



MINUTES OF MEETING #2 (2008-09)

**SENATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2008, 3:00 PM

SANKEY CHAMBER, MACKENZIE CHOWN COMPLEX

PRESENT: Professor Rick Cheel (Chair), Professor Tansu Barker,  
Mr. Patrick Beard, Professor Irene Blayer, Dr. Terry Boak,  
Mr. Joseph Brown, Professor Maureen Connolly, Mr. Mike Farrell  
(Recorder), Dr. Greg Finn, Mr. Rob Lanteigne,  
Interim Dean Joffre Mercier, Ms. Laurie Morrison,  
Professor Michael Plyley, Professor Susan Sydor

REGRETS: Dean Rosemary Hale, Professor Stan Sadava

**1. Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the Senate Governance Committee (2008-09) meeting #1 held September 10, 2008 were circulated prior to the meeting.

**MOVED** (Lanteigne/Plyley)

**That the minutes of the Senate Governance Committee (2008-09) meeting #1 held September 10, 2008 be approved.**

**CARRIED**

Professor Cheel informed the Committee that he had received a communication from Professor Gary Pickering, Chair of the Research and Scholarship Policy Committee, regarding a vacant seat on the Committee. This item will be included on the agenda for the next meeting.

**2. Draft memo to Graduate Studies Committee re the Creation of a University Senate Planning Committee**

Professor Cheel noted that the minutes of the previous meeting outlined the basis of his draft response to the Graduate Studies Committee regarding the Creation of a University Senate Planning Committee. He will forward the memo to the Chair of Graduate Studies Committee on behalf of the Committee.

**3. Decanal representation on Senate Committees**

As Dean Hale was unable to attend the meeting, this item will be discussed at a future meeting of the Committee.

**4. Report on the review of the criteria and process for awarding Honorary Degrees**

The draft report *Suggestions for criteria and procedure for the selection of Honorary Degree recipients*, dated September 10, 2008, and the current *Guidelines for Nomination of Honorary Degrees* were circulated with the meeting materials. The Committee reviewed and compared the two documents and discussed the proposed criteria and process. It was agreed that a sub-committee would review the two documents and develop a draft for the consideration of the Committee. The sub-committee would include Professor Cheel (Chair), Professor Barker, Professor Pyley and Professor Blayer. Mr. Farrell would be a resource person to the sub-committee.

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

Dr. Boak noted that the current procedures for decanal appointments under FHB I: 8.3 allows for the reappointment of a Dean for subsequent terms. The proposal presented is to amend the wording to state that “normally, a Dean would serve for a maximum of two terms (10 years)”. Amendments to this section of the Faculty Handbook as recommended to Senate by the Governance Committee would be forwarded as advice to the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees has the authority to amend Section 1 of the Faculty Handbook.

Following discussion, it was agreed that Dr. Boak would review this proposed amendment with the Committee of Academic Deans and then report back to the Governance Committee.

**MOVED** (Connolly/Sydor)

**That the proposed amendment to FHB I: 8.3 Appointment/Reappointment of Deans be referred to the Committee of Academic Deans through Dr. Boak.**  
**CARRIED**

**6. Governance Committee’s responsibility for the Undergraduate Program Review process**

Mr. Beard reviewed the role of the Governance Committee with respect to Academic Reviews as outlined in FHB III: 20 noting responsibilities related to approval of the Self-study and the list of those to be interviewed by the reviewers. Regarding approval of the review, the Committee reports to Senate confirming that all review procedures have been followed or indentifying where they have not. The Committee recommends to Senate that the academic review of the program be accepted with or without conditions or that the review or part of the review be redone.

**7. Report on Pending Academic Reviews**

The report *Academic Review Status Summary*, dated September 23, 2008 was circulated to the Committee with the meeting materials. Mr. Beard provided an overview of the summary report. It was noted that when new programs or major changes to programs are brought forward to the Undergraduate Program Committee, the status of any Academic Review would be reviewed and if submissions were late, the changes to the UPC submission may not be considered. This process was recommended by the Governance Committee last spring. The Committee discussed ways in which late submissions by some departments could be alleviated and the possible consequences that late submissions may have with respect to a UPRAC audit.

**8. Ex officio non-voting status of the Registrar on Senate**

Professor Cheel stated that the Registrar is the only ex officio member of Senate that does not have voting rights. The Registrar does have a vote as an ex officio member at the Committee level. Following discussion, it was agreed to take no action on the matter at this time.

**9. Other business**

Professor Sydor asked if it was known whether the system of electronic or paperless Senate meetings was working effectively. It was agreed that this item would be placed on a future agenda for discussion.

**10. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 4:14 p.m.