

## **SENATE MEETING MINUTES**

### **January 15, 2010**

The 522<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Senate of Saint Mary's University was held on Friday, January 15, 2010, at 2:30 PM, in the Secunda Marine Boardroom. Dr. D. Naulls, Chairperson, presided.

**PRESENT:** Dr. Dodds, Dr. Murphy, Dr. Dixon, Dr. Butler, Dr. Enns, Dr. Vessey, Dr. Naulls, Dr. Barr, Dr. Bjornson, Dr. Charles, Dr. Kimery, Dr. McCalla, Dr. Neatby, Dr. Pendse, Dr. Russell, Dr. Stanivukovic, Dr. Crocker, Dr. Sun, Ms. Marie DeYoung, Mr. Hotchkiss, Ms. MacDonald, Mr. Anderson, Miss. Dix, Mr. Gomez, Mr. Hirtle, Mr. Mitchell, Suni Sun, and Ms. Bell, Secretary to the Office of Senate.

**REGRETS:** Dr. Wicks, Dr. Beaulé, Dr. Dawson, and Dr. Stinson.

Meeting commenced at 2:35 P.M. Hirtle is graduating in January. A new representative from SMUSA, Suni Sun was introduced.

#### **09031 WINTER GRADUATION LIST**

Circulated at the meeting as **Appendix A**

The Registrar presented the following points:

- The number of graduates in the Winter graduate listing is the same as last January (165 students).
- The students receive their parchment now and are invited to participate in the Spring Convocation.
- Question: Of last years graduate listing, how many attended the May Convocation. Answer: A substantial number of the January graduates indicated the desire to participate in the convocation last year but they also constituted the largest number of no shows.
- Question: Does the Convocation program list these students along with the spring graduates. Answer: No. They are listed separately.

Moved by Dixon, and seconded **“to confer degrees and distinctions on those represented on the list (circulated as Appendix A).**  
**Motion carried unanimously.**

#### **09032 REPORT OF THE AGENDA COMMITTEE**

The report of the Agenda Committee was accepted as circulated.

09033

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

Minutes of the meeting of December 11, 2009, were *circulated* as **Appendix B.**

Moved by Charles, and seconded, **‘that the minutes of the meeting of December 11, 2009 are approved as circulated.’**

**Motion carried.**

09034

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

None

09034

**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

.01

**Senate Committee on Academic Planning**

**.0101** MPHEC Proposal from the Faculty of Arts for a new Minor/Concentration in Latin American Studies circulated as **Appendix C.**

**Key Discussion Points:**

- Appendix A and B to the proposal were omitted from the circulation of Senate documents. Documents were circulated at this meeting.
- Members were advised that the program in Spanish has been evolving with a new appointee in the faculty. The emphasis is now more on Latin American Studies. We have a critical mass of expertise in this area.
- Question: Is it possible for a student to do a major or minor in Spanish as a language and also do the Minor in Latin American Studies? Answer: Yes. We have no restrictions on this. Dean Enns advised that the major in Spanish has very different content requirements from this minor. The minor is interdisciplinary covering a wider range of subjects.
- It was suggested that this point could be stressed somewhere within the discipline description as a positive attribute. In section five of the proposal it states” The proposed minor in “Latin American Studies” will be beneficial to students majoring in “Spanish or Hispanic Studies” inasmuch as it would strengthen their regional focus on Latin America with training from other disciplines.” This begins to address the point just raised.
- The Minor in Latin American Studies defines where the elective courses come from. In the Minor in Spanish the electives are not defined. Dean Enns advised that the recent program review recommended a restructuring of the Spanish Program. In the next couple of years there will be a number of changes in this program.
- In 2.2 d correct the word “bellow” to read “below”

Moved by Murphy and seconded that the Senate approve the **MPHEC Proposal from the Faculty of Arts for a new Minor/Concentration in Latin American Studies as amended.**

**Motion carried.**

- .0102** MPHEC confirmation of name change: Bachelor of Commerce, Major in Entrepreneurship, circulated for information only as **Appendix D.**

**Key Discussion Points:**

- Murphy advised that this is for information only to advise Senate of the MPHEC approval.
- There being no objections or questions, the document was accepted into the record

- .0103** Canadian Centre for Ethics in Public Affairs Annual Report, attached for information only as **Appendix E.**

- Murphy advised that a governance review is underway and the CCEPA Board today approved a revised constitution. The new constitution will be submitted to Senate for consideration for approval at the next meeting.
- There being no objections or further questions the report was accepted into the record.

**.02 Curriculum Committee**

- .0201** Semi-annual Curriculum Report (Academic Calendar) attached as **Appendix F**

**Key Discussion Points:**

- Members were advised that this report constitutes a significant volume of work.
- Page 45, EDUC 5641 – correct title to read **“Principles of Language Acquisition for Education”**.
- Question: What about teaching capacity? Is this course taught by a part timer? Answer: This program will be under the oversight of the two full-time faculty members of the existing Spanish program. There was a recent retirement of a specialist in Peninsular Literature, and a recent hiring of a specialist in Latin American literature. Three other faculty members with area specializations in Latin America will also be involved in the program: two from International Development Studies and one from History. We have the capacity to teach it within the existing faculty. Opportunities to teach courses within the Faculty of Arts are offered to the full time faculty first and if no one volunteers to teach them, the opportunity is offered to part-timers.
- Question: What is the process by which submissions are made to the Senate? Answer: Submissions start at the level of the department curriculum committee. The faculty executive council reviews submissions coming from these committees and then the Faculty Council reviews approved submissions from the executive. From this level, approved documentation is submitted to the Senate Curriculum Committee. Each has a constitution that covers this process.
- Question: Confirmation of this process was requested from the Deans in attendance. Dean Vessey advised that there is an additional level within FGSR. Before submissions are received by the executive council, they have to be approved by each of the graduate program committees.

Representatives from the other faculties confirmed the process described.

- Members were advised that the Senate By-Laws provide the Senate Curriculum Committee with the authority to reject or change any submissions. The Senate also have the authority to decide to change submissions.
- Question: Throughout the document there appears to be an inconsistency in the entries for approval status. Members were assured that all submissions to the Curriculum Committee came from the Deans acting on behalf of the Faculty Councils indicating approval at that level. It was suggested to take this line out of the curriculum report to eliminate confusion.
- Question: In the History submission on page 14, does history have a global statement about the prerequisites for 4000 level courses. Answer: Yes. Question: Does that mean the N/A in the prerequisite area means that it follows the normal standards? Answer: Yes.
- Proposed changes to the EMBA program requirements on page 60 of the calendar, page 36 of the report – The course numbered 0010 should be at the top of the list instead of the bottom. Course # 0010 is required but is a non-credit course. Dean Vessey approved of this amendment.

Moved by Dixon and seconded, **“that the Senate approves the Semi-annual Curriculum Report as amended.” Motion carried.**

**09035**      **REPORT OF AD-HOC COMMITTEES**

None.

**09036**      **REPORT OF JOINT COMMITTEES**

None.

**09037**      **REPORT OF PRESIDENTIAL COMMITTEES**

None.

**09038**      **NEW BUSINESS FROM**

None.

**09039**      **QUESTION PERIOD**

**Key Discussion Points:**

- Question: Has there been any accommodation for extra study space for students? Answer: There are five new team rooms between the Atrium and the Burke building that will be available in the next two to three weeks. They will be available in phases. Three will be available first and then two more later.
- Question: Has there been any consideration to using classrooms that are not being used for exams, and make them available to students for study space? Answer: This will be taken up with facilities management.

**09040**      **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 3:18 P.M.

Barb Bell,  
Secretary to the Office of Senate