



TO: Mike Farrell
Secretary of Senate

FROM: Nota Klentrou, Chair
Senate Research and Scholarship Policy Committee

DATE: April 30, 2008

REPORT TO SENATE 559, May 14, 2008

The following items are reported for the information of Senate from the Committee on Research and Scholarship Policy.

Members of the 2007-08 Research and Scholarship Policy Committee were:

Panagiota (Nota) Klentrou (Chair)
Tamara El-Hoss (Vice-Chair)
Judy Maiden (Administrative Support)
Terry Boak
Sandra Bosacki
Ian Brindle
Frances Chandler
Patricia Debly
Margaret Grove
Iva Matthews
Cheryl McCormick
Bulent Menguc
Joffre Mercier
Bozidar Mitrovic
Lynn Rempel
Marilyn Rose
Angus Smith
Barry Wright

The mandate of the Committee is: to develop policy to support Full-time Teaching Staff, Professional Librarians and students in the performance of their responsibilities, including but not limited to research and scholarship, conceived of as mutually supporting and informing activities.

The Committee met six times during the academic year 2007-08 while the various sub-committees met additional times. A full review of the Committee's activities can be seen on the University Senate website; in summary, the Committee:

1. Reviewed and made recommendations for adjustments of the University policy on Animal Care and Use;
2. Updated the Postdoctoral Fellows policy based on last year's recommendations;
3. Review and made recommendations to Senate regarding the establishment of the Centre for Muscle Metabolism and Biophysics;
4. Review and asked for clarifications regarding the establishment Institute for International Issues in Accounting;
5. Review and made recommendations to Senate regarding the establishment of the Centre for Sport Capacity;
6. Reviewed and made recommendations regarding the Academic Plan for Brock University;
7. Review and asked for clarifications regarding the establishment of the Institute for International Issues in Accounting;
8. Review and asked for clarifications regarding the establishment of the Institute for Transnational Studies in the Americas (ITSA).
9. Continues to review the Intellectual Property policy in collaboration with the Office of Research services;

The Committee continues to receive regular updates from its sub-committees. Recent updates include the following:

- Best Practices – this subcommittee's focus was to draw upon best practices and strategies in support of research from across the University and beyond. This year the focus was the development of the on-line database of research expertise within the University; once the database is ready to go it will be posted on the Office of Research Services (ORS) web site. The group also reviewed the definitions and policies regarding research centers and institutes, an issue that recently has been forwarded to the Governance Committee for a comprehensive review. At present, this group is working towards developing support mechanisms in securing external grants and promoting scholarly activity in the University.
- External Recognition – this sub-committee is working on fostering a process for raising Brock's research profile and reputation. In their meeting with the VP Advancement and the new Director of Communications the group discussed how best to approach the Deans and/or Chairs in order to identify people in the University for the Order of Canada and other large awards that receive community and media attention. Also, discussed was the centralization of media coverage within the university and how who goes to who and regionalized and nationalized media coverage.
- Financial – this sub-committee continues to examine the resources allocated for research within the various Faculties and in other Canadian Universities. The purpose is to understand how Brock's support for research compares with other Institutions in the country.

In closing, the Committee did an excellent job of focusing on managing the University policies and procedures specific to research and intellectual property while also fulfilling its mandate to look at ways to enhance research and scholarship.