

Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada
B3H 3C3
Senate Office
Tel: 902-420-5412
Web: www.stmarys.ca

SENATE MEETING MINUTES October 11, 2013

The 552nd Meeting of the Senate of Saint Mary's University was held on Friday, October 11, 2013, at 2:30 PM, in the Secunda Marine Boardroom. Dr. D. Naulls, Chairperson, presided.

PRESENT: Dr. Dodds, Dr. Gauthier, Dr. Dixon, Dr. Bradshaw, Dr. Enns, Dr. Smith, Dr. Vessey, Dr. Naulls, Dr. Kozloski, Dr. van Proosdij, Dr. Russell, Dr. Secord, Dr. Street, Dr. Bjornson, Dr. Austin, Dr. Francis, Dr. Gilin-Oore, Ms. Marie DeYoung, Mr. Gordon Michael, Mr. Walsh, Mr. Coady, Mr. Ermal Loshi, Mr. Mark Slaunwhite, Gorba Bhandari, and Jenny Harrison for Ms. Bell, Secretary to the Office of Senate.

REGRETS: Dr. Stinson, Dr. VanderPlaat, Dr. Sewell, Dr. Power, and Mr. Hotchkiss.

Meeting commenced at 2:35 P.M.

13014 **REPORT OF THE AGENDA COMMITTEE**
The report of the Agenda Committee was accepted.

13015 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**
Minutes of the meeting of September 20 2013, were *circulated as Appendix A*.
Moved by Gilin-Oore, and seconded, **'that the minutes of the meeting of September 20, 2013 are approved as circulated.'** Motion carried.

13016 **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**
None

13017 **FALL GRADUATION LIST**
Documentation circulated at the meeting by the Registrar as **Appendix B**
Key Discussion Points:

- The listing of graduates was circulated to Deans with a copy for Senate.
- Convocation is a week from Friday/Saturday in the theatre auditorium. Arts and Science in the morning, Commerce and FGSR in the afternoon.
- Numbers are up from last year.
- More faculty members are needed for Friday evening and Saturday afternoon.

Moved by Dr. Dixon, and seconded, **“to confer degrees and distinctions on those represented on the list (circulated as Appendix B) at the Fall Convocation”**. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Dr. Vessey, and seconded, **“to enable the Registrar to add such graduates to this list as may be identified subsequent to this meeting.”** Motion carried unanimously.

13018

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

.01

Agenda Committee annual report circulated as **Appendix C**

Key Discussion Points:

- There being no discussion or objections the annual report was accepted into the record as presented.

.02

Academic Appeals annual report circulated as **Appendix D**

Key Discussion Points:

- Dr. Naulls will respond to questions.
- Dr. Dixon mentioned that the Blackboard program does not correctly transfer weighted grades to final grades. This has been a known problem since we started using the current version of Blackboard. It is a software defect that has not yet been fixed. This is an issue that needs to be worked out.
- There being no discussion or objections the annual report was accepted into the record as presented.

.03

Academic Discipline Appeals Board annual report circulated as **Appendix E**.

Key Discussion Points:

- Senate Chair, Dr. Naulls will respond to questions.
- There being no discussion or objections the annual report was accepted into the record as presented.

.04

Academic Planning

a) Centre for the Study of Sports and Health self-study and APC motion circulated as *Appendix F*

Key Discussion Points:

- Very productive Centre, and one of the best self-study reports Dr. Vessey has seen.
- The recommendations made in it are not the purview of Senate.
- Directors may receive a stipend.
- On page 24, it should be noted that C. Beaupré is with Modern Languages and Classics.
- Proposals/faculty chairpersons are needed to make this Centre interdisciplinary.

Moved by Dr. Gauthier and seconded, **“Moved that the Senate accept the 2012-2013 Self-Study of the Centre for the Study of Sport and Health as meeting the requirement of section 3.2 of the Senate Policy 8-1009, Senate By-Laws Governing the Establishment, Reporting and Review of Research Institutes and Centres at Saint Mary’s. Motion carried.**

- .05** Academic Regulations annual report circulated as **Appendix G**
Key Discussion Points:
- Dr. Dixon will respond to questions.
 - Dr. Smith indicated that he is now Dean, not Acting Dean.
 - There being no discussion or objections the annual report was accepted into the record as amended.
- .06** Curriculum Committee annual report circulated as **Appendix H**
Key Discussion Points:
- Dr. Dixon will respond to questions.
 - There being no discussion or objections the annual report was accepted into the record as presented.
- .07** Elections Committee annual report circulated as **Appendix I**
Key Discussion Points:
- Dr. Naulls indicated that Senate was available to arrange elections for those who needed it.
 - There being no discussion or objections the annual report was accepted into the record as presented.

13019 **NEW BUSINESS FROM**
None.

13020 **PRESIDENTS REPORT**
Key Discussion Points:

- The President's Council meets weekly and can be reached by e-mail: presidentscouncil@smu.ca.
- Dr. Dodds was interviewed for an article on university safety. This article will appear in Monday's *Globe and Mail*.
- Faculty members are encouraged to attend graduation.
- In response to Dr. Naulls question regarding post-secondary funding, Dr. Dodds indicated that there is a transition team in place subsequent to the recent provincial election and there have been partnership meetings. Cabinet members are yet to be determined. Subsequent to this meeting the Minister of Labour and Advanced Education was announced to be the Honourable Kelly Regan.

13021 **QUESTION PERIOD**
Key Discussion Points:

- Dr. van Proosdij read a letter written by the student who was pulled from her valedictory appointment at the last minute.
- Dr. Naulls and Dr. Dixon explained the informal process for choosing a valedictorian and what happened this year.
- Dr. Dixon will report back about who is on the current Valedictory Committee.

13022 **ADJOURNMENT**
The meeting adjourned at 3:10 P.M.

Jenny Harrison for Barb Bell,
Secretary to the Office of Senate