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SENATE MEETING MINUTES May 13, 2005

The 488th Meeting of the Senate of Saint Mary's University was held on Friday, 13 May, 2005, at 2:30 PM, in the Secunda Marine Boardroom. Dr. D. Naulls, Chairperson, presided.

PRESENT: Dr. Dodds, Dr. Murphy, Dr. Naulls, Dr. Chard, Dr. Enns, Dr. Richardson, Dr. Miciak, Dr. Vessey, Dr. McCalla, Dr. Heukaeufer, Dr. Konopasky, Dr. Pendse, Dr. Russell, Dr. Bjornson, Dr. Stretton, Dr. Bernard, Dr. Linney, Mr. Hotchkiss, Ms. Lingley, Ms. Lefebvre and B. Bell, Secretary to the Office of Senate.

REGRETS: Dr. Dostal, Dr. Bowlby, Dr. Pye, Dr. Van Proosdij, Dr. Lee

04304 **CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. D. Naulls, Chairperson, called the meeting to order AT 2:36 PM.

04305 **REPORT OF THE AGENDA COMMITTEE**

The report of the Agenda Committee was accepted.

04306 **SPRING GRADUATES**

.01 The Registrar circulated a list of potential Spring Graduates.

- Members were advised that the list is presented in the order in which the students will graduate.
- Members were asked to note the stats on the last page summary. The numbers in brackets represent last year stats for comparison purposes. Graduate numbers are down from last year. The last column indicates the number of distinctions being awarded this year (also down slightly). This is a result of reduced registration in the Bachelor of Arts, Commerce and Masters of Finance Programs.
- It was noted that the first PhD from the Business Administration (Management) Program will graduate at this convocation.

Motion by Dr Chard, seconded by Dr. Russell, **“that the names on the official list are approved for graduation.”** Motion carried unanimously.

- 04307** **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**
.01 The minutes of the previous meeting of April 22, 2005 were circulated as **Appendix A**.

Moved by Dr. McCalla, second by Dr. Richardson, “**that the minutes of the meeting of April 22, 2005 be approved as circulated.**” Motion carried with three abstentions.
- 04308** **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**
.01 Minute No. 04296.02, .0104 – Changes to Regulation 7
▪ The complete revised text of Regulation 7 was circulated for information purposes only as **Appendix C**. There were no questions.
- 04309** **OUTSTANDING ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS AGENDA**
None
- 04310** **RECOMMENDATION FOR AWARDING PROFESSOR EMERITUS STATUS**
Documentation was circulated by the recording secretary, designated as **Appendix E**

.01 The Senate Executive Committee met this morning to consider the recommendation of Dr. J. Badawi for Professor Emeritus Status. The Committee has forwarded their recommendation for approval to the Senate.

Moved by Susan Bjornson, seconded by Madeleine Lefebvre, “**that Senate approves Dr. J. Badawi for the rank of Professor Emeritus, and forwards the documents to the Board of Governors for awarding of same.**” Motion carried unanimously.
- 04311** **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**
.01 **Elections Committee**
.0101 The report of the elections committee was circulated for information purposes only.

.02 **Convocation Committee**
▪ The Registrar sent a notice around in which faculty and senators were invited to the induction of students.
▪ There will be a Baccalaureate Inter-Faith Service that will take place on Thursday, May 19 at 11:00 AM in the University’s Art Gallery.
▪ Convocation is on Friday at the Metro Center. The event should take approximately 2 hrs and 15 minutes.

04312 **REPORT OF AD-HOC COMMITTEES**

None

04313 **REPORT OF JOINT COMMITTEES**

None

04314 **REPORT OF PRESIDENTIAL COMMITTEES**

None

04315 **NEW BUSINESS FROM**

- .01** Floor (Not involving notice of motion)
- Dr. Murphy advised that a call had been issued for nominations for the positions of Dean of Commerce and Dean of Science.
 - Members were also advised that a review committee was being formed for the position of University Librarian. The Committee will meet in June with a view to finishing their responsibilities in June or July.
 - In accordance with the Faculty Union Collective Agreement, a call for nomination of a Faculty Representative to serve on the search committee was presented with the following results:
 - Dr. Pendse nominated Linda van Esch (with the exception of two weeks in June she was available).
 - Dr. Richardson nominated Dr. Russell who agreed to serve if needed.
 - Nominations closed. Representatives were elected by acclamation.
- .02** **Floor (Involving notice of motion)**
- .0201** Dr. Chard requested the following be entered into the record of this meeting:
- Dissatisfaction was expressed in relation to the lack of prompt submission of grades by many of the faculty. Dr. Chard advised that students are angry with what is perceived to be a double standard. Students are required to submit assignments on time but faculty are not held to the same rule and can be extremely late submitting grades. The following notice of motion was given:
- that Senate examine the timeframe between the last day of examinations and the last day for submission of grades prior to graduation in an effort to address this problem.
- .03** **Chair**
- .0301** Senate Chair, Dr. Don Naulls, advised that the Registrar, Dr. Chard was retiring at the end of June. The significant contributions to Saint Mary's University and the professionalism exhibited by Dr. Chard over the years was acknowledged. On behalf of the Senate, Dr. Chard was presented with a card signed by the members of

Senate and a framed parchment in recognition of her extraordinary service.

04316 **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Dodds reported that the last report presented at Senate was on April 22nd. There is nothing further to report at this time.

04317 **QUESTION PERIOD**

Dr. Murphy further addressed the issue of the reduction in registration:

- The number of international students is up.
- There will be an additional reduction in the first year class next semester and a resulting impact to next year's revenue.
- There was a question on how the calling program was working. It was reported that this program has been well received. It is also a good source of intelligence in relation to the reason students chose not to come to SMU.
- There was a question on whether the province would review of the grant. Dr. Dodds advised that it will not be reviewed for another two years. Unless there is more money put into the system, there will be no changes in the near future.
- Student representatives advised that SMUSA wants to be more involved in the recruiting process. In the next few weeks, there is a plan to go to the High Schools to promote Saint Mary's University. Dr. Murphy advised that he will ask the Director of Recruitment to collaborate and consult in these activities. Dr. Richardson suggested a summer researcher go along to talk about their research.
- There was a question about the lack of evidence of the hearts and minds campaign around campus. Dr. Dodds advised members that the university is still in the silent phase of the campaign. The formal launch will not occur until they have reached the 75% mark in funding.
- Student representatives advised that the SMUSA brochure endorses small class sizes and the general feeling of students was that this stretches the truth somewhat. The response to this was that while some SMU classes run 150 – 200 (very course dependant); in comparison, other larger universities have classes of 500 or more. It was suggested that SMU students consider anything over 70 to be a large class.

04318 **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Barb Bell,
Secretary to the Office of Senate