



MINUTES OF MEETING #6 (2008-09)

SENATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2009, 3:00 PM

SANKEY CHAMBER, MACKENZIE CHOWN COMPLEX

PRESENT: Professor Rick Cheel (Chair), Mr. Patrick Beard, Dr. Terry Boak, Dean Ian Brindle, Mr. Joseph Brown, Mr. Mike Farrell (Recorder), Dr. Greg Finn, Mr. Rob Lanteigne, Professor Stan Sadava, Professor Susan Sydor

ALSO

PRESENT: Professor John Lye (for items 4 and 5)
Professor Carol Merriam (for item 3)
Professor David Schimmelpenninck (for item 4)

REGRETS: Professor Tansu Barker, Professor Irene Blayer, Professor Maureen Connolly, Dean Rosemary Hale, Ms. Laurie Morrison, Professor Michael Plyley

1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the Senate Governance Committee (2008-09) meeting #5 held January 7, 2009 were circulated prior to the meeting.

MOVED (Sadava/Lanteigne)

That the minutes of the Senate Governance Committee (2008-09) meeting #5 held January 7, 2009 be approved.

CARRIED

2. Business arising from the minutes

There was no business arising.

3. Eligibility of Associate Deans to be elected to Senate

Professor Cheel welcomed Professor Carol Merriam, President of BUFA, to the meeting. The Committee had received a memo from Professor Merriam requesting reconsideration of the position of Associate Deans as elected faculty representatives to the University Senate. Professor Merriam reviewed the

position of BUFA as outlined in the memo and then responded to questions from Committee members.

Professor Cheel thanked Professor Merriam for meeting with the Committee and she retired from the meeting.

The confidential legal opinion regarding Senate membership, first received by the Committee in April 2005, was circulated with the meeting materials. The Committee discussed the eligibility of Associate Deans in the context of clarifying their administrative/academic responsibilities, eligibility as defined by the Brock Act and the arguments presented in the legal opinion.

As well, the Committee had agreed during its previous meeting that this discussion should be held before considering decanal representation on Senate Committees, as the matter involves Associate Deans acting as alternates for a Dean on Senate Committees. It was also noted previously that student representation would be considered when the matter of Decanal representation on Senate Committees was discussed.

The Committee agreed to further discuss the matter at its next meeting scheduled for March 11, 2009, as several elected Senators on the committee were not present due to inclement weather and further discussion was required.

MOVED (Sadava/Brown)

That the eligibility of Associate Deans to be elected to Senate be discussed during the next meeting of the Committee.

CARRIED

4. Academic Program Review – Department of History

Professor John Lye, Associate Dean, Student Affairs and Curriculum, Faculty of Humanities and Professor David Schimmelpenninck, Chair, Department of History, were in attendance to answer questions regarding the Academic Program Review of the Department of History.

The responsibilities of the Governance Committee for Academic Program Reviews are outlined in Section III: 20 of the Faculty Handbook. The Committee is to confirm that all review procedures have been followed or identify where they have not.

Mr. Beard informed the Committee that he recommended approval of the review and confirmed that all review procedures had been followed

The Committee considered if approved Academic Reviews should be submitted to the Budget Advisory Committee for information with respect to understanding the resource needs identified.

Mr. Beard agreed to provide a checklist of key dates during the process relating to the development of each review submitted to the Committee.

The Committee asked Mr. Beard to provide advice as to whether the review documents the Committee receives should continue be treated as be confidential. He would report to the Committee during its next meeting.

Following discussion, the Committee agreed that all review procedures had been followed and agreed that the Academic Program Review of the Department of History be accepted.

MOVED (Sadava/Brown)

That the Governance Committee recommend to Senate that the Academic Program Review of the Department of History be accepted.

CARRIED

Professor Schimmelpenninck retired from the meeting.

5. Update on academic reviews – Faculty of Humanities

Professor Lye provided an update on the progress of Academic Reviews underway in the Faculty of Humanities noting the following:

The Governance Committee would be receiving, for its next meeting, reviews from the Departments of Visual Arts, Great Books/Liberal Studies and Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures. The review of the Departments of Music and Dramatic Arts would be completed soon and the Department of English review is in progress and on schedule. The Department of Canadian Studies is delayed and will not be completed until the 2010-11 academic year.

6. Organizational nomenclature review

Professor Cheel and Dean Brindle agreed to review the working document regarding organizational nomenclature prepared previously by Professor Cheel and present this to the Committee for discussion at its next meeting.

7. Proposed amendment to FHB I: 8.3.1 re term of office for Deans

During the last meeting, Mr. Farrell was asked to prepare a summary report of all senior administrative positions in Section 1 of the Faculty Handbook with respect to reappointment/renewal procedures, before the Committee considered further the proposed amendment. The summary report was circulated with the meeting material. The Committee of Academic Deans had strongly recommended that the word “normally” be included in the proposed amendment to the term of office for Deans as outlined in FHB I: 8.3.1.

The Committee reviewed the procedures and discussed the term of office for a Dean as outlined in Section I of the Faculty Handbook. The amendment would normally limit the term of a Dean to two terms. A recommendation from Senate on this matter would be forwarded to the Board of Trustees as advice. The final authority for establishing the procedures in the Faculty Handbook for the appointment/reappointment of senior academic and administrative staff rests with the Board of Trustees.

MOVED (Sydor/Brindle)

That the Governance Committee recommend to Senate that the proposed amendment to Faculty Handbook I: 8.3.1 be forwarded to the Board of Trustees for consideration.

CARRIED

(The shaded areas indicate additions and the strikeouts indicate deletions.)

FHB: I: 8.3.1 Term of Office

A. Term of Appointment - A Dean shall normally hold office for an initial term not to exceed five years.

B. Extension of Terms - The term of office of a Dean may be extended once for a period of one year, provided that, prior to a decision, the President shall
i) consult the Chairs of the Departments/Centres in the Faculty; and
ii) advise Senate of the pending extension.

C. Reappointment/Renewal - ~~A Dean may be a candidate for subsequent term(s).~~

Normally, a Dean would serve for a maximum of two terms (10 years).

8. Senate election scrutineers

In keeping with FHB II: 3.4.2, the Governance Committee recommends to Senate two Senators who are not standing for election, to serve as scrutineers for the upcoming Senate election.

MOVED (Sydor/Brindle)

That Senators John Sivell and Maureen Connolly be appointed as scrutineers for the Senate election to be held March 27, 2009.

9. Other business

There was no other business.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:36 p.m.