



**Overview of Committee Activities:**

Meetings, lasting between 2 & 3 hours, were held every two weeks during both the Fall and Winter terms, although at times it is difficult to meet the necessary quorum. In addition, subcommittees were established and held meetings pertaining to assigned tasks.

**Establishment of subcommittees:**

Six subcommittees were struck to align with each of the Faculties. The UPC member affiliated with the Faculty was assigned the duty of calling the meeting of the subcommittee. The major task was to review the calendar submissions from each unit within a particular faculty. Evelyn Difruscio was in attendance at each subcommittee meeting to ensure issues related to program requirements and policy implications, would be addressed. Any issues, concerns or clarifications raised at the subcommittee level could be addressed with the unit prior to the submission going to the full UPC committee.

While this process certainly lightens the load of committee members, there were understandably difficulties finding a common meeting time. In addition all submissions were also vetted through Hugh Gayler or Greg Finn for editing consistency.

As in previous years, UPC made recommendations regarding:

- \* The consideration of new undergraduate programs and the criteria for the evaluation of such programs

- \* The creation of new programs including both collaborative and articulated agreements. There continues to be a growing number of these, especially in the Social Sciences

- \* Changes to the undergraduate calendar and course banks

**In addition UPC**

- \* Continues to maintain a firm deadline for UPC submissions for the next academic year

- \* Was involved, along with other Senate committees, in the Senate Governance Committee's regular meetings of committee chairs, vice-chairs and secretaries in order to share information

- \* Received the news that the Registrar's Office was no longer going to publish a hard-copy of the Calendar in 2009-2010. Given the expense, the number of unsold copies awaiting recycling and students' abilities to use the Web calendar, it was thought better to follow other universities in not having a hard-copy any longer

**Subcommittee on Undergraduate Degree Review**

In the light of the Brock 2014 document, which intimates the ending of the three-year Pass degree and the concerns of faculty and students should this process begin in 2010 (or in effect with calendar submissions in October 2009!), a number of meetings were held to discuss the wider implications. In April, a Town Hall meeting was held in Pond Inlet to which all senators, chairs and academic advisors were invited to listen to Greg Finn and Maureen Connolly discuss various issues of changing curricula and benefits to students and the university. The meeting was well attended and it was clear from the questions and concerns raised that the process would be a long one. The same invitees were asked to share their concerns with the subcommittee, and some 25 submissions were received by the May 1 deadline. The task now is to categorize the overriding themes for UPC and Senate response. Given the present economic climate and existing

pressures on resources, faculty are clearly concerned about maintaining the quality of education at Brock should the Pass Degree be abolished.

**Recommendations for future consideration**

\* To continue the work of the subcommittee on undergraduate degree review and present the outcomes of the submissions to UPC and Senate

\* The possible easing of the strict timelines on calendar submissions now that we only have a virtual calendar

UPC would not operate as it does without strong administrative support. A special thank you goes out to Caroline Lidstone, the Administrative Co-ordinator, for setting up meetings, ensuring that meeting packages were distributed in a timely manner, providing support to the committee, taking detailed minutes of all decisions made, and responding quickly and efficiently to all requests for information. As well, Evelyn DiFruscio is thanked for her work and contributions to the committee and especially for her knowledge of the Brock system and its rules. Finally, I wish to thank all UPC members for their contributions over the year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Hugh Gayler, Chair