



Brock University Senate

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MINUTES OF MEETING #6 (2009-10)

**SENATE BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7, 2010, 11:00 AM

13<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR BOARD ROOM

PRESENT: Professor Richard Parker (Chair), Professor Tansu Barker (Vice-Chair),  
Mr. Will Crothers, Dr. Murray Knuttila, Professor Felice Martinello,  
Interim Dean Barbara Sainty, Professor David Vivian

Mr. Steven Pillar, Ms. Margaret Thompson (Administrative Support)

REGRETS: Dean James Heap, Professor Nota Klentrou, Professor James Mandigo,  
Professor Stan Sadava, Professor Susan Sydor, Professor Paul Zelisko

Professor Parker welcomed members and called the meeting to order.

**1. Approval of Previous Minutes**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on March 2, 2010 had been distributed with the meeting materials.

**MOVED** (Sainty/Crothers)

**THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Budget Advisory Committee held on March 2, 2010 be approved.**

**CARRIED**

**2. Business Arising from the Minutes – None**

**3. Report of the Chair – None**

**4. 2010-11 Budget Update**

Mr. Pillar provided an oral update regarding the budget process for 2010-11. As announced at the President's Town Hall meeting, he expanded on the rationale for the two percent exercise of further cost reduction and/or revenue enhancement for 2010-11 (the second year of the four year budget reduction strategy) rather than the five percent set in the previous year (during which 5.7% had been achieved). Meetings had been held

with Budget Developers to review requested budgets with targets. Further compilation and analysis of the 2010-11 budget was currently underway and assumptions moving forward continue to be impacted by provincial funding announcements. With respect to the review process of the draft final budget, it was anticipated that it would include presentation to the Financial Planning, Audit and Human Resources Committee of the Board on May 18, to the Budget Advisory Committee on May 19, to Senate on May 26. Final review by the Board of Trustees would occur on June 24. The link to the Budget Development 2010-11 Timelines and Process would be forwarded to members following the meeting.

([http://www.brocku.ca/finance/staffbudgeting/Timelines\\_1011\\_Draft\\_9apr10](http://www.brocku.ca/finance/staffbudgeting/Timelines_1011_Draft_9apr10) )

During a comprehensive discussion, Mr. Pillar responded to questions from members with respect to tuition increases, potential government legislation to freeze salary wages, the assessment of the annual target percentage relative to the 2008-09 base budget, the revenue enhancements from enrolment and increased retention which helped to reduce the target from five to two percent, government funding allocations, and the continuation of the branding exercise.

The need to provide the annual percentage target to budget developers, etc. as early as possible for planning purposes was emphasized to Mr. Pillar.

#### **5. Draft Budget Input Report to Senate**

Professor Parker circulated a draft report to Senate from the Budget Advisory Committee regarding the concerns expressed to and by the Committee during previous meetings regarding the impact of the budget on the quality of academic programs. He noted that prior to today's meeting, Professor Klentrou had sent via email a follow-up to her previous correspondence to the Committee regarding PEKN safety issues.

During the Committee's review of the draft report, Professor Parker received feedback and revisions were proposed. Members were encouraged to forward further comments to Professor Parker via email following the meeting.

#### **6. Other Business - None**

#### **7. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.