MINUTES OF MEETING #7 (2006- 2007) OF THE

SENATE RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP POLICY COMMITTEE

HELD ON MONDAY, APRIL 9th, 2007 AT 10:00AM - 11:30AM

IN MC D350-L

PRESENT: Dr. Sandra Bosacki**,** Ms. Frances Chandler, Dr. Patricia Debly, Dr. Tamara El Hoss, Dr. Jim Kerr, Dr. Bulent Menguc**,** Dr. Bozidar Mitrovic (Vice-Chair), Dr. Michael Owen, Dr. Marilyn Rose, Dr. Stan Sadava**,** Dr. David Siegel, Ms. Judy Maiden (Recorder)

REGRETS: Dr. Barry Wright (Chair), Ms. Michelle Green, Ms. Pam Jacobs

ARRIVED AFTER MEETING START: Dr. Terry Boak, Dr. Lynn Rempel, Dr. Linda Rose-Krasnor

Introductions / Welcome (Bozidar Mitrovic)

1. Approval of Agenda with Additions

Motion: That the agenda be accepted with the following addition: to approve Bozidar Mitrovic to chair the meeting

MOVED: (Sadava/Chandler)

Unanimously CARRIED

2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Motion: That the minutes be accepted as circulated.

MOVED: (Sadava/Mitrovic**)**

Unanimously CARRIED

3. Business Arising
Sub-committee reports

a.1 Best Practices (Sandra Bosacki)

i. This committee met on March 27th. The members felt that a workshop for SSHRC 4a and non funded faculty members, among others should be offered in conjunction with the Office of Research Services (ORS) and deans who have faculty members who are SSHRC eligible. Dr. Nombuso

Diamini a Canada Research Chair from the University of Windsor, could be invited to deliver a workshop that is either one or two days. If the deans felt it was a good idea ORS would pay for half the cost and organize the event. The cost would be 1500/day. She had previously been at Brock and was well received.

ACTION: Fran Chandler is to find out the particulars as to the cost, times she is available, etc. and inform David Siegal. David Siegal is to contact the other deans to determine if they are willing to cost share.

The data base that lists faculty members and their research interests continues to be worked on in the IT department. The issue remains as to how it will be updated each year. It might be updated by having faculty members do it themselves but the logistics of this approach still need to be discussed. A form that is used by each of them for their annual reports could be used as they are obliged to complete these each year for their promotion and tenure.

ii The committee members also recommended that we have one or more faculty members who are seen as experts in getting grants and who faculty members can access for support when writing their grants. This person could be given a course release in order to all him or her to devote time to individuals and with groups of people to work on their proposals.

a.2 Interdisciplinary / Networking (Pam Jacobs)
Pam was not in attendance so no report was tabled.

a.3 Identify key researchers for external recognition/
Raising our Profile (Michael Owen/Bozidar Mitrovic)

i. There is a need to identify awards and insert them into a database. Currently notices on awards are targeted to specific deans but sometimes notice is too short. The web can be used very effectively to enhance the visibility and the profile of research at Brock. Part of the links could lead to a database of different research activities that someone on the outside could go to and use to match their interests with Brock Faculty. Jim Kerr will be a part of this committee. We need to integrate any new databases with existing ones.

a.4 Financial (Michael Owen/David Siegel)

i. The committee members met but decided there wasn't enough information as two faculties still needed to provide information on start-up funds for faculty members, conferences, and other such awards.

4. New Business

a. Review Policy - Postdoctoral Fellows - FHB III: 22
http://www.brocku.ca/secretariat/facultyhandbook/section3description#V.1

The PDF policy was given to this group from the Governance Committee. The Research, Teaching and Scholarship Policy committee reviewed this policy in 2001, and it now appears that some language needs to be updated in order to be in-line with the current university environment and guidelines.

ACTION: Section 22.1.2 *Appointment and Registration of Postdoctoral Fellows* deals with postdoctoral appointments. The Associate Vice-President Research, not Dean of Graduate Studies, should be listed as having this authority. Also, issues related to the provision of IT support for post docs needs to be clarified.

i Section 21.1 3 lists PDFs as being similar to graduate students, and although they are similar, there are differences as they are finished their PhDs and are assuming positions in a university setting that is not the same as that occupied by students.
ii. The Tri-council has a statement on PDFs.
iii. We need to look at the benefits such as course waivers, access to space, etc.
iv. Post doctoral fellows bring prestige to universities and are brilliant researchers who should be encouraged to come to Brock.

ACTION: This committee needs to make decisions on the following:
Should PDFs receive the same benefits and resources as graduate students or should they be similar to that of a visiting scholar in relation to such things as working space?
Section 22. 1 .6 needs to be clarified in relation to their method of payment e.g are they given money as if it is a bursary or is it employment income with all the deductions?
A decision needs to be made as to the status of PDFs. Are they considered as junior faculty or other types of trainees? If they are treated as employees then consideration should be given to allowing them to teach courses.

ACTION: Michael Owen to follow up with the Tri-Council to ask their guidance on best practices and policies.

b. Distinguished Research & Creative Activity Adjudication Committee (Michael Owen)

i. People are needed to serve on the above noted committee. In the past a sub-group from the Senate Research and Scholarship Policy Committee

has served as a reviewer. Dossiers of the individuals standing for the award will be circulated prior to the Adjudication Committee meeting.

ACTION: Bulent Menguc to serve on this committee.

5. Updates and Information Items (Committee)

Update: Nothing was added.

Information item:

a. On Thursday April 12th Dr. Chad Gaffield, President of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) is to visit Brock. There will be an open forum for all faculty members at 3:30pm and a morning session at 9:30am for graduate students. We will be discussing the last round of SSHRC results and possible methods of improving the success rate, among other items.

b. The Mapping the New Knowledges Graduate Student & Faculty Research Conference will be held on April 10th & 11th. There are over 100 students and posters registered. Dr. Lightstone will give the keynote address at the opening reception. Dr. Noreen Golfman, who is the Associate Dean of Graduate Studies at Memorial University and the President of the Canadian Association for the Humanities and Social Sciences, will give the plenary address on April 11th.

ACTION: Members of this committee to think about how funding for this conference can be secured on an annual basis as the Office of Research Services and Graduate Studies have paid for the majority of the costs for the last two conferences and some of the money is from grants that will terminate in a year's time.

Motion to adjourn. – (Rose-Krasnor/Menguc)

6. Other Business

Date of Next Meetings:

Monday, May 14th, 2007 from 1:30pm – 3:00pm
Wednesday, June 13th, 2007 from 10:00am – 11:30am

The above meetings will be held in MC D350-L
(Research Services/Graduate Studies Boardroom)

7. Adjournment 11:00am