



Senate

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MINUTES OF THE
534th MEETING OF SENATE

HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 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), Ms. Margaret Grove (University Librarian), Dean Rosemary Hale (Faculty of Humanities), Dean James Heap (Faculty of Education), 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, Maureen Connolly, Heather Gordon, Debra Inglis, Nota Klentrou, Herbert MacKenzie, Dan Malleck, Angela Mills, Dolana Mogadime, Merijeau Morrissey, Roberto Nickel, Rebecca Raby, Jonathan Radue, Miriam Richards, Danny Rosenberg, Barbara Sainty, Anamitra Shome, Adonis Skandalis, Mary Louise Vanderlee, David Vivian, Michelle Webber, Bob Welch, Barry Wright

Mr. Tom Goldspink, Mr. David Howes, Mr. Kithio Mwanzia, Mr. Damien O'Brien, Mr. Andrew Saunders, Mr. Bill Tays, Ms. Beth Visser

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

Also

Present: Mr. Patrick Beard, Coordinator, Academic Reviews and Planning
Professor David Hughes, Chair, Computer Science

Regrets: Professor Jane Dywan, Dr. Raymond Moriyama, Professor Susan Sydor,
Mr. Sean Woodhead

Absent: Professor Tony DiPetta, Professor Bozidar Mitrovic, Ms. Jessica Paquin,
Mr. Michael Sidenberg, Professor Murray Wickett, Professor Allister Young

Professor Sadava called the meeting to order.

1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the 533rd meeting of Senate had been posted on-line with the meeting materials.

MOVED (Saunders/O'Brien)

THAT the minutes of the 533rd meeting of Senate held on December 7, 2005 be approved.

CARRIED

2. Business Arising from the Minutes

Professor Sainty, Chair of the Senate Budget Advisory Committee, confirmed that the Committee would not be bringing forward a motion to Senate regarding the 2005-06 operating budget due to this year's unique circumstances involving the late funding announcement from the government. She noted that *The Brock University Act* did not require that Senate advise the Board on an *annual* basis regarding the operating budget's consistency with academic policy. Professor Sainty requested that the Board be advised of the Committee's decision.

3. Communications

a) *Correspondence from Brock University Faculty Association (BUFA)*

Professor Sadava reported that he had received a copy of a memo sent to Dr. Norris Walker, Board Chair, from Professor Barry Grant, BUFA President. On behalf of BUFA, Professor Grant had expressed dissatisfaction with the presidential procedures for appointment. Professor Sadava indicated that he had related to Professor Grant that the matter had previously been referred to the Senate Governance Committee for review.

b) *2006 Senate Election*

[A communication from the Secretary of Senate to the Chair dated January 4, 2006 had been posted on-line with the meeting materials.]

Professor Sadava referred members to the communication from Mr. Farrell which contained a recommendation regarding the election of Senators in keeping with FBH II: 3.4.1 and 3.4.2.

During a brief discussion, a friendly amendment to the motion to include "with the exception of student representatives" was proposed and accepted.

MOVED (O'Brien/Vanderlee)

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 31, 2006.

CARRIED

4. Report of the Chair - None

5. Report of the President and Vice-Chancellor

[The Report from the President dated January 18, 2006 had been posted on-line with the meeting materials.]

Dr. Boak referred members to his written Report dated January 18, 2006. He commented on several of the issues documented within the Report, including tuition fees, the proposal for a Learning Commons, the Ontario Trust for Student Support (OTSS), the establishment of a task force on university-community relations and a task force on pandemic planning, and the establishment of a Special Board Governance Committee to review University governance.

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

Dr. Manley-Casimir referred members to the section of the President's written Report regarding academic strategic plans. He expanded on the work completed to date and next steps.

The action plans to implement recommendations of the academic reviews for the Department of Child and Youth Studies and the Department of Political Science had been posted on line with the meeting materials for the information of Senate.

7. Report of the Academic Colleague - COU

[The Academic Colleague's Report dated December 19, 2005 had been posted on-line with the meeting materials together with the *Working Paper Series* by Academic Colleagues dated December 2005.]

Dean Rose referred members to her detailed written Report. She emphasized that the COU is greatly concerned about the government's lack of movement in allocating funds for graduate student program growth and will continue to urge the Ministry for its decision.

Dean Rose drew Senators' attention to the *Working Paper Series* by the Academic Colleagues that had been appended to her Report. She encouraged members to provide her (mrose@brocku.ca) with feedback regarding the Academic Working Paper "*Changes in Student Learning Behaviours*". Comments needed to be received by January 30 in order that Brock's collective response could be forwarded to the COU by January 31. In response to a question, Dean Rose indicated that she would bring forward to the COU a concern regarding the potential impact of the Canadians with Disabilities Act on the University's provision of services and accommodations for students in need.

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****a) Undergraduate Program Committee**

[A Report to Senate from the Undergraduate Program Committee together with appendices had been posted on-line with the meeting materials.]

Professor Vanderlee presented the Report of the Committee. She noted an amendment to remove the second motion under item #40 regarding the Collaborative Program in Psychology/Behavioural Science Technology between St. Lawrence College and Brock University as it had previously been approved by Senate (Senate 530).

Professor Vanderlee proposed, and Senate concurred, that an omnibus motion be presented.

MOVED (Vanderlee/Morrissey)

THAT Senate approve motions 1 – 46 as outlined and amended in the Report to Senate from the Undergraduate Program Committee.

CARRIED

Professor Sadava recognized the work of the Committee, led by Professor Vanderlee.

b) Graduate Studies Committee

[A Report from the Graduate Studies Committee dated January 10, 2006, together with attached appendices, had been posted on-line with the meeting materials.]

Professor Richards presented the Report of the Graduate Studies Committee.

1. Re: Biological Sciences

MOVED (Richards/Tays)

THAT Senate approve the additions of BIOL 5P31, 5P56 and 5P73 to the graduate studies course bank and the deletions of BIOL 5F40, BIOL/BTEC 5P57, BIOL 5P60 from the graduate studies course bank as outlined in the appendix to the Report.

CARRIED

2. Re: Biotechnology

MOVED (Richards/Vanderlee)

THAT Senate approve the deletion of BTEC/BIOL 5P57 from the graduate studies course bank as outlined in the appendix to the Report.

CARRIED

3. Re: Amendment to FHB III: 14.11 Graduate Appeals

MOVED (Richards/O'Brien)

THAT Senate approve the revision to Faculty Handbook III: 14.11 Graduate Appeals as outlined in the appendix to the Report.

Professor Richards reviewed the proposed revision to FHB: III: 14.11 Graduate Appeals that had been made following discussion at the previous meeting of Senate. In response to a question, she confirmed that the Committee on Academic Deans had discussed the proposed revision.

A protracted discussion ensued regarding the process of referring a matter to the “Graduate Program Director” as such a position did not exist within the Faculty of Business. Dean Rose indicated that following circulation of the proposed amendment to CAD, she had been made aware of this and had since held a discussion with Dean Kusy. Dean Kusy and Dean Rose assured Senators that the language would be edited to reflect that the function was often performed by a Department Chair. The editorial change would be forwarded to Senate for information.

Dean Hale expressed personal gratitude to the Graduate Studies Committee for resolving the issues that had been brought up at the previous meeting of Senate.

A concern was expressed that by excluding the specific name of the individual to be contacted within the Faculty, a student might arrive at the Appeals Board without having gone through the proper channels.

QUESTION on the motion

CARRIED
(1 opposed / 1 abstention)

c) Governance Committee

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

1. Re: Honorary Degrees

Professor Sadava indicated that a motion was required to move *in camera* to discuss the nominations for Honorary Degrees. Non-Senators retired from the meeting.

MOVED (Connolly/Rose)

THAT Senate move *in camera*.

CARRIED

Senate moved *in camera* at 3:55 p.m.

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

[During the *in camera* session, a confidential summary of nominations for Honorary Degrees approved by the Governance Committee was circulated. Members discussed several nominations in detail, together with the criteria for selecting candidates. Dean Corlett requested that the minutes reflect the significance and tremendous impact of the awarding of an Honorary Doctorate in June 2005 to Dr. Oded Bar-Or prior to his passing.

Following discussion regarding the proposed nominations, a separate recommendation for each nomination was presented to Senate for approval. Prior to resuming open session, the confidential reports were collected and returned to the Secretary.]

Dr. Manley-Casimir, noting the ongoing need for honorary degree recipients, encouraged Senators to forward nominations to the University Secretary for consideration of the Senate Governance Committee.

2. Re: Amendment to FHB II: 9.8.1, Terms of Reference of the Teaching and Research Policy Committee

MOVED (Connolly/Wright)

THAT Senate approve the revision to FHB II: 9.8.1 re: Terms of Reference of the Teaching and Research Policy Committee to include “f: advises on library policy and issues as they relate to teaching and research” as outlined in the Report.

CARRIED
(1 abstention)

3. Re: Amendment to FHB II: 9.9.1 c), Terms of Reference of the Undergraduate Program Committee

MOVED (Connolly/ Inglis)

THAT Senate approve the amendment to FHB II: 9.9.1 c) re: Terms of Reference of the Undergraduate Program Committee to include “undergraduate program articulation agreements” as outlined in the Report.

CARRIED

4. Re: Department of Communication, Popular Culture and Film – Academic Program Review

MOVED (Connolly/Vanderlee)

THAT Senate accept the Academic Program Review of the Department of Communication, Popular Culture and Film.

CARRIED

5. Re: Appointment of Senate Election Scrutineers

MOVED (Connolly/Mills)

THAT Senate appoint Senators Susan Sydor and Debra Inglis as scrutineers for the Senate election to be held March 31, 2006.

CARRIED

6. Re: Policy on the Establishment and Review of Research Units, Centres and Institutes

As outlined in the Report, Professor Connolly noted that the Policy on the Establishment and Review of Research Units, Centres and Institutes, previously approved by Senate, would be included in the Faculty Handbook as Section III: 25.

7. Re: Organizational Nomenclature

Professor Connolly reviewed the rationale, as outlined in the Report, regarding the Committee's advice that no changes be made to the definitions of the organizational nomenclature at this time as the definitions could be discussed as part of the negotiation process of the new Collective Agreement between Brock University and the Brock University Faculty Association.

During discussion, Professor Connolly responded to questions. In response to a concern that further clarification was required regarding the distinction between academic centres and research centres, Professor Connolly indicated that she would bring the matter back to the Governance Committee for consideration.

11. Other Business

a) 2006-2007 Academic Schedule of Dates

[A memo from the Registrar dated January 9, 2006 regarding the 2006-2007 Academic Schedule of Dates together with appendices, had been posted on-line with the meeting materials.]

Ms. Anderson referred members to the 2006-07 Academic Schedule that had been distributed for information.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the start of the Fall/Winter term on a Thursday. Professor Richards noted that when the motion to return to a 12 week semester had been presented to Senate for consideration, the Teaching and Research Policy Committee had recommended that classes normally start on a Monday but normally no later than a Tuesday in each term. Professor Brown noted that specific part of the motion had been removed as it was more of an issue of implementation.

Professor Richards and Professor Inglis voiced concern regarding the implications for the Faculty of Mathematics and Science, specifically with the scheduling of labs. By commencing the term on a Thursday, the number of labs would be reduced even further.

Several members spoke for and against the Thursday start day.

During discussion, a motion was brought forward to refer the matter to the Committee on Academic Deans; however, the motion was later withdrawn as it had been pointed out that this issue was an administrative decision.

Professor Sadava reminded Senators that the schedule had been distributed for information. In response to a question, the Chair suggested that concerns and suggestions for future change be forwarded to the Senate Teaching and Research Policy Committee for consideration.

12. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m. Professor Sadava reminded Senators of the special meeting of Senate scheduled for February 1, 2006.