

Principal's Written Report
Queen's University Senate
28 February, 2012

This is the first in a series of written reports that I plan to provide in advance of each Senate meeting. I hope to provide Senators with an increased understanding of some of the work I carry out in my increasingly external role, as well as highlighting ongoing outreach to the campus community and examples of exciting initiatives at Queen's. The highlights of my schedule since the January Senate are appended to this brief report.

On this occasion I will focus on government relations and advocacy, advancement activities and international initiatives and representation.

Government Relations and Advocacy:

Don Drummond's report on his review of Ontario public services will be released on February 15 and I will speak to its implications at the February Senate meeting.

We are also awaiting federal and provincial budgets in March, and all the signs point to little in the way of new resources for universities.

Provincially, there is a great deal of uncertainty as the government moves to address the growing deficit. There are indications that most ministries will see significant cuts while healthcare and education spending may be somewhat protected. What is clear is that there will be no significant influx of new funding.

At the Council of Ontario Universities (COU) and in individual meetings that my colleagues and I are having with provincial ministers and officials, we are advocating for sustainability of the system. A five-year tuition and funding framework would provide some predictability for both students (allowing them and their families to better plan for the costs of their education) and for the universities so we can put the necessary supports in place.

Federally, we are hopeful that research budgets will be somewhat insulated from the significant cuts facing most ministries. The higher education sector is arguing that short-term gains made in deficit reduction will not offset the negative long-term effect on the research enterprise that creates new knowledge and fires innovation. The Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) held a "Day on the Hill" in Ottawa at the end of January where representatives from 30 universities spent a day meeting with MPs and government officials to advocate for support for universities in areas of federal jurisdiction: research, international initiatives and aboriginal education.

Advancement Activities:

As we continue to gear up for our upcoming capital campaign, I am continuing to spend significantly more time travelling for Advancement purposes. Since January's Senate meeting, I will have met with alumni and established key donors and new prospective donors in Toronto, San Francisco, Hawaii and here in Kingston.

I have also hosted events to thank donors for their generous gifts that support the research and learning enterprise, including Bell Canada's announcement of a world-first here at Queen's: the establishment of a research chair in mental health and anti-stigma. This \$1 million investment will allow our inaugural Chair holder, Dr. Heather Stuart (Community Health and Epidemiology), to expand her work that seeks to find the most effective ways to reduce the stigma associated with mental health issues.

International Initiatives and Representation

This month, I led a Queen's delegation to China along with V-P (Research) Steven Liss, Vice-Provost (International) John Dixon and Executive Director of the Bader International Study Centre Bruce Stanley. The goals of this trip were to meet with some of our key partners at top universities in Shanghai and Beijing, to host receptions for alumni, prospective students and their families and academic partners and to raise Queen's profile in China. This was the first time since 2000 that a Queen's Principal has visited mainland China and, in particular, Fudan University, where we have several research and academic partnerships. I am convinced based on meetings and discussions there that we must significantly 'raise our game' in terms of recruitment – China is our biggest source of international students and I learned a lot from talking to parents, alumni, students and consular officials.

Principal Daniel Woolf: Schedule Highlights January 24th to February 26th, 2012			
Month	Day	Location	Activity
January	24	Kingston	SGPS President
			Senate Meeting
	25	Kingston	Foundational Leadership Program Launch
			Interview with CBC Radio Re: Student Mental Health
			<i>Council of Ontario Universities</i> (COU) Teleconference
			Interview with Kingston Life Re: Growth at Queen's
	26	Ottawa	Wayne Wouters, Clerk of the Privy Council
			Mitch Davis, Associate Assistant Deputy Minister, Science and Innovation, Industry Canada
			Garry Keller, Chief of Staff to Foreign Affairs Minister John Baird
			Michael Horgan, Deputy Minister of Finance
			Sean Speer, Senior Economic Policy Advisor, Prime Minister's Office
			Australian High Commission Reception to celebrate Australia Day
	27	Kingston	Teleconference with the President of York University
			Queen's University Planning Committee
			Rector
			Coffee with Four Loran Scholars
	30	Kingston	Teleconference with Daphne Meredith, Chief Human Resources Officer for the Government of Canada
		Ottawa	Lunch with Group of Queen's staff
	31	Ottawa	Teleconference with His Worship Mark Gerretsen, Mayor of the City of Kingston
			<i>Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada</i> (AUCC): Reception and Briefing for Advocacy Day on the Hill
			Big Thinking Breakfast - Co-organized by AUCC and <i>Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences</i>
			AUCC Advocacy Day on the Hill: Bob Rae, MP, Interim Leader of the Liberal Party and MPs Ted Tsu, Ralph Goodale and Justin Trudeau
			AUCC Advocacy Day on the Hill: Rob Merrifield, Chairman of the International Trade Committee
			James Bradshaw, Globe and Mail
February	1	Kingston	AUCC Advocacy Day on the Hill: Meeting with Louis Levesque, Deputy Minister, International Trade
			AUCC Advocacy Day on the Hill: Margaret Biggs, President, <i>Canadian International Development Agency</i> (CIDA)
			Paul Davidson, President of AUCC
	2	Kingston	Career Fair, Live and Work in Kingston
			COU Teleconference with Glen Murray, <i>Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities</i> (MTCU)
			Drama Department Visit
	3	Toronto	The "49ers", Kingston-area Engineering and Applied Science Alumni Lunch
			AUCC Teleconference
			Teleconference with Gord Brown, MP for Leeds—Grenville
			Iain Myrans, Director of Policy, Minister's Office, MTCU
	6	Kingston	Deb Newman, Deputy Minister, Nancy Naylor, Assistant Deputy Minister and Marie-Lison Fougère, Assistant Deputy Minister, MTCU
			Karim Bardeesy, Director of Policy and Research, Office of the Premier
	7	Kingston	Interview with Student, Mother Teresa Catholic School
			National announcement of the Bell Mental Health and Anti-Stigma Research Chair
			Dean, Engineering and Applied Science
			Alumni, Prospective Donors and Friends
			Faculty/Staff/Student Advisory Committee

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February	8	San Francisco	Alumni, Prospective Donors and Friends
	9	San Francisco	Cassie Doyle, Canadian Consul General
			Alumni, Prospective Donors and Friends
	13	China	Shanghai Municipal Foreign Affairs Office
			Shanghai University of Finance and Economics
	14	China	Fudan University
			Andrea Clark-Grignon, Canadian Consulate General in Shanghai
			Alumni, Prospective Donors and Friends
	15	China	Tongji University
			China Executive Leadership Academy Pudong
	16	China	President of Renmin University
			President of Peking University
			Alumni, Prospective Donors and Friends
	17	China	Provost and Vice President for International Affairs of Tsinghua University
			China Foreign Affairs University
	20	Hawaii	Alumni, Prospective Donors and Friends
	27	Kingston	University Council Executive Committee
			SGPS President
			AUCC Mental Health Working Group Teleconference
	28	Kingston	Senate Meeting
			Symposium to Celebrate the Merger of School of Religion and Queen's