



MINUTES OF MEETING #9 (2008-09)

SENATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 2009, 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,
Dean Ian Brindle, Mr. Joseph Brown, Professor Maureen Connolly,
Dr. Greg Finn, Mr. Mike Farrell (Recorder), Mr. Rob Lanteigne,
Ms. Laurie Morrison, Professor Michael Pyley, Professor Stan Sadava,
Professor Susan Sydor

REGRETS: Dean Rosemary Hale

1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the Senate Governance Committee (2008-09) meeting #8 held March 11, 2009 were circulated prior to the meeting.

MOVED (Boak/Sydor)

That the minutes of the Senate Governance Committee (2008-09) meeting #8 held March 11, 2009 be approved.

CARRIED

2. Revisions to Procedures and Guidelines for Nomination of Honorary Degrees

Professor Cheel reviewed the discussion held at Senate on April 1, 2009 regarding revisions to the proposed Procedures and Guidelines for Nomination of Honorary Degrees. The report had been referred back to the Committee at Senate pending a review by the Governance Committee of section 2 under Criteria for Selecting Candidates.

A discussion ensued regarding the wording in both sections of the Criteria for Selecting Candidates and then the following two motions were presented.

MOVED (Brindle/Finn)

That the language used in section 2 under the Criteria for Selecting Candidates be consistent with the language in the Collective Agreement between Brock University and the Brock University Faculty Association with respect to creative and scholarly achievements as outlined in the Promotion and Tenure provisions.

CARRIED

MOVED (Boak/Brown)

That the language used in section 1 for the Criteria for Selecting Candidates be amended to delete the word “wide” in sentence one and include the word “University” in sentence two.

CARRIED

The amended wording for the two sections is as follows.

Criteria for Selecting Candidates

(strikeouts indicate deletions, shading indicates additions)

1. For those who have displayed excellence in achievements that we believe deserve ~~wide~~ recognition. Such awards may be based on meritorious public or humanitarian contribution to the **University**, Niagara Region, ~~the~~ Province, ~~to~~ the nation or ~~to~~ the international community, and outstanding achievement and/or service in any area of interest to the University.
2. For those whose **ongoing high quality scholarly and/or creative work** is deemed to be of such significance that our recognition is deserved.
3. **Recommendations for Advisory Committee membership – *in camera***
 - a) **Dean of the Faculty of Business**
 - b) **University Librarian**

Professor Cheel noted that a motion was required to move ***in camera***.

MOVED (Sydor/Blayer)

That the Governance Committee move *in camera*.

CARRIED

The Committee moved ***in camera*** at 3:22 p.m.

The Committee resumed **open session** at 4:00 p.m.

[During the ***in camera*** session, a confidential report regarding nominations for the membership on the Advisory Committees for the appointment of the Dean of the Faculty of Business and the review of the University Librarian were shown on the screen. The Committee approved recommendations to be forward to the appropriate administrator.]

4. FHB III: 20 - Amendments re confidentiality of Academic Review documents

The Committee reviewed the *Proposed Amendments to the Academic Review Policy FHB III: Academic Regulations*, dated March 23, 2009, prepared by Mr. Beard and circulated with the agenda materials. The proposed amendments in the report would protect the confidentiality of the various review documents and information related to any personnel issues or other matters that may identify individuals.

MOVED (Blayer/Sadava)

That the Governance Committee recommend to Senate that the amendments to Faculty Handbook III: 20 Academic Review Policy be approved, as proposed.

An amendment to the motion was proposed in order to include an additional section in the document.

MOVED (Plyley/Connolly)

That the main motion that the Governance Committee recommend to Senate that the amendments to Faculty Handbook III: 20 Academic Review Policy be amended to include the addition of a new section D. 6. f regarding confidential material.

CARRIED

MOVED

That the main motion as amended be approved.

CARRIED

The amended wording to the report is as follows:
(shading indicates the amendment)

D. Site Visit and Report

6.

The report should be organized as follows:

- a) Learning Objectives: Are the learning objectives clear, concise and appropriate?
- b) Delivery: Is the program delivered in a way that ensures the learning objectives will be met?
- c) External Perspective: How does this program compare to programs elsewhere?
- d) Recommendations: What changes would improve the program?
- e) Outcome Category Recommendation.
- f) Confidential Recommendations/Comments: relating to personnel issues or other matters involving specific individuals. This is an optional section to be used only if recommendations and/or comments of a confidential nature are deemed necessary by the reviewers. This section will only be released to the Dean, the academic unit and the Senate Governance Committee.

5. Academic Reviews: Status Summary

The Committee reviewed the *Academic Reviews Status Summary* report prepared by Mr. Beard, which was circulated with the agenda materials. Mr. Beard informed the Committee that, due to budget restraints, there would be four reviews instead of seven during the coming year.

6. Decanal representation on Senate Committees

Dr. Boak agreed to bring the question of decanal representation on Senate Committees to the meeting of the Committee of Academic Deans scheduled for the week of April 13. It was noted that student representation would be considered when the matter of decanal representation on Senate Committees was discussed.

7. Organizational nomenclature review

A report drafted by Dean Brindle and Professor Cheel regarding the definition of Schools, dated March 9, 2009, was circulated with the agenda materials. The Committee discussed the report and the following motion was presented.

MOVED (Sadava/Blayer)

That the Governance Committee recommend to Senate that term for Schools as outlined in Proposal 1 in the memo dated March 9, 2009 be approved.

DEFEATED

Following defeat of the motion, the Committee discussed striking a subcommittee to review current nomenclature and to propose a definition for a School.

MOVED (Barker/Plyley)

That a subcommittee of the Governance Committee be struck to examine nomenclature and the definition of a School and report back to the Committee as soon as possible.

CARRIED

The following Committee members agreed to serve on the subcommittee: Professor Plyley, Professor Blayer, Professor Connolly and Mr. Brown.

8. Process for assigning members to Senate Committees

Professor Cheel outlined the process for assigning members to Senate Committees which has been done by soliciting preferences from Senators and members at large. It was noted that it should be made clear that a person's preference did not guarantee that they would be assigned to their preferred Committee.

The Governance Committee of Senate-Elect presents to Senate-Elect a slate of nominees for Senate Officers, Committee Chairs and Vice-Chairs, and Committee members. Nominations are also taken from the floor of Senate-Elect. In order for continuity on Committees, some members may serve on a particular Committee for three years. Members at large are added to Committees once all Senators have been placed to ensure that all Faculties are represented.

It was agreed to continue with the preference sheets but to look at the gaps in committee membership first and give choices based on the openings that would be needed to be filled. The process would be communicated when the preference sheets are distributed to ensure that people understand that it is a "preference" not a guarantee. Several members indicated their willingness to return to serve on the Governance Committee.

9. Recognizing service to Senate – Terms of Reference for Senate award

Professor Connolly would continue to develop the Terms of Reference for an award to recognize service to Senate and would report to the Committee at its next meeting.

10. Other business

There was no other business.

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:54 p.m.