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Brock University
Senate
St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada L2S 3A1
T: 905-688-5550, Ext. 3334 F: 905-688-9754
www.brocku.ca

MINUTES OF MEETING #572 (2009-10)

SENATE

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2009, 3:00 PM

DR. CHARLES A. SANKEY CHAMBER, MACKENZIE CHOWN COMPLEX

PRESENT: Professor John Sivell (Chair), Dean Ian Brindle, Dean John Corlett, Ms. Barb Davis, Dean Thomas Dunk, Dr. Greg Finn, Ms. Margaret Grove, Dean Rosemary Hale, Dean James Heap, Dr. Murray Knuttila, Mr. Rudi Kroeker, Mr. Rob Lanteigne, Dr. Jack Lightstone, Ms. Kim Meade, Dean Marilyn Rose, Interim Dean Barbara Sainty, Dr. Liette Vasseur, Dr. Philip Wright

Professors Tansu Barker, June Corman, Christine Daigle, Nancy DeCourville, Tamara El-Hoss, Sandra Felton, Nota Klentrou, Renee Kuchapski, Kelly Lockwood, Maureen Lux, Diane Mack, Herbert MacKenzie, Ingrid Makus, Dan Malleck, James Mandigo, Tom O'Neill, Frances Owen, Richard Parker, Michael Plyley, Stan Sadava, Larry Savage, Astride Silis, R. Angus Smith, Mark Spencer, David Vivian, Michelle Webber, Barry Wright, Deborah Yeager-Woodhouse, Paul Zelisko, Deborah Zinni

Mr. Will Crothers, Ms. Jessica Gallagher, Mr. Ryan Klamot, Mr. Sebastian Prins, Mr. Kevin Smith, Ms. Carly White

Mr. Bill Rickers, Mr. Bruce Wormald

Mr. Mike Farrell, Secretary, Ms. Margaret Thompson, Associate Secretary

ALSO PRESENT: Mr. Patrick Beard, Professors John Lye, Brian Power, Kirill Samokhin, Ed Sternin

REGRETS**:** Mr. Roland Acha, Ms. Tabasum Akseer, Professors Murray Kropf, Roberto Nickel, Cristina Santos, Susan Sydor, Dr. Thomas Winger

Professor Sivell welcomed members and called the meeting to order.

1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the 571st meeting of Senate held on June 3, 2009 had been posted with the meeting materials.

MOVED (Brindle/Klamot)

THAT the minutes of the 571st meeting of Senate held on June 3, 2009 be approved.

CARRIED

2. Business Arising from the Minutes - None

3. Communications

Professor Sivell introduced and welcomed newly-elected student Senators Jessica Gallagher, Kevin Smith and Carly White.

The Chair noted that there was no business arising over the summer months to report to Senate.

4. Report of the Chair

The following highlights were shared with Senate:

The 2009 Brock University Alumni Association Distinguished Alumni award was recently presented to Dr. Mary Guerrero Austrom (BEd '80 and honours BA in Psychology and Italian '81). Dr. Austrom is a world-renowned expert, advocate, researcher, educator and author in the field of Alzheimer's disease. Other alumni award winners were Karl Kaiser, Marty Calder, Ted Palmer, David MacKenzie and John Zoccoli.

A groundbreaking ceremony was held on September 8 for the Niagara Health and Bioscience Research Complex.

Brock University and the Ontario College of Teachers, in collaboration with six southern Ontario school boards, have developed a resource kit *Learning from Experience: Supporting Beginning Teachers and Mentors* based on professional dialogue, critical reflection, and case-based inquiry.

Dr. Jan Duchek, recipient of the Swiss National Science Foundation Fellowship, has joined Brock University research team working with Dr. Tomas Hudlicky, one of the most renowned organic chemists in the world.

Gyllian Raby, Associate Professor, Department of Dramatic Arts has teamed up with a Niagara theatre company to start a teen theatre group “Commotion Youth Theatre Projects”

in partnership with Pablo Felices-Luna, artistic director of the Carousel Players, and TALK Niagara (Teams of Adults Listening to Kids).

Professors Philip Wilson and Diane Mack, researchers in the Behavioural Health Sciences Research Lab, will examine motivation in commercial weight loss programs during a three-year study. The ultimate goal is to develop new resources, including their own motivational pamphlet, for those trying to lose weight.

In a new article published in the journal *Science*, Professor Glenn Tattersall studies how the tropical bird species toco toucans respond to temperature variations by using their beaks to deal with the heat, in an effort to better understand how animals cope with climate change.

The Ontario Universities Fair will be held from September 25-27 at the Metro Convention Centre, Toronto. Brock's new brand will be displayed and will include the use of the new Both Sides of the Brain photo booth.

5. Report of the President and Vice-Chancellor

[The President's Report to Senate dated September 14, 2009 together with Attachment 1: "Orientation of Brock University Board of Trustees September 2009" and Attachment 2: "We Need More University Researchers, Not Fewer" had been posted with the meeting materials.]

Dr. Lightstone referred Senators to his written Report and two appendices. He noted that the first of several Town Hall meetings during this academic year would be held on Friday, October 23 at 8:30 a.m. A notice would be distributed to the Brock community in the near future.

A discussion period ensued during which the President responded to questions and comments with respect to the budget, priorities, student mobility and government advocacy.

6. Report of the Provost and Vice-President, Academic

Dr. Knuttila provided an oral update on activities underway since the beginning of term. The Provost and Vice-President, Academic noted that he had developed a *2009-10 Academic Year Conversation and Action Item List* and a *Provost Plan – Moving Brock 2014 Forward* and provided an overview of the documents which would be posted on the Senate and Provost websites following the meeting.

A brief update was provided regarding the three decanal searches currently underway, namely, the Faculty of Business, Faculty of Education and the Faculty of Humanities. Dr. Knuttila related that as further discussions were required with respect to graduate studies, an Ad-hoc Committee reporting to the Provost would be struck, and he reviewed the proposed composition.

Dr. Knuttila advised Senate of a pending one year extension of term of office (to June 30, 2011) of the Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President, Academic, Dr. Greg Finn. He

thanked the President and members of the Senior Administrators' Council for supporting his recommendation. Dr. Knuttila expressed his sincere appreciation to Dr. Finn for his valuable support, commitment and contributions to the University. Senators applauded.

7. Report of the Academic Colleague - COU

[The Academic Colleague's Report dated September 17, 2009 had been posted with the meeting materials.]

Dean Rose referred members to the Report, noting that it was a pleasure to serve again as the Academic Colleague. She was pleased to report that Dr. Jack Lightstone had recently been promoted and is now a member of the Council of Ontario Universities' Executive Committee.

As indicated in the Report, Dean Rose is developing a paper to present at the October Council meeting regarding *The Accommodation of Graduate Students with Disabilities.* She encouraged Senators to forward to her any issues, ideas, experiences related to the topic. As well, Dean Rose welcomed Senators to forward ideas for future working papers and she would bring those forward to COU for consideration.

During discussion, it was clarified that Brock had submitted its response to the consultation draft of the new Quality Assurance Framework which had been sent to universities. The reports are currently being compiled and will be reviewed by the COU's Quality Assurance Transition/Implementation Task Force. Dr. Knuttila pointed out that quality assurance and accountability is included on the Provost's action item list for this year.

8. Report of the Actions of the Board of Trustees

[A Brief of the Board meeting held June 25, 2009 had been posted with the meeting materials.]

The Report of the Actions of the Board of Trustees had been posted for the information of Senate.

9. Unfinished Business from the Last Meeting

Prior to the discussion, Dean Rose retired from the meeting.

Dr. Lightstone noted that at the meeting of Senate Orientation held on September 9, 2009 he had advised Senate that he would be bringing the matter of extending the term of the Dean of Graduate Studies for one additional year (to June 30, 2011) to the Board of Trustees. He noted that the Faculty Handbook states that the term of office of a Dean may be extended once for a period of one year. As the Board of Trustees is responsible for this section of the Faculty Handbook, he would be requesting that the Board make an exception and allow for an additional one year extension.

In response to a question, the Chair noted that a motion in support of the extension and to congratulate Dean Rose would be appropriate.

Professor Savage related that in keeping with the Faculty Handbook, prior to presenting the matter to the Board of Trustees, the President should consult with the Chairs of the Departments/Centres in the Faculty.

MOVED (Daigle/Sainty)

THAT Senate support the President's decision that the term of the Dean of Graduate Studies be extended for one additional year to June 30, 2011 and that congratulations be extended to Dean Marilyn Rose.

CARRIED

Dean Rose rejoined the meeting, and Senators applauded.

10. Reports of Standing Committees

10.1 Graduate Studies Committee

[The Report of the Graduate Studies Committee dated September 15, 2009, together with the "Brief for the Standard Appraisal of the Ph.D. in Physics" had been posted with the meeting materials.]

Professor Klentrou presented the Report of the Graduate Studies Committee. She noted that she was pleased to present to Senate the proposal for the Ph.D. in Physics.

MOVED (Klentrou/Zelisko)

THAT Senate approve, in principle, the proposal for the new graduate program Ph.D. in Physics and that it be forwarded to OCGS for review and approval.

Dean Rose noted that in the past, motions to approve new graduate programs were approved "in principle" pending review and approval by OCGS. A friendly amendment to the motion was accepted to include this wording.

CARRIED

10.2 Undergraduate Program Committee

[The Report of the Undergraduate Program Committee dated September 23, 2009 had been posted with the meeting materials.]

Professor Mandigo presented the Report of the Undergraduate Program Committee.

a) Changes to Concurrent Programs

Professor Mandigo noted a revision to the recommendation that was proposed in the Report.

MOVED (Mandigo/Finn)

THAT Senate accept the movement of EDUC 4P02, 4P04 and 4P26 from year 5 to year 4 within the Concurrent Programs effective Spring 2009: EDUC 4P02 will be taken in Year 4 in the BA, BSc and PhEd J/I programs; EDUC 4P04 will be taken in Year 4 in the BA CHYS/Bed P/J Program and EDUC 4P26 will be taken in Year 4 in the BA, BSc and PhEd I/S Programs as outlined in Appendix 1 of the Report.

In response to a question, Professor Mandigo confirmed that consultations with those affected departments had taken place.

CARRIED

b) For the Information of Senate

Changes in the Undergraduate Course Bank approved by the Committee during the summer months had been included for the information of Senate.

10.3 Information Technology and Infrastructure Committee

[The Report of the Information Technology and Infrastructure Committee dated September 15, 2009 had been posted with the meeting materials.]

Professor Malleck presented the Report of the Information Technology and Infrastructure Committee and reviewed the key issues discussed at the meeting as detailed in the Report. He encouraged Senators to forward issues regarding information technology and infrastructure to the Committee for consideration.

In response to a question, Dr. Wright indicated that the University's new website was expected to be launched later in the day.

10.4 Governance Committee

[The Report of the Governance Committee dated September 17, 2009 had been posted with the meeting materials together with the Dean's Executive Summary for each of the following Academic Program Reviews: Department of Economics, Department of Music, Department of Dramatic Arts.]

Professor Sadava presented the Report of the Governance Committee.

a) Academic Program Reviews

Professor Sadava noted that the Governance Committee had agreed that all review procedures had been followed for each of the Academic Program Reviews.

MOVED (Sadava/Dunk)

That the Academic Program Review of the Department of Economics be accepted.

CARRIED

MOVED (Sadava/Hale)

That the Academic Program Review of the Department of Music be accepted.

In response to a question, Professor Brian Power, Chair of the Department of Music, expanded on the process of the review.

CARRIED

MOVED (Sadava/Vivian)

That the Academic Program Review of the Department of Dramatic Arts be accepted.

CARRIED

b) For Information – Meeting with Chairs, Vice-Chairs and Secretaries

As indicated in the Report, the Governance Committee held its first meeting with Committee Chairs, Vice-Chairs and Secretaries on September 9. Future meetings would be held on November 25, 2009 and April 28, 2010.

c) For Information – Advisory Committee Nominations

As detailed in the Report, a subsequent call for nominations with respect to the Advisory Committees for the Dean of the Faculty of Education and the Dean of the Faculty of Humanities had been issued. Nominations also remain open for an elected member of Senate for the Faculty of Education Advisory Committee.

11. Other Business - None

12. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.