

SENATE MEETING MINUTES
March 16, 2012

The 540th Meeting of the Senate of Saint Mary's University was held on Friday, March 16, 2012, at 2:30 PM, in the Secunda Marine Boardroom. Dr. D. Naulls, Chairperson, presided.

PRESENT: Dr. Dodds, Dr. Gauthier, Dr. Dixon Dr. Enns, Dr. Vessey, Dr. Naulls, Dr. Barclay, Dr. Barr, Dr. Bjornson, Dr. Kimery, Dr. Russell, Dr. Sewell, Dr. Stinson, Dr. Sun, Dr. van Proosdij, Ms. DeYoung, Mr. Hotchkiss, Ms. MacDougall, Mr. Al-Mansoob, Larry Corrigan and Ms. Kaulback, Acting Recording Secretary.

REGRETS: Dr. Fullerton, Dr. Smith, Dr. Austin, Dr. Ivanoff, Dr. Nicole Neatby, Dr. Pendse (away until ~May 23), Dr. Street, Mr Michael, Mr. Gomez, Ms MacDonald, and Ms Keyes.

Meeting commenced at 2:35 P.M.

11058 **REPORT OF THE AGENDA COMMITTEE**

The report of the Agenda Committee was accepted.

11059 **SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY 2012-2013 OPERATING BUDGET**

The 2012-2013 Saint Mary's University Budget was presented by Larry Corrigan. The Budget Committee was thanked for their hard work and advice.

11060 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

.01 Minutes of the meeting of February 17, 2012 were circulated as *Appendix A*.

Moved by Bjornson, and seconded, **“that the minutes of the meeting of February 17, 2012 be approved as circulated”**. Motion carried.

11061 **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

.01 Academic Planning Committee, documents circulated as *Appendix B & C*.

a) Revision to 8-1009 The Senate Policy Governing the Establishment, Reporting and Review of Institutes and Centres at Saint Mary's, attached as *Appendix B*

Key Discussion Points:

- Members were advised that the change was in section 3.3. The timeline for reporting is difficult from an operational perspective. The October 1 date for reviews of Centres and Institutes is proposed so that these

reviews come to Academic Planning and Senate at a time in the year that does not conflict with program review documentation.

Moved by Sewell, and seconded, **“that the Senate approves the revision to 8-1009 The Senate Policy Governing the Establishment, Reporting and Review of Institutes and Centres at Saint Mary’s as amended below.”** Motion carried.

The following friendly amendments were made:

Moved by Dixon and seconded, **“that the Academic-Vice President be changed to read “Vice President, Academic & Research” and that “at Saint Mary’s” be changed to “of Saint Mary’s”.**

Moved by Vessey and seconded **“that the title of the Policy be changed to read Senate Policy Governing the Establishment, Reporting and Review of Research Institutes and Centres at Saint Mary’s University.”**

b) MPHEC proposal for a Master of Arts in Geography submitted by FGSR and Faculty of Arts, attached as *Appendix C*.

Key Discussion Points:

- There is a substantive body of research and scholarly activity in the Geography department, making the department very well-positioned to offer a Master’s degree. Only one other Master’s in Geography is currently approved by MPHEC.
- The proposal is clearly laid out and includes an innovative course requirement, i.e., the option to complete a graduate practicum. Students cannot also do their thesis in the same area.
- Question: Are there Environmental aspects to the degree? Answer: Yes. It is a key component.
- Question: Would a Bachelor of Environment Studies be included under the normal qualifications section on page 3? Answer: Yes. This will be added before submission to MPHEC.
- The Geography Department was complimented on the outward-looking aspect of the proposal and on the external recognition the department received.

Moved by Sewell and seconded, **“that the Senate approves the MPHEC proposal for a Master of Arts in Geography submitted by FGSR and the Faculty of Arts.”** Motion carried.

11062 **NEW BUSINESS FROM**
None.

11063 **QUESTION PERIOD**

- The MPHEC formally approved our proposals for a BA with Co-op Education and the PhD of Philosophy in International Development Studies.
- Question: What kind of research will be supported by the \$50,000 in the budget for sustainability? Answer: Questions can be sent to Larry Corrigan.

- Question: When will the budget be made available? Answer: Once it has been approved by the Board of Governors.

11064

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:26 p.m.