

**MINUTES OF MEETING #3 (2009 - 2010) OF THE
SENATE RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP POLICY COMMITTEE
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16th, 2009 AT 3:00PM - 4:30PM
IN MC D350-L**

PRESENT: Professor Tamara El-Hoss (Chair), Ms. Tabasum Akseer, Professor Sandra Bosacki, Dean Ian Brindle, Professor June Corman, Mr. Robert Eagle, Ms. Margaret Grove, Dr. Murray Knuttila, Professor John Menzies, Professor Tom O'Neill, Dean Marilyn Rose, Professor John Sivell, Professor Angus Smith, Professor Vera Woloshyn, Dr. Liette Vasseur, Ms. Joanne Toews (Recorder)

REGRETS: Professor Tansu Barker (Vice-Chair), Professor Cheri Bradish, Mr. Ryan Klamot, Professor Lynn Rempel, Judith Maiden

Introductions / Welcome

1. Approval of Agenda

MOVED (Brindle / Bosacki)

THAT the agenda be accepted as circulated.

CARRIED

2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

MOVED (Brindle / Corman)

THAT the minutes of the #2 (2008 - 2009) Senate Research & Scholarship Policy Committee held on November 11th, 2009 be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

3. Update/Information

a. Sub-Committee reports from Chairs

i. TREMP

(Corman)

The committee met today, however they have not yet received the draft document for review. Professor Corman reported on informal conversations with a number of faculty all of whom have concerns in two major areas: travelling with students or research assistants; travelling alone for conferences or research. There is strong interest among faculty to know their legal liability in being responsible for students. The reputations of some departments depend on field trips, eg. Earth Sciences. Dr. Vasseur looked at the Safety Act which notes that supervisors are the first line of responsibility.

Professor Corman spoke to the issue of faculty travelling for conferences and/or research. If there are health issues, faculty normally contact Green Shields. More intervention might be needed in high-risk countries.

The newest draft of the TREMP report has not been circulated. The University is also considering an extra kidnapping and ransom insurance for travel in higher risk countries.

ACTION Dr. Vasseur will send the draft to Professor El-Hoss who will forward to Professor Corman.

ii. Budget (O'Neill)

The committee did not meet. Professor O'Neill expressed hope that the new BRAM would be available before the end of December but was told that it is unlikely.

iii. Centres and Institutes (Smith)

Professor Smith reported that the committee met yesterday. Prior to this meeting he met also with Dr. Vasseur who provided some information and a comparative table of definitions from other institutions. Professor Smith has investigated criteria used at other universities for identifying centres and institutes. He noted that it is not an easy process; very political. He also advised that the committee should continue to serve after a new policy has been established. Dr. Vasseur agreed.

ACTION Professor Smith will submit a draft to Dr. Vasseur in January.

iv. Intellectual Property (El-Hoss)

Not much to report because of scheduling issues. Will meet in January.

b. OCUR activities and research updates (Vasseur)

There was an official announcement today that CCOVI has received \$1.5 million to create two positions for research and outreach. Funding is through the Ontario Grape and Wine Council.

There were another five CFI applications in June. All five have been approved, including \$¾ million for new equipment. At least 3 faculties are involved. Dr. Vasseur expressed some concern since we are reaching the maximum allocation under the current phase. How much more money will we get in 2012 is unknown. But CFI is hoping to increase the funding level.

Professor Smith asked how the limit is determined. LV answered that it is based on the TRI council funding received by the university and following specific criteria. Last calculation Brock received \$189,000.

Dr. Vasseur reported that Brock now has a francophone research group which will meet on January 13th at lunch. They are organizing a round table discussion and plan to invite the community to be involved. Approximately 12 to 15% of faculty and graduate students are bilingual.

The Finance Affiliates and OCUR at COU are still trying to determine how the HST will be applied to the university; they will notify when they have received information. This will impact budgets.

SSHRC with health research - Currently have 3 applications denied and are following up with both SSHRC and CIHR.

SSHRC New Program Architecture has changed program structures for SSHRC following the structure of the S&T Strategy: talent, knowledge, mobilization. Mr. Eagle has received a copy of the new SSHRC architecture and will distribute it to all committee members

Ministry of Education sent a call for proposals. But there were issues regarding the contract template. OCUR and Deans of Education sent a letter to MoEduc to express concerns. There is a great need to be aware of protecting the researcher when contracts are coming.

Dr. Vasseur spoke regarding a software program called Process Pathways to assist with a baseline measurement matrix which would enable reporting on more data. The program is 100% in compliance with Tricouncil. All forms are electronic and part of one file/portal. Finance would be real-time. The developer will be on campus Jan 11 and 12. Mr. Eagle noted that there will be several meetings with opportunities for everyone to comment. There are four modules: Researcher's portal, compliance issues, REB, financial. Dr. Vasseur mentioned that there is also a CV module which would greatly simplify updating a CV.

ACTION Mr. Eagle will send an announcement to all faculty.

c. Brock Research Funding Form

Dr. Vasseur mentioned this item is not needed for discussion since working under the idea of Process Pathway.

d. Postdoctoral Fellowship Policy

(Rose)

Mr. Eagle reported that Brock has 24 postdocs on campus. The committee is in the process of looking at how this information can be put into a database.

Dean Rose noted that post docs are handled differently in various institutions. If they are under Research, as is the case at Brock, they are paid as employees and this income is taxable. One advantage of this arrangement is that the post docs are regarded as "faculty." Some institutions fund post docs through scholarships as graduate students. This is non-taxable; however, there is not as much status as the research model.

Post docs are an active lobbying group. There is a feeling among post docs that they are isolated, with no one to advocate for them. They want to be recognized as a presence on campus and receive advice regarding professional development needs. Dr. Vasseur remarked that some post docs in other universities are being unionized.

The Canadian Association of Post docs is attempting to make decisions regarding how the payment is set-up. They have a website and Dean Rose will make this and other documents available to those who are interested.

ACTION Dean Rose will send the CAP website to all members of the committee.

4. Other Business

Professor El-Hoss announced that the REB annual report (37 pages) will be discussed at the next meeting.

ACTION Everyone to read the report before the next meeting.

5. Proposed Dates of Next Meeting:

Thursday, February 11th, 2010 from 11:00am – 12:30pm

Thursday, April 8th, 2010 from 11:00am – 12:30pm

The above meetings will be held in the Brock Research Graduate Studies Boardroom (MC D350-L)

6. Adjournment

(Brindle / Smith)

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 4:15pm