

SENATE MEETING MINUTES November 19, 2010

The 528th Meeting of the Senate of Saint Mary's University was held on Friday, November 19, 2010, at 2:30 PM, in the Secunda Marine Boardroom. Dr. D. Naulls, Chairperson, presided.

PRESENT: Dr. Dodds, Dr. Dixon, Dr. Enns, Dr. Wicks, Dr. Naulls, Dr. Barr, Dr. Beaulé, Dr. Bjornson, Dr. Dawson, Dr. Kimery, Dr. Ivanoff, Dr. Austin, Dr. Barclay, Dr. Neatby, Dr. Stinson, Dr. Sun, Mr. Hotchkiss, Ms. Marie DeYoung, Ms. MacDonald, Miss. Mashoodh, Mr. Gomez and Ms. Bell, Secretary to the Office of Senate.

REGRETS: Dr. Gauthier, Dr. Smith, Dr. Pendse, Dr. Russell, Dr. Stanivukovic, Dr. Vessey, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Hall, and Miss. Dix.

Meeting commenced at 2:34 P.M.

10014 **REPORT OF THE AGENDA COMMITTEE**
The report of the Agenda Committee was accepted.

10015 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**
Minutes of the meeting of September 17, 2010, were *circulated* as ***Appendix A***.
The following revision was noted:

- The student representative for the Academic Discipline Committee is Ayesha Mashoodh.

Moved by Hotchkiss, and seconded, **'that the minutes of the meeting of September 17, 2010 are approved as amended.'** Motion carried.

10016 **MEMBERSHIP ON SENATE COMMITTEES FOR 2010-2011**

.01 **SECTION A – NOMINATED BY EXECUTIVE OF SENATE** circulated at the meeting as ***Appendix B1***.
Members were advised that nominees were listed in bold in Appendix C

.0101 **ACADEMIC DISCIPLINE**

- **Dr. Tom Kozloski (Acct/COMM)**
- **Dr. Egor Tsedryk (Mod Lang/Arts)**
- **Correction to student rep. BJ Hall is replaced by Ayesha Mashoodh**

.0102 ACADEMIC REGULATIONS

- **TBA** – Faculty of Arts is working on this. Enns to advise.

.0103 ANIMAL CARE

- **Miss Ayha El-Darahali** (Student Representative - undergrad)

.0103 BY-LAWS

- **Dr. Jason Ivanoff**

.0104 CONTINUING EDUCATION

- **TBA**, (Part-time student nominated by Director to Apr/11) MacDonald to advise.
- **Ms. Jennifer Pelton**, (Part-time student – OPTAMUS rep nominated by Director – Apr/11)

.0105 STUDENT SUCCESS

- **TBA** – Faculty of Arts is working on this. Enns to advise.

Outstanding member nominations to be provided as indicated, and ratified at the Senate meeting of December 17, 2010.

Moved by Enns and seconded, “**that the nominations for Section A of the Membership on Senate Committees 2010-2011, are approved as amended above.**” Motion carried.

.02 SECTION B – NOMINATED BY SENATE FROM THE FLOOR OF SENATE circulated as **Appendix B2.**

PRESIDENTIAL COMMITTEES

.0201 BUDGET

- Dr. Paul Erickson, Department of Anthropology was nominated by Dr. Enns. In the absence of any additional nominations, Dr. Erickson was acclaimed as a Senate Representative on the Budget Committee. The Senate Office will contact Dr. Erickson to confirm his willingness to serve.
- Dr. Kate Kimery offered to serve if Dr. Erickson declined the nomination.

Moved by Bjornson and seconded, “**that the nominees for Section B of the Membership on Senate Committees 2010-2011, are approved as amended above.**” Motion carried.

10018 REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

.01 Academic Appeals annual report circulated as **Appendix C**

Key Discussion Points:

- A member noted that there was information missing from the Senate website again. A review will be done. Specific attention will be given to reposting the generic data sheet for Academic Appeals.
- In the absence of objections, the annual report was accepted into the record.

.02 Academic Planning

.0201 Annual Report circulated as **Appendix D**

- In the absence of objections, the annual report was accepted into the record.

.0202 CCEPA Annual Report circulated as **Appendix E**

- In the absence of objections, the annual report was accepted into the record.

.0203 ICA Annual Report circulated as **Appendix F**

- In the absence of objections, the annual report was accepted into the record.

.0204 Irish Studies Program five-year plan circulated as **Appendix G**

Key Discussion Points:

- The Senate requested that a 5-year plan be submitted 12 months after the Senate reviewed the IRST Program Review Final report to include a report on progress to date.
- Enns advised that this is a detailed response from the IRST Program in relation to the initiatives they have implemented. This was discussed in detail by Academic Planning and has received the support of that committee.

Moved by Enns, and seconded, **“that the Senate approve the submission as answering the requirement for a 5-year plan for the IRST Program.” Motion carried.**

.03 Academic Regulations annual report circulated as **Appendix H**

- In the absence of objections, the annual report was accepted into the record.

.04 Agenda Committee annual report circulated as **Appendix I**

- In the absence of objections, the annual report was accepted into the record.

.05 Animal Care Committee annual report circulated as **Appendix J**

- In the absence of objections, the annual report was accepted into the record.

.06 Continuing Education Committee annual report circulated as **Appendix K**

- In the absence of objections, the annual report was accepted into the record.

.07 Curriculum Committee annual report circulated as **Appendix L**

- In the absence of objections, the annual report was accepted into the record.
- The goal is to have the curriculum semi-annual report available for submission at the December Senate meeting.

.08 Elections Committee annual report circulated as **Appendix M**

- In the absence of objections, the annual report was accepted into the record.

.09 Library Committee annual report circulated as **Appendix N**

- In the absence of objections, the annual report was accepted into the record.

.10 Literacy Strategy Committee annual report circulated as **Appendix O**

- In the absence of objections, the annual report was accepted into the record.

.11 Quality of Teaching Committee annual report circulated as **Appendix P**

- In the absence of objections, the annual report was accepted into the record.

.12 Research Ethics Board annual report circulated as **Appendix Q**

- In the absence of objections, the annual report was accepted into the record.

.13 Scholarship Committee annual report circulated as **Appendix R**

- In the absence of objections, the annual report was accepted into the record.

- .14 Faculty Councils – Revised Faculty of Science Constitution circulated as **Appendix S**
Key Discussion Points:
➤ Members were advised that the existing constitution was out of date. This revision is to update the document to match current practice.

Moved by Stinson and seconded “**that the revised Constitution for the Faculty of Science is approved as submitted.**” Motion carried.

10019 REPORT OF JOINT COMMITTEES

- .01 Honorary Degrees Committee annual report circulated as **Appendix T**

Key Discussion Points:

- Dodds advised that the committee would welcome suggestions for nominations.
- In the absence of objections, the annual report was accepted into the record.

- .02 Joint Committee of the AST and SMU annual report circulated as **Appendix U**

- In the absence of objections, the annual report was accepted into the record.

10020 NEW BUSINESS FROM

- a. Floor (not involving notice of motion)
Human Resources – University Policy on Aids circulated for information only as **Appendix V.**

10021 PRESIDENTS REPORT

Key Discussion Points:

- Dodds advised that the situation surrounding the O’Neill report remains unchanged. Stakeholder meetings are being held in regard to the issue of student assistance.
- There will be ‘**significant**’ cutbacks in funding but to what extent those cuts will impact the universities and specifically SMU is still unknown. There is no indication what a ‘significant’ cut means. There will be a meeting on this soon.
- The MOU process has been delayed as a result of consideration of the O’Neill report. The letter from the minister stated that the process will start early in the New Year.
- The VPs were asked for their input/suggestions on proposed strategies to address the items raised within the O’Neill report.
- Our Knowledge Infrastructure Program (KIP) projects are pushing for a completion date of March 31.

10022 QUESTION PERIOD

Key Discussion Points:

- Question: Do the President’s have any theories in regard to why there is little update on the O’Neill report and no movement in relation to the negotiations for a new MOU. Answer: They got off to a late start. There are many active initiatives taking up their time.

- Whatever our cutback is, they will insist that we meet our costs. The challenge is that right now the base is zero because we were prepaid last year.
- Question: Does this impact filling vacancies? Answer: There is no hiring freeze at the moment.
- The University is also facing utility increases and will have to take that into consideration.
- Question: Are the Presidents working together to present a common front in regard to their response to the recommendation coming out of the O'Neill report? Answer: An attempt is being made but there are challenges. The government sent a copy of the report to the chair of the Board of Governors as well as to the VPAR, so they are including the governance boards of the universities in the process.
- Question: What impact will this report have on our Budget process? Answer: We know that it is unlikely a university budget will be ready or even possible by the March Senate meeting.
- Question: How are things going for the open house tomorrow? Answer: There are 240 students plus parents signed up to attend. The last open house was very well attended. The Saturday date was implemented so that parents could drive in for the event.
- Question: How will we be able to establish the tuition rates if we don't know what the budget is by March? Answer: We will need a motion at the Board of Governors level to give the university spending authority.
- Students registering now for 2011 courses, will not know what the tuition will be for those courses. That will be true for the whole province, however students are not obligated to pay fees until the end of the drop/add period.

10023

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 P.M.

Barb Bell,
Secretary to the Office of Senate