

MINUTES

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

Regrets: B. Jessop, S. King, L. Mann, I. Pottie,

1. Approval of Agenda

Moved by J. Corcoran, seconded by B. Burns, to approve the agenda as presented. CARRIED

2. Approval of Minutes of October 24, 2014

Moved by P. Whyte, seconded by M. J. Harkins, to approve the meeting minutes of October 24, 2014 as amended. CARRIED

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

No business arising.

4. President's Announcements

R. Lumpkin invited all Senators to the Vinnie's Social in the afternoon and the following Friday afternoon.

R. Lumpkin then updated Senators on Government relations and the on-going public consultations. She noted that 28 focus group sessions had been held over the last 5-6 weeks. She noted that preliminary feedback included tuition concerns (from students), and concerns regarding support (from faculty); it was noted that the Librarians were a dynamic and creative group. She mentioned an upcoming survey and a telephone consultation with students and parents; it was noted that a "vision paper" will be produced and presented by the end of January 2015.

She spoke briefly about the retreat with the Department of Labour and Advanced Education, held mid-November with various deputy ministers and government senior staff members; she noted that the current MOU is due to expire in March of 2015. She reported that no commitment to future funding has been revealed but no further cuts are anticipated.

P. Whyte shared a brief report on the recent government round table meeting he attended with the Canadian Federation of Students.

R. Lumpkin commented that Senior Administration would continue to lobby for the Mount noting its strengths, focus and balanced budgets.

5. Question Period

No questions were brought forward.

6. Committee Reports (Standing and Ad Hoc)

6.1. Senate Executive (R. Lumpkin)

R. Lumpkin presented a rationale for adding an additional meeting to be held in late May of each academic year. She noted that various Senate sub-committees would

benefit from an additional meeting. In addition she raised the possibility of a further change to delegate the graduation list to Senate Executive for approval. This list would also be available for review by Senators and/or department chairs in the Evaristus Reading Room prior to being approved by Senate Executive. She noted that this change would obviate the need for an early May meeting, or allow it to become a late May meeting.

P. Mombourquette voiced his support of this change.

E. Church noted that academic departments will also be given access to the “intent to graduate” list for review to help them with scholarship and award nominations.

S. Badali noted that a late May meeting might overlap with Congress.

6.2. Academic Appeals (B. Taylor)

On behalf of the Chair of the Academic Appeals Committee, B. Taylor gave an oral report on the recent business of the AAC noting that the committee had met 3 times reviewing 4 appeals. He reported that three student appeals were denied, while one student appeal was upheld. He noted that the AAC has submitted to CAPP proposed changes to the exam policy and appeal procedures stated in the academic calendar,.

6.3. Academic Policy and Planning

6.3.1. Course Outline Policy Revision

E. Church presented and reviewed the Course Outline Policy Revision for information.

J. Mills asked that the statement reflect the stipulation in the Policy for Accommodating Religious Observances, that requests for accommodation should be in writing. E. Church accepted the friendly amendment.

6.3.2. Policy regarding Memoranda of Understanding

Moved by E. Church, seconded by M.J. Harkins, that Senate approve the policy on Memoranda of Understanding with Post-Secondary Institutions. **CARRIED**

E. Church presented the rationale for the Memoranda of Understanding with Post-Secondary Institutions Policy. She mentioned a minor amendment to the document presented noting that the International Education Office would be added (under the Policy heading) to the list of departments that might be affected by the proposal.

In response to a question from P. Mombourquette, E. Church responded that academic departments had not been consulted during the drafting of this policy.

P. Mombourquette stated that his department would be fundamentally opposed to this change, arguing that the an added level of bureaucracy would impede the process and have a negative impact on enrollment and department relations with external institutions.

In response to a question from P. Whyte, E. Church described the original process.

T. Harrison noted that very often the Library would be affected especially in regard to licensing, and requested that the Library should be added to the consultation list.

M. Whalen added his support to Senator Mombourquette’s concerns.

E. Church emphasized that expressions of interest would no longer come to Senate for approval.

In response to P. Mombourquette’s reiteration of his concerns, B. Taylor noted that the timeline given in the policy document would serve to minimize delays. He further noted

that there must be consultation to ensure that a department does not enter into an agreement that might affect another program.

K. Kienapple noted that UCC and GSPPC would need the full document prior to sending to Senate – any consultation would need to take place prior to the agreement going to either of these committees. He added that this policy formalizes a process that has been in place up until now.

R. Lumpkin added further clarification. She asked for a friendly amendment to the language under Policy: “If a department is proposing a new ...”

E. Church accepted the friendly amendment.

L. Steele expressed concern that perhaps the process lacked rigour.

E. Church responded with clarification that although these agreements would not be brought forward to CAPP they would need to be brought forward to UCC or GSPPC for review and approval, prior to being submitted to Senate for approval. She noted that proposed process is similar to that used for program modifications.

6.4. Undergraduate Curriculum

6.4.1. Program Changes

6.4.1.1. Biology

6.4.1.1.1. Honours Program: removal of required course CHEM/BIOL 3502 **Moved** by S. Badali, seconded by B. Burns, that Senate approve the Biology program change: Honours Program: removal of required course CHEM/BIOL 3502. CARRIED.

B. Burns asked a question regarding when will the policy come into effect and how it would affect current students.

B. MacInnes responded that when program requirements change, students have the option to graduate according to either current requirements or those in the Academic Calendar in effect when they entered their program..

6.4.1.2. Child and Youth Study

6.4.1.2.1. Minor: removal of CHYS 2208

6.4.1.2.2. Practicum: Change in Prerequisites

Moved by S. Badali, seconded by K. Kienapple, that Senate approve 6.4.1.2.1, Child and Youth Study Minor: Removal of CHYS 2208. CARRIED

Moved by S. Badali, seconded by K. Kienapple, Senate approve 6.4.1.2.2, Child and Youth Study Practicum: Change in Prerequisites. CARRIED.

In response to a question by P. Watts, the rationale for changes was reviewed.

6.4.2. Changes to existing courses

S. Badali presented 6.4.2.1-6.4.2.5 changes to existing courses for information.

6.4.2.1. BIOL 2204; 3310; 3322

6.4.2.2. BUSI 4427

6.4.2.3. PHYS 1120; 1130

6.4.2.4. CHYS 3320; 3352; 4402; 4420; 4429

6.4.2.5. HIST/RELS 2233

6.5. Research and Publications

6.5.1. Changes to Standard Operating Procedure 002; Forms 001, 002, 003, 004, 006, 008 and 005; NSERC USRA Competition

A. Cole presented the changes to Standard Operating Procedure 002; Forms 001, 002, 003, 004, 006, 008 and 005; NSERC USRA Competition, for information.

B. Burns asked if the NSERC information would apply to BSc Honours students.

A. Cole noted that this would apply to Full-time Faculty members at all Institutions.

7. Other Reports

7.1. Board of Governors

S. Drain read a report from L. Mann on the November 20th Board of Governors meeting. She mentioned that J. Hollett reported on enrollment, that the Pensions Governance Board annual report was received, and that the official opening of the McCain Centre would be May 29, 2015. She also mentioned that a report was given by the Finance Committee, and that a motion to secure financing for the McCain project and to repay the NS SOFI (Strategic Opportunities Fund) loan was approved. The Board received additional reports from the President, Faculty Association, Students' Union and Alumnae were also made. These reports also included observations from the recent PSE consultations regarding the MOU.

7.2. Students' Union

P. Whyte reported briefly on the day of action protest, on a consultation regarding the investment of funds acquired from an HST return, and on re-establishment of the tutor database. He noted that consultation regarding the issue around tutors has begun with several groups including Disability Services on campus and with the Nova Scotia government.

7.3. Mount 2017: Making a Difference

R. Lumpkin noted that the President's Report to the Board is available on SharePoint. She highlighted the New Canada Research Chair in Social Innovation and Community Engagement; the Food Security Report released by Patty Williams and the Learners and Leaders Conference sponsored by the department of Business and Tourism.

8. Items for Communication

Senate approved the following:

- Policy regarding Memoranda of Understanding
- Program Changes to the Biology Honours Program and to the CHYS minor and practicum

Senate received for information

- A revision of the Course Outline Policy
- Changes to existing courses
- Changes to various documents of the Committee on Research and Publications

9. Adjournment

Moved by M. Bowen, seconded by B. Burns, that the meeting be adjourned.