



Minutes

MEETING OF THE SENATE

A meeting of the Senate was held on Thursday, April 23, 2009 in Robert Sutherland Hall, Room 202 at 3:30 p.m.

Present: Principal Williams in the Chair **Senators:** Archibald, Boag, Boyd, Brien, Brock, Brown, Cordy, T. Dacin, Deakin, Deane, Dixon, Gibson, Horton, Jahanbakhsh, LaFleche, Laker, MacLean, McCormack, McGrath, Mosco, Norman, Oosthuizen, Peterson, Radcliffe, Rouget, Ryan, Santeramo, Scott, Stairs, Staples, Stevens, Stewart, Tam, Tolmie, J. Welsh, P. Welsh, Wiener, Woodhouse, G. Moore (Secretary), P. Watkin (Associate Secretary)

Also Present: J-A Brady, I. Bujara, M. Ceci, L. Conrad, R. Denniston-Stewart, A. Girgrah, B. Griffiths, J. Mighty, K. Montgomery, J. Pierce, S. Ridgen, H. Smith, C. Sumbler, B. Teatero, P. Treitz, S. Verbeek.

I OPENING SESSION

1. Adoption of Agenda

Moved by Senator LaFleche, seconded by Senator Oosthuizen, that the Agenda be adopted as circulated.

Carried 09-23

2. Adoption of the Minutes of the Meeting of 26 March 2009 (Appendix A, page 1)

Moved by Senator MacLean, seconded by Senator Woodhouse, that the Minutes of 26 March 2009 be adopted as circulated.

Carried 09-24

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no Business Arising for the Minutes.

4. Chair's Report

Curriculum Renewal Paper

Principal Williams invited Senator Deane, Vice-Principal (Academic), to update Senate on his discussion paper entitled "Contexts and Imperatives for Renewing the Curriculum" <http://www.queensu.ca/vpac/curriculumdiscussion/DiscussionPaper.html>. Senator Deane reminded Senators that the purpose of the paper was to act as a catalyst for discussion among faculty and the broad Queen's community, particularly as difficult decisions need to be made during this period of fiscal constraint. Senator Deane reported that he would continue meeting with individual units to discuss the future of the curriculum.

University Presidents Climate Commitment

Principal Williams reported that in response to requests that Presidents/Principals of Ontario Universities sign the "University Presidents Climate Commitment" the Council of Ontario Universities (COU) is expected to table a report in the next few weeks that will outline an initiative that is better suited for Ontario universities. Once received, Principal Williams stated that he intends to circulate the COU initiative to the broader Queen's community for its comments.

National Survey on Student Engagement (NSSE)

Principal Williams stated that the data collected for the National Survey on Student Engagement (NSSE) is critically important. Queen's Department of Institutional Research and Planning (IRP) is now able to analyze the data by departments, faculties and schools, enabling Queen's to compare itself to peer groups within sister institutions. Some of the most recent results raise a number of issues and Principal Williams urged Senators to examine the data to see how it impacts their particular area of the University.

Principal's Ad Hoc Committee to draft a "Safe Disclosure" Policy

Principal Williams reported that Dr. Les Monkman, Professor Emeritus, Department of English, has agreed to Chair the Principal's Ad Hoc Committee to draft a "Safe Disclosure" Policy. The complete membership of the Ad Hoc Committee will be reported to Senate in the near future.

5. Other Reports

a) Research Report (Appendix B, page 8)

Principal Williams drew attention to the Research Report circulated with the Agenda. There were no questions or comments.

b) Centre for Teaching and Learning – Annual Report (Appendix C, page 14)

Dr. J. Mighty, Director, Centre for Teaching and Learning, spoke to the Annual Report circulated with the Agenda. Senate's attention was drawn to two upcoming events. The first was the Cross-Faculty Teaching Forum (CFTF) designed to explore various strategies for incorporating an international dimension into the curriculum. The CFTF is scheduled for April 27, 2009.

The second event was a five-day intensive workshop on course design and redesign. Scheduled for May 21- 22 and May 25 - 27, the workshop is intended to help participants ensure that their learning outcomes, teaching methods, and assessment strategies are aligned and support student learning. In concluding her remarks, Dr. Mighty stated that the Centre for Teaching and Learning perceives the current fiscal crisis as an opportunity to share its expertise with instructors to ensure Queen's students continue to receive the benefits of high quality teaching and curriculum.

c) Council of Ontario Universities (COU) Meeting of April 3, 2009 (Appendix D, page 19)

Senator Oosthuizen, Academic Colleague, spoke to the COU report on the meeting of April 3, 2009 circulated with the Agenda. The following highlights were recorded:

- The provincial government would like to ease the ability of students to transfer credits between postsecondary education institutions in Ontario and to ensure that the process is transparent. Some of the challenges include the quality evaluation of programs and meeting accreditation requirements in professional programs. Discussion on this issue continues and attention was drawn to the Academic Colleague's paper by Dr. Philippe Constantineau circulated with the Agenda as Appendix D, pages 21-30.
- The quality evaluation of graduate programs is transitioning from the Ontario Council of Graduate Studies (OCGS) to the Ontario Council of Academic Vice-Presidents (OCAV). It is anticipated that guidelines developed by the Quality Assurance Transition/Implementation Task Force will be released soon for comment. One issue discussed at the COU meeting was how to define a 'new' program.
- Assurance has been received from the Ontario government that the decision to harmonize the PST and GST taxes will be cost neutral to universities.

There were no questions or comments

d) Interim Tuition Fee Report 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 – Vice-Principal (Academic)
(Appendix E, page 31)

Principal Williams drew attention to the Interim Tuition Fee Report for 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 that was provided to Senate for comment. He noted that as Principal his role was to convey Senate's concerns to the Board of Trustees at its May 2, 2009 meeting.

Senator Deane reported that, in general, the University's recommendations on tuition will be delayed pending a new tuition framework announcement by the Ontario government. The two notable exceptions are tuition for the new Professional Master of Industrial Relations (PMIR) in the School of Policy Studies and tuition for the Bader International Study Centre. There were no questions or comments.

e) **Bicameral Governance Model**

Principal Williams noted that over the past month, a number of questions had arisen around the role of Senior Administrators when budgetary decisions are being made. Ms. D. Kelly, University Counsel, was invited to address Senate. The following highlights were recorded:

- Queen's University was established in 1841 by Royal Charter. The Charter sets out a bicameral system of governance with the Board of Trustees having authority to make financial and property decisions and the University Senate having authority to make academic decisions;
- The Board, through its officers, has the authority to make resource-based decisions that influence the academic program of the University.
- The officers of the University include the Principal, the Vice-Principals and the Deans;
- Deans have the authority and responsibility to take steps to ensure the Faculty is fiscally sound. These actions will ultimately have an impact on the academic offerings of the Faculty and are made in consultation with Faculty Boards.

Principal Williams noted that all financial decisions are made in a collegial and consultative environment. There were no questions or comments.

II QUESTION PERIOD (Appendix F, page 34)

1. **From Senator J. Welsh, President, SGPS, regarding how the University intends to reconcile actual budget cuts reducing and closing programs that contribute to the practice and philosophy of diversity with Queen's mission statement "Engaging the World" and "Social Diversity".
Response to be provided by Senator Deane, Vice-Principal (Academic)**

In response to the Question asked by Senator J. Welsh at the March 26, 2009 Senate meeting, Senator Deane noted that in recent years the University has worked hard to drive diversity concerns into all academic activities. The Question recognizes that in the current environment of fiscal constraint some of the advances made in recent years will be hampered or set back. Senator Deane acknowledged that the current financial situation will negatively affect the University's ability to meet its goals on all fronts. Senator Deane concluded his remarks by stating that all resource decisions are weighed against a number of competing interests and it is not always possible for one issue to trump all others.

Senator J. Welsh requested, and Senator Deane agreed, that as budgetary and curriculum discussions continue, diversity will explicitly and directly be discussed as part of the decision-making process.

As a supplementary question, Senator J. Welsh asked for an update on the situation of the graduate students enrolled in the Francophonie stream in the Department of French Studies. This issue was also raised at the March 26, 2009 Senate meeting. Senator Deane confirmed that the needs of the students enrolled in this stream will be met. Senator MacLean, Dean, Faculty of Arts and Science, added that within the next week or so, the Faculty will be able to communicate with the students involved on how their supervision needs will be met. Senator J. Welsh asked if the hiring of an adjunct professor to supervise graduate students in the Francophonie stream would qualify for the newly established Principal's Innovation Fund. Principal Williams responded that a restriction put on the Fund is that the monies must be used in the 2009-2010 academic year. [Secretary's Note: Further information about the Principal's Innovation Fund can be found at:

<http://www.queensu.ca/principal/funding/innovationfund.html>]

III REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

1. **Academic Development (Appendix G, page 35)**
 - a) **Proposal to introduce a Certificate Program in Geographic Information Science in the Faculty of Arts and Science
Moved by Senator Deane
seconded by Senator MacLean**

Motion 1

that SCAD recommends that Senate approve the establishment of the Certificate Program in Geographic Information Science in the Faculty of Arts and Science as a pilot project, subject to review in three years, and to commence in September 2009.

Carried 09-25

Motion 2

SCAD also recommends that the Senate policy on Certificate Programs in Queen's University, including rules and procedures, be re-evaluated by SCAD, and that this begin as immediate business of SCAD.

Carried 09-26

Motion 3

SCAD further recommends that additional proposed certificate programs not go forward to SCAD until such time as the certificate policy has been reviewed and the framework clarified.

Carried 09-27

Senator Deane, Chair of the Senate Committee on Academic Development (SCAD) reported that during the discussion about the proposal to introduce a certificate program in Geographic Information Science the Committee realized that work needed to be done on Senate's Certificate Programs policy. Senator Woodhouse noted that a number of faculties were looking at certificate programs as revenue generation opportunities and asked if future proposals would be held back until a new policy is in place. Senator Deane responded that SCAD is aware of the situation and realizes that the work on the policy must be completed in a timely fashion in order to avoid negatively affecting future proposals. Senator Deane assured Senate that work on the policy will begin immediately.

Dr. P. Treitz, Department of Geography, noted that the proposal for a certificate program was developed in response to the phasing-out of degree programs in Geographical Information Science. The certificate program will accommodate students who are interested in this core sub-discipline within the Department of Geography. There were no further questions or comments.

- b) Proposal to introduce the Drug Development and Human Toxicology (DDHT) stream in the existing Bachelor of Science in Life Sciences in the Faculty of Arts and Science**
Moved by Senator Deane
seconded by Senator MacLean
that SCAD recommends that Senate approve the establishment of the Drug Development and Human Toxicology (DDHT) stream in the existing Bachelor of Science in Life Sciences in the Faculty of Arts and Science to commence in September 2009.

Carried 09-28

Dr. M. Adams, Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, noted that a number of organizations both inside and outside the University were involved in the development of this new stream which has the potential of developing into a new graduate and/or certificate program. There were no questions or comments.

- c) Proposal to introduce a Cancer Research stream in the existing Bachelor of Science in Life Sciences in the Faculty of Arts and Science**
Moved by Senator Deane
seconded by Senator MacLean
that SCAD recommends that Senate approve the establishment of the Cancer Research stream in the existing Bachelor of Science in Life Sciences in the Faculty of Arts and Science to commence in September 2009.

Carried 09-29

Dr. S. Davey, Department of Pathology and Molecular Medicine, noted that the new program was designed to augment the Life Science stream by focusing students on cancer research in their final year and exposing them to the practical aspects of research. There were no questions or comments.

- d) Proposal to introduce a Collaborative Program in Cancer Research in the School of Graduate Studies and Research**
Moved by Senator Deane
seconded by Senator Deakin
that SCAD recommends that Senate approve the establishment of the Collaborative Program in Cancer Research in the School of Graduate Studies and Research to commence in September 2009.

Carried 09-30

Dr. P. Greer, Department of Pathology and Molecular Medicine, reported that funding for the CHIR training program in trans-disciplinary cancer research has been renewed for an additional five years. This funding is essential to the success of the new collaborate program in cancer research as it will help to provide stipends for Masters, Ph.D., post-graduate fellows and post-M.D. students enrolled in the new collaborate program. There were no questions or comments.

- 2. Agenda (Appendix H, page 120)**
a) Senate Meeting Dates
Moved by Senator LaFleche
seconded by Senator T. Dacin
that the Senate meeting dates for 2009-2010, as outlined in Appendix H, page 120, be approved.

Carried 09-31

There were no questions or comments.

- 3. Internal Academic Review (Appendix I, page 121)**
a) Request for Extension of final Internal Academic Review Report
Moved by Senator Deane
seconded by Senator Radcliffe
that Senate approve an extension on the timeline for completion of the Internal Academic Review reports listed in Appendix I, pages 121-122 until September 24, 2009.

Carried 09-32

Noting the large number of reviews this year and the considerable undertaking for the many people involved in the process, Senator Deane asked that the IARC be given an extension until the September meeting of Senate to table its reports for the 2008-2009 cycle. There were no questions or comments.

- 4. Nominating (Appendix J, page 123)**
a) Elections
Moved by Senator Oosthuizen
seconded by Senator Dixon
that those listed in Appendix J, pages 121-125 be elected to the committees indicated

Carried 09-33

There were no nominations from the floor.

Senator Radcliffe requested the opportunity to provide Senate with information about one student senator nominee that was not available to the Nominating Committee when it was making its decisions. Principal Williams noted that under the current *Rules of Procedures*, Senate may only discuss the nominating report as a slate and discussion about an individual nominee is not permissible. Therefore, Principal Williams ruled Senator Radcliffe out of order.

Senator Oosthuizen, Chair of the Nominating Committee, confirmed that decisions of the Senate Nominating Committee are based on the application completed by the nominee and information provided by two referees. In accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, all information provided to the Nominating Committee is considered personal and confidential.

In response to a question from Senator J. Welsh, Principal Williams stated that the current *Rules of Procedures* allow for nominations from the floor. If a nomination from the floor is received then a specific component of the report would be severed (for example, all undergraduate students nominated to positions on a certain committee), and an election for these positions would be triggered. However, the *Rules* do not allow for a particular individual to be removed from the slate.

Senator Laker asked what procedures were in place to remove a committee member from their seat once they have been elected. Principal Williams ruled the question out of order on the basis that it was not pertinent to the current Motion.

Moved by Senator Radcliffe
seconded by Senator Salzmann
that the ruling of the Chair prohibiting discussion about an individual on the nominating slate be challenged.

On vote, the challenge was defeated; 16 in favour of the challenge, 20 opposed.

The original Motion to adopt the slate was carried.

Senator Wiener asked the Chair for a point of privilege. He stated that false and defamatory information about him had been circulated to other members of Senate and he felt it was necessary to refute these claims in order to function effectively as a member of Senate.

5. Operations Review (Appendix K, page 127)

a) Amendments to the Terms of Reference and Composition of the Senate Committee on Non-Academic Discipline (SONAD)

Moved by Senator Stairs

seconded by Senator Brown

that the proposed amendments to the terms of reference and composition of the Senate Committee on Non-Academic Discipline (SONAD) be approved effective September 1, 2009.

Carried 09-34

Senator Stairs, Chair of the Senate Operations Review Committee (SORC), noted that the proposed amendments to the terms of reference and composition of the Senate Committee on Non-Academic Discipline (SONAD) were in response to SONAD's evolving role in non-academic discipline matters and were consistent with the current work of the Committee. There were no questions or comments.

b) Clarification regarding the use of Electronic Voting and Cancellation of Senate Meetings

Senator Stairs reported that the attached report was provided for information and was in response to a request from Principal Williams for clarification around the appropriate use of electronic voting and the cancellation of Senate meetings. It is SORC's recommendation that all of the following factors must be met before electronic voting is permissible:

- i) exceptional circumstance
- ii) time is of the essence, and
- iii) no reasonable possibility of convening a meeting

There were no questions or comments.

IV REPORTS OF FACULTIES AND AFFILIATED COLLEGES (Appendix L, page 134)

1. Changes to Fields of Study in Geography Graduate Programs

Senator Deakin explained that under the regular OCGS seven-year review cycle, each graduate program has the opportunity to realign its fields of study. The Vice-Principal (Academic) has requested that any such changes be reported to the Senate for information. The report circulated in the Agenda outlines a number of changes to the fields of study in the Department of Geography graduate program. There were no questions or comments.

V MOTIONS

1. Referred to the Senate Committee on Academic Development

Principal Williams stated that the Motions received from Senator Rouget and Senator J. Welsh had been referred to the Senate Committee on Academic Development (SCAD) for clarification.

VI COMMUNICATIONS (Appendix M, page 139)

1. Provisional Approval for a Queen's Centre for Energy and Power Electronics Research

Principal Williams drew attention to the communication regarding provisional approval for a Queen's Centre for Energy and Power Electronics Research. There were no questions or comments.

VII MATTERS REFERRED TO STANDING COMMITTEE (Appendix N, page 140)

Principal Williams drew attention to the following matters referred to Senate Committees.

1. Review of degree program names for graduate degrees [Referred to the Senate Committee on Academic Procedures (SCAP)]
2. Motions from Senator J. Welsh and Senator Rouget [Referred to the Senate Committee on Academic Development (SCAD)]

VIII OTHER BUSINESS

None Received

IX CLOSED SESSION

Not Required

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:37 p.m.