapping the New Knowledges" on February 24 and 25 which will highlight research at the institution, and welcomed members to participate in Brock's Open House on March 5.

**6. Report of the Vice-President, Academic and Provost - None**

## 7. Report of the Academic Colleague - COU

Dean Rose provided a verbal report from the meetings she recently attended. Highlights included:

- Eight new Ontario Research Chairs were awarded to six Ontario universities;
- Proposed revisions for Grade 12 Mathematics, including the dropping of calculus, would not be implemented for the next school year and would be further reviewed by Education Minister Gerard Kennedy;
- Applications to Ontario universities had increased;
- COU was developing guidelines for the adoption of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA) and continued to examine the impending repercussions to universities following the enactment of the legislation; it appeared that every university would be adding support to deal with the requests made to each institution; e-mail records were considered to be public record.

## 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

[A Report to Senate from the Undergraduate Program Committee dated February 14, 2006, together with Appendix 1, had been posted on-line with the meeting materials.]

Professor Vanderlee presented the Committee's Report.

Re: Addition of SPMA 4V91 to the course bank

**MOVED** (Vanderlee/Saunders)

**THAT Senate approve the change in the course bank for the Department of Sport Management as outlined in Appendix 1 of the Report.**

**CARRIED**

### 10.2 Undergraduate Student Affairs Committee

[A Report from the Undergraduate Student Affairs Committee dated February 14, 2006, together with attached appendices, had been posted on-line with the meeting materials.]

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

#### 1. Re: Academic Accommodations for Religious Obligations

**MOVED** (MacKenzie/Dywan)

**THAT Senate approve the addition of FHB III: 10.5, *Academic Accommodation for Religious Obligations* as follows:**

- (i) **Brock University acknowledges the pluralistic nature of the undergraduate and graduate communities such that accommodations will be made for students who, be reason of religious obligation, must miss an examination, test, assignment deadline, laboratory or other compulsory academic event.**

**Students requesting academic accommodation on the basis of religious obligation should make a formal, written request to their instructor(s) for alternative dates and/or means of satisfying requirements. Such requests should be made during the first two weeks of any given academic term, or as soon as possible after a need for accommodation is known to exist (i.e., posting of the examination schedule), but in no case later than second-last week of classes in that term.**

- (ii) **When a student's presence is required prior to the date on which classes begin, any student who cannot meet this expectation of attendance for reasons of religious obligation should notify the Registrar, in advance.**
- (iii) **Accommodation is to be worked out directly and on an individual basis between the student and the instructor(s) involved. Instructors will make accommodation in a way that avoids academic disadvantage to the student. The type of accommodation granted will vary depending on the nature, weight and timing of the work for which accommodation is sought.**
- (iv) **In cases regarding academic accommodation of students on the basis of religious obligation, any dispute unresolved by discussion between the student and instructor may be appealed, first to the Department Chair or Director and thereafter to the Dean of the Faculty, in which the student is registered. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the Dean, the student may then appeal to the Student Appeal Board.**
- (v) **A current list of major holidays will be posted on the University Registrar's web page.**

**and approve the following amendment to FHB III: 9.4.1 (8):**

**Students ~~If a student is unable to write a formally scheduled examination for~~ because of religious obligations ~~reasons~~, may request an academic accommodation for religious obligations (see FHB III:10.5). ~~application should be made to the Office of the Registrar at least two weeks prior to the examination period. Supporting evidence must be submitted.~~**

During discussion, several concerns were expressed regarding the potential implications due to the individual student's definition of a religious holiday, the increased workload for faculty, the irregularities of unified decision making among faculties, and the lack of supporting documentation. Ms. Anderson responded to questions and reviewed the rationale for the proposed amendments.

The following friendly amendment to section (iv) was proposed and accepted by the mover and seconder:

- (iv) A current list of major ~~holidays~~ religious days of observation will be posted on the University Registrar's web page.

QUESTION on the motion, as AMENDED

CARRIED  
(1 opposed)

2. Re: Amendment to FHB III: 11.2.2 Minimum Academic Requirements

MOVED (MacKenzie/Richards)

THAT Senate approve the addition of the following two statements to FHB III: 11.2.2 *Minimum Academic Requirements*

**Academic suspension:**

“...Students re-admitted to the University after serving an academic suspension will be considered to be on academic probation and will be required to return to studies under the regulations and program of the calendar in effect at the time of their re-registration. *Courses taken at another post-secondary institution while on Academic Suspension will not be considered for transfer credit upon re-admission.*

and

**Academic debarment:**

“...Students re-admitted following academic debarment will be required to return to studies under the regulations and program of the calendar in effect at the time of their re-registration; subsequent failure to meet minimum requirements will result in permanent debarment for which there is no appeal. *Courses taken at another post-secondary institution while on Academic Debarment will not be considered for transfer credit upon re-admission.*

During a brief discussion, Ms. Anderson responded to questions.

CARRIED  
(2 abstentions)

3. Re: Admission Requirements - BIOPHYSICS

MOVED (MacKenzie/Brindle)

THAT Senate approve the following proposed admission requirements for Biophysics:

**Required 12U Subjects:** *SCH4U Chemistry (minimum 70%), MGA4U Geometry and Discrete Mathematics (minimum 70%)*

**Strongly Recommended 12U Subjects:** SPH4U Physics\*, MCB4U Function and Introductory Calculus\*\*

(Applicants with 65%-69% in SCH4U Chemistry will be considered for admission, but will be required to pass a Chemistry proficiency test or complete Introductory Chemistry (CHEM 1P00) prior to enrolling in CHEM 1F92.)

CARRIED

4. Re: Admission requirements - PHYSICS

MOVED (MacKenzie/Brindle)

That Senate approve the following proposed changes to the Physics requirements:

**Required 12U Subjects:** SCH4U Chemistry (minimum 70%) MGA4U Geometry and Discrete Mathematics (minimum 70%) SPH4U Physics, two Mathematics including MCB4U Functions and Introductory Calculus (minimum 70% on at least one mathematics)  
**Recommended 12U Subjects:** SPH4U Physics\*, MCB4U Functions and Introductory Calculus\*\* A third Mathematics and ENG4U English  
 (Applicants with 65%-69% in SCH4U Chemistry will be considered for admission, but will be required to pass a Chemistry proficiency test or complete Introductory Chemistry (CHEM 1P00) prior to enrolling in CHEMS 1F92.)

CARRIED

5. Re: Admission Requirements, APPLIED LINGUISTICS

MOVED (MacKenzie/Morrissey)

THAT Senate approve the following proposed admission requirements for the undergraduate program in Applied Linguistics:

Applied Linguistics (BA)

(Hearing Sciences and Speech and Language Sciences majors)

Required Grade 12U Subject: English (ENG4U)

Recommended Grade 12U Subjects: any two of Biology (SB14U),

Chemistry (SCH4U), Physics (SPH4U), and Mathematics of Data Management (MDM4U)

Applied Linguistics (BA)

(Applied Linguistics and Applied Linguistics – TESL majors)

Required Grade 12U Subject: English (ENG4U)

Recommended Grade 12U Subjects: One History, Philosophy, Classical Studies or International Languages

CARRIED

10.3 Graduate Studies Committee

[A Report from the Senate Committee on Graduate Studies dated February 14, 2006 had been posted on-line with the meeting materials.]

Professor Richards presented the Report of the Graduate Studies Committee.

1. Re: Applied Health Sciences

MOVED (Richards/Malleck)

**THAT Senate approve the additions of AHSC 5P27, 5P94, 5P95, 5P96 and 5P99 to the graduate studies course bank as outlined in the Report.**

**CARRIED**

2. Re: Studies in Comparative Literatures & Arts

Professor Richards presented the following amended motion.

**MOVED** (Richards/Hale)

**THAT Senate approve the 2006-07 Graduate Calendar entry for the Master of Arts, Studies in Comparative Literatures and Arts.**

**CARRIED**

3. Re: Psychology

**MOVED** (Richards/Tays)

**THAT Senate approve the changes in program requirements for the MA and PhD in Psychology as outlined in the attachment to the Report, that Senate approve the renumbering and new credit value of PSYC 5A90 (3.0 credit value) and PSYC 7B90 (4.5 credit value), that Senate approve the additions of PSYC 5Y51, 5Y52, 5Y61, 5Y62, 5Y71, 5Y72 7F50, 7P07, 7P08, 7P09, 7P11, 7Y51, 7Y52, 7Y61, 7Y62, 7Y63, 7Y71, 7Y72 7Y73 to the graduate course bank, and that Senate approve the deletions of PSYC 5P32, 5Y05, 5Y06, 7F01, 7F02, 7F03 from the graduate course bank.**

Professor Richard briefly reviewed the rationale for the motion. Senator Visser noted that the graduate students were very supportive of the proposed changes.

**CARRIED**

**10.4 Governance Committee**

[A Report from the Senate Governance Committee dated February 14, 2006, together with attached appendices, had been posted on-line with the meeting materials.]

Professor Brown presented the Committee's Report.

1. Re: Appointment of Senate Election Scrutineer

**MOVED** (Brown/Hale)

**THAT Senate approve that Senator Angela Mills be appointed as a scrutineer for the Senate election to be held March 31, 2006.**

Professor Brown reviewed the rationale for the motion as outlined in the Report.

**CARRIED**

2. Re: Composition of the Search Committee for the Chancellor

Noting that Chancellor Moriyama's term would end on March 31, 2007, Professor Brown reviewed the initiatives undertaken to date, as outlined in detail in the Report, with respect to the composition of a Search Committee.

Discussion ensued with respect to the wording in the *Brock University Act* (Article 15) which states "Following consultation with the Board, the Senate shall elect a Chancellor ..." and in the Faculty Handbook (Section II: 2.2.3) which states ".... Senate shall meet, in camera, to elect the Chancellor". In light of recent discussions held, it was suggested, and agreed, that the Governance Committee consider the Senate process, with particular attention to the word "elect", and report back to Senate.

3. Re: Departmental Action Plan Implementation Progress Reports

Professor Brown noted that in keeping with FHB III:20.I, the Implementation Progress Reports related to the Action Plans for the Departments of Community Health Sciences, Sport Management and Physical Education and Kinesiology had been distributed for information.

4. Re: Next meeting of Committee Chairs, Vice-Chairs and Secretaries

Professor Brown noted that the Governance Committee would be meeting again with Committee Chairs, Vice-Chairs and Secretaries on March 29 at 3:00 p.m. in the Sankey Chamber to continue discussions regarding Committee mandates.

**11. Other Business - None**

**12. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.