

MINUTES

Present: R. Lumpkin (Chair), S. Badali, C. Blayney, I. Blum, A. Brown, B. Burns, E. Church, A. Cole, P. Crouse, S. Drain, M. Eskritt, F.X. Eygun, J. Fraser-Arsenault, R. Green, M.J. Harkins, T. Harrison, J. Hollett, B. Jessop, K. Kienapple, B. MacInnes, J. MacLeod, L. Mann, J. Mills, P. Mombourquette, J. Sawler, L. Steele, B. Taylor, P. Watts, M. Whalen, P. Whyte

Regrets: M. Atwater, M. Bowen, J. Corcoran, S. King, I. Pottie

Guests: K. Gallant

R. Lumpkin welcomed new and re-elected members of Senate.

1. Approval of Agenda

Moved by B. Jessop, seconded by R. Green, to approve the agenda as amended. CARRIED

2. Approval of Minutes of April 28, 2014 and May 5, 2015

2.1. April 28, 2014

Moved by J. Hollett, seconded by L. Mann, to approve the meeting minutes of April 28, 2014 as presented. CARRIED

2.2. May 5, 2014

Moved by E. Church, seconded by L. Steele, to approve the meeting minutes of May 5, 2014 as amended. CARRIED

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

None.

4. President's Announcements

4.1. Conduct at Senate Meetings

R. Lumpkin read the *Conduct at Senate Meetings* statement.

R. Lumpkin invited all Senators to attend the Vinnie's TGIF event directly after the Senate meeting. She also noted that the Board of Governors has invited all Senators to attend the Friday evening of the fall BOG retreat on October 17, 2014, from 5-7:30 p.m.; a formal invitation will be distributed. She then went on to read a letter of thanks from Peter Glenister on being named Librarian Emeritus.

R. Lumpkin then reported that a working group has undertaken to develop a statement of social responsibility for the University. She then went on to report on Government relations, noting that the bi-lateral agreements are currently being completed; these agreements will be circulated to the campus community once received. She then reported on the innovation grants noting that E. Church along with the Co-op office developed a proposal regarding experiential learning. She also mentioned an upcoming public consultation regarding postsecondary education hosted by the Department of Labour and Advanced Education. E. Church addressed the issue of surveys and spoke about the difference between research surveys and surveys used for quality assurance. She noted that Brenda Gagne, Research

Ethics Coordinator, has offered to be a resource in this area and that guidelines regarding this issue will be circulated.

In response to a question from B. Burns. E. Church noted that examples of relevant surveys would be those conducted by DLCE and the Library.

5. Question Period

None

6. Committee Reports (Standing and Ad Hoc)

6.1. Academic Appeals Committee

Brook Taylor gave an oral report on behalf of the Academic Appeals Committee.

6.2. Academic Policy and Planning

6.2.1. Academic Calendar Dates 2015-2016

E. Church presented the Academic Calendar Dates 2015-2016 for information.

6.2.2. Public Availability of Grades

Moved by E. Church, seconded by R. Green, that Senate approve retiring the policy on the Public Availability of Grades. CARRIED

6.2.3. Non-Sexist Language Guidelines

Moved by E. Church, seconded by A. Cole, that Senate approve retiring the Guidelines for Non-Sexist Language. CARRIED

6.2.4. Non-Degree Student Status

Moved by E. Church, seconded by L. Steele, that Senate approve the creation of the category of non-degree student. CARRIED

B. Burns noted her support.

S. Drain asked if these students would be included in enrolment statistics (unit count).

E. Church responded yes.

I. Blum wondered about the completion of prerequisites for upper-level courses.

B. MacInnes confirmed that prerequisites would still have to be met.

6.2.5. Feedback to Students (for approval)

Moved by E. Church, seconded by P. Mombourquette, that Senate approve the motion presented: "All students, including those in labs and pass/fail courses, must receive written feedback from instructors before the deadline for withdrawing without academic penalty".

L. Steele questioned how this would apply to full-unit courses, specifically to thesis courses.

P. Mombourquette noted that the dates for feedback for a full unit course beginning in September (such as a thesis) would be February 1, by which time thesis students should have received some feedback on their work, though not in the form of a grade. He noted that the word "feedback" rather than "grade," was deliberate.

E. Church spoke to the importance of early feedback for students on their course progress.

Senators discussed whether the deadline for feedback should be expressed in terms of the withdrawal date or some more neutral date.

In response to a question by J. Sawler, E. Church responded that practica and internships would not be included in this policy. J. MacLeod noted that exceptions such as Practica, Co-op and Internship should be spelled out in the motion.

E. Church accepted this friendly amendment.

Moved by E. Church, seconded by P. Mombourquette that Senate approve the following academic calendar entry (as amended): “With the exception of Practica, Co-op and Internships, all students, including those in labs and pass/fail courses, must receive written feedback from instructors before the deadline for withdrawing without academic penalty”. CARRIED

6.2.6. Policy on Accommodation of Students’ Religious and Spiritual Observances

Moved by E. Church, seconded by P. Mombourquette, that Senate approve the policy on Accommodation of Students’ Religious and Spiritual Observances. CARRIED as amended.

E. Church presented and reviewed the proposed policy on the Accommodation of Students’ Religious and Spiritual Observances.

M. Whalen expressed concern with language noting that he found the policy ambiguous and open to abuse.

P. Mombourquette addressed these concerns.

J. Mills raised a number of questions, as to the events which had prompted this policy, the consultation that had taken place, the generality of the policy, the implications for workload, and the timely distribution of a list of relevant dates.

E. Church responded, noting in particular that it is the intention to have these dates published and distributed prior to the start of classes.

Senators engaged in a lengthy discussion of this issue. Many Senators had concerns about the language used in the policy and the possibility of its abuse. Others raised questions of ethical concerns, referring to a recent incident at York University where a male student was excused from participating in group work with fellow female students due to religious reasons. Senators spoke about student rights and human rights. It was noted that the University has a duty to accommodate religious observances, unless undue hardship is incurred, and that the standard of “undue hardship” is set high. It was also noted that respect for religious beliefs or observances does not override human rights. In the context of spiritual observances such as fasting and dress codes, Senators were requested to bring questions and matters of interpretation to the appropriate Dean for clarification and resolution.

The following amendments were accepted:

- Effective from: should read, January 1, 2015
- Under Purpose, removal of the following phrase: ‘and often engender different types of commitments for observance practices’.
- Under Policy, removal of the fourth bullet ‘Following specific dress codes’.

6.3. Appointment, Promotion and Tenure or Permanence for Academic Administrators (CAPTPAA)

6.3.1. Nomination for Professor Emeritus Status (CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS)

Moved by T. Harrison, seconded by I. Blum, to move *in camera*. CARRIED

Moved by B. Jessop, seconded by P. Watts, to move from *in camera*. CARRIED

Moved by M. J. Harkins, seconded by J. MacLeod, to move *in camera*. CARRIED

The positive result of the vote by secret ballot was reported.

Moved by A. Brown, seconded by R. Green, to move from *in camera*. CARRIED

6.4. Nominations

6.4.1. Nominations

Moved by C. Blayney, seconded by P. Crouse, that Senate elect the following faculty members to the respective committees for the indicated terms. CARRIED

| Committee | Nominee | Term Begins | Term Ends |
|--|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Graduate Scholarships, Assistantships and Awards | Dr. Michael Bowen | When Elected | June 30, 2017 |
| Writing Initiatives | Dr. Valda Leighteizer | When Elected | June 30, 2017 |

6.4.2. Revised Procedures of the Senate Nominations Committee

P. Crouse presented the revised procedures of the Senate Nominations Committee for information.

6.5. Research and Publications

A. Cole presented items 6.5.1 and 6.5.2 for information.

6.5.1. Changes to CRP.SOP.004 Budget Management and CRP.SOP.010 – Special Projects

6.5.2. Changes to CRP.Form.001 - Standard Internal Grant; CRP.Form.002 - Aid to Scholarly Publications Grant; CRP.Form.004 - New Scholars Grant; CRP.Form.005 - Social Change Through Community-engaged Research Grant; CRP.Form.006 - Residual Funds Grant; CRP.Form.008 - Assistance to Prepare Large-scale Collaborative Grant

T. Harrison noted that Librarians are also eligible for research funding and asked that the language be modified to reflect their inclusion. A. Cole undertook to take this matter to the committee.

6.6. University Research Ethics Board

A. Cole presented items 6.6.1 and 6.6.2 for information.

6.6.1. Changes to REB. SOP.116 Ongoing Review of Research

6.6.2. Changes to REB.FORM.001 (Standard Application); REB.FORM.005 (Application for Research Ethics Clearance for Use of Secondary Data); REB.FORM.006 (Application for Research Ethics Clearance for Students Conducting Research with Human Participants for a Thesis or Project as Part of a Larger Faculty Research Project)

7. Other Reports

7.1. Board of Governors

L. Mann reported on the recent Board of Governors meeting. She mentioned the BOG annual report review and outcome and the status of the McCain Centre (scheduled to open May 2015) and she expanded on the Government relations report given during the President's announcements.

7.2. Students' Union

P. Whyte reported on the Mount Includes Project, Orientation 2014, and his work with the Canadian Federation of Students.

7.3. Mount 2017: Making a Difference

R. Lumpkin noted that an oral update will be given on the evening of October 17 during the BOG retreat.

8. New Business

8.1. Annual Reports of Senate Committees (for information)

R. Lumpkin presented the annual reports included under 8.1-8.3 for information.

- 8.1.1. Senate Executive
- 8.1.2. Academic Appeals
- 8.1.3. Academic Policy and Planning
- 8.1.4. Graduate Studies Program and Policy
- 8.1.5. Graduate Scholarships, Assistantships and Awards
- 8.1.6. Undergraduate Curriculum
- 8.1.7. Appointment, Promotion and Tenure or Permanence for Academic Administrators
- 8.1.8. Information Technology and Services
- 8.1.9. Library
- 8.1.10. Nominations
- 8.1.11. Research and Publications
- 8.1.12. Student Experience
- 8.1.13. Teaching and Learning
- 8.1.14. Writing Initiatives
- 8.1.15. Undergraduate Admissions and Scholarships
- 8.1.16. University Research Ethics Board
- 8.1.17. Student Judicial
- 8.1.18. Student Discipline Appeals—not available

8.2. Annual Report of Nancy's Chair Committee (for information)

8.3. Annual Report of Gail and Stephen Jarislowsky Chair in Learning Disabilities (for information)

9. Items for Communication

Senate approved the following:

- Minutes of April 28, 2014 and May 5, 2014
- a motion regarding timely feedback to students in courses
- a policy on the Accommodation of Students' Religious and Spiritual Observances
- a new category of non-degree students for admissions
- a nomination for the status of Professor Emerita

Senate rescinded

- an outdated policy document regarding the public availability of grades
- outdated guidelines for the use of non-sexist language

Senate elected

- Dr. Valda Leighteizer to the Writing Initiatives Committee
- Dr. Mike Bowen to Graduate Scholarships, Assistantships and Awards Committee

Senate received for information

- Academic Calendar Dates for 2015-2016
- Revised Procedures of the Senate Nominations Committee
- Changes to operating procedures and forms for the Committee on Research and Publication
- Changes to operating procedures and forms for the University Research Ethics Board
- Annual Reports of all standing committees of Senate and of the Advisory Committees for Nancy's Chair and the Jarislowsky Chair in Learning Disabilities.

10. Adjournment

Moved by J. MacLeod, seconded by P. Whyte, that the meeting be adjourned.