



*The* UNIVERSITY of WESTERN ONTARIO

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SENATE

S.05-157      **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting of September 23, 2005 were approved with the inclusion of the following amendment to S.05-154 (

S.05-161 **Composition of the Subcommittee on New Undergraduate Programs**

It was moved by A. Pearson, seconded by J. Tennant,

That the composition of SUNUP be revised as follows:

Composition:

~~Three~~ **Two** members of SCAPA elected by SCAPA, of whom one must be an undergraduate student ~~and one an academic dean of an Affiliated University College~~

Two members of the Provost's Undergraduate Program Review Committee, elected by the PRC

Ex officio:

Chair of SCAPA, who shall be Chair

Vice-Provost (Academic Programs and Students)

University Librarian

**Academic Dean of an Affiliated University College, appointed on a rotational basis (two year cycles)**

Dean of Graduate Studies (non-voting)

Director of the Teaching Support Centre (non-voting)

Secretary of Senate (non-voting)

CARRIED

S.05-162 **Candidates for Degrees and Diplomas - Autumn Convocation 2005**

On behalf of the Senate the Provost approves the list of Candidates for Degrees upon the recommendation of the Registrar [S.96-124]. The list of Candidates approved by the Provost will be appended to the Official Minutes of the October 21, 2005 meeting of Senate.

S.05-163 **Disposition of Notices of Motion from September Senate Meeting**

The Operations/Agenda Committee discussed and provides the following advice regarding the two notices of motion received at the September Senate meeting.

has been discussed by SCAPA and agreement reached on a resolution. SCAPA will bring forward a formal motion to the November Senate meeting.

S.05-163b Letter of Understanding regarding the formation of a Department of Women's Studies and Feminist Research

*Notice of Motion:*

*That Senators be provided with personal copies of the Letter of Understanding negotiated with UWOFA so that that document, and commentary on that document, can allow Senate to make an informed decision on the motion (whatever it is) that is brought forward with respect to the creation of the new Department of Women's Studies and Feminist Research.*

Normally, departmental constitutions are within the authority of Faculty Council. However, Senate was promised that it would be provided with the proposed constitution and governing structure of the new department once the proposal was ready to come forward and the administration indicated at the last Senate meeting that they would meet this commitment. As the President noted at the meeting, it is important that Senate distinguish between its right to debate and decide on academic matters and the rights of the Faculty Association and the administration to negotiate matters within the purview of the collective agreement. The Letter of Understanding is not under Senate's jurisdiction. Nonetheless, as pointed out by Vice-Provost Weedon at the Senate meeting, the Letter of Understanding will be a matter of public record as it will be appended to the collective agreement with UWOFA and posted online. The Operations/Agenda Committee determined, therefore, that there is no need for the notice of motion to be placed on the October Senate agenda.

**ACADEMIC POLICY AND AWARDS** [Exhibit II]

S.05-164 **Records Check and Vulnerable Sector Screening**

Prior to Senate considering the recommendation regarding Records Check and Vulnerable Sector Screening, Professor Tennant asked that the second paragraph, second line be revised by deleting the word "other".

On behalf of SCAPA, it was moved by J. Tennant, seconded by S. Hatibovic-Kofman,

That the policy on Records Check and Vulnerable Sector Screening be revised as highlighted in Exhibit II, item 1.

CARRIED

S.05-165 **Revisions to the Doctor of Medicine (MD) Program**

It was moved by J. Tennant, seconded by C. Herbert,

That the Doctor of Medicine (MD) program be revised, as detailed in Exhibit II, item 2, with regard to the following items: 1) attendance, 2) progression, 3) length of time student has to prepare an appeal.

CARRIED

S.05-166      **Policy on Course Numbering**

It was moved by J. Tennant, seconded by B. Zener,

That effective December 2006, the new system of course numbering, detailed in Exhibit II, item 3, be introduced for all Faculties, Schools, Affiliated University Colleges, and the Western Centre for Continuing Studies, and,

That between December 2005 and December 2006, all Faculties, Schools, Affiliated University Colleges and the WCCS prepare lists by subject showing the current and revised numbers which are to be forwarded to SCAPA and Senate for information, and,

That the new system of course numbering be implemented for May 2008.

Asked why Western decided to implement a new system of course numbering, Professor Tennant explained that a number of programs are running out of numbers.

Responding to Ms. Zener's question about "100-level course numbers", Professor Tennant explained that SCAPA decided not to prescribe a particular range of course numbers for current 100-level (general) courses but suggested that if the Department or Faculty decided to do so, it could reserve the 2000 - 2199 range of numbers for courses that currently are 100-level courses.

Professor Watt asked if there is more value in reserving the 5000 range for professional programs or in specifically designating those few Combined program courses in the 5000 range. He proposed striking the 5<sup>th</sup> year Combined programs as part of 5000 range until needed. Senate accepted this friendly amendment with the understanding that SCAPA can re-introduce 5<sup>th</sup> year Combined programs as part of the 5000 range if needed.

Addressing Professor Watt's concern about course numbering for graduate studies, Dean Kreisiwirth stated that the Faculty of Graduate Studies found there will be room to accommodate the numbering of graduate courses for 25 years under the new system.

Ms. Zener asked how the course numbering change will be reflected on transcripts. Professor Tennant explained that the Registrar's Office will implement a system that will allow the transcripts to be clear vis-a-vis the course numbering change.

With respect to the regulation that students complete the essay courses requirement at Western, Professor Wilkinson voiced concern from the perspective of the Faculty of Law given that it is typical for students in the LL.B. program to be on Letters of Permission elsewhere or on exchange. Professor Tennant noted that the Graduation Guidelines include the Breadth Requirement policy that stipulates that a number of essay courses must be taken at Western in order to graduate. He agreed that SCAPA will review the wording of the relevant section to clarify the relationship to the Breadth Requirement policy.

The question was called and CARRIED.

S.05-167 **Brescia University College: Specialization in Family Studies (Interdisciplinary)**

It was moved by J. Tennant, seconded by L. Bowman,

That a Specialization in Family Studies (Interdisciplinary), detailed in Exhibit II, item 4, be introduced at Brescia University College, effective September 1, 2005.

CARRIED

S.05-168 **New Scholarships and Awards**

SCAPA has approved on behalf of the Senate the following Terms of Reference for new scholarships, awards and bursaries, for recommendation to the Board of Governors through the Vice-Chancellor:

Dean's Entrance Scholarships - PhD in Media Studies (Faculty of Graduate Studies, Media Studies)  
Dean's Entrance Scholarships - PhD in Library and Information Science (Faculty of Graduate Studies, Library and Information Science)  
Dean's Entrance Scholarship – Master of Arts in Journalism (Faculty of Graduate Studies, Journalism)  
Dean's Entrance Scholarship – Master of Arts in Journalism #2 (Faculty of Graduate Studies, Journalism)  
Centre for Inclusive Education Research Awards (Faculty of Graduate Studies, Education)  
David Vienneau CanWest Journalism Scholarship (Faculty of Graduate Studies, Journalism)  
E. Jean Kunz Continuing Awards (Faculty of Health Sciences, Nursing)  
125th Anniversary Alumni Award in History (Faculty of Social Science, Department of History)  
Caroline Brohman Memorial Award (Richard Ivey School of Business)  
John R. Currie Award in Entrepreneurship (Richard Ivey School of Business)  
James Hall Norton Memorial Award (Faculty of Science)  
Rhea A. McRae Whitty and Prof. John R. McRae Continuing Entrance Award (Faculty of Health Sciences, Nursing)

S.05-169 **Upgrading to a Second Degree (Excluding Professional Degrees)**

At the request of the Associate Dean of the Faculty of Science, calendar copy for the policy on Upgrading Degrees (p. 27 of the 2005 academic calendar) is revised as shown in Exhibit II, information item 2. The Faculty has found that the current calendar copy is open to misinterpretation. The changes shown are revisions to the wording, not to the intent of the policy.

**UNIVERSITY PLANNING** [Exhibit III]

S.05-170 **Designated Chairs and Professorships: Chairs Approved by SCUP for Senate**

At the last meeting of Senate, SCUP presented a report for information on approved designated chairs, professorships and faculty fellowships. These were positions which SCUP had approved on behalf of Senate. A note in the report indicates that:

*On direction of the Provost, SCUP is asked to approve on behalf of Senate only those chairs, professorships, and faculty fellowships where their premature announcement at a meeting of Senate (which is public) would pre-empt a public announcement by the donor(s) and Faculty concerned.*

Professor Dyer-Witford had asked what this note meant and expressed concern that it could be used inappropriately to approve controversial recommendations without Senate's scrutiny.

Authority to approve designated positions was delegated to SCUP by Senate in 1999 in response to anticipated donor support for a large number of such positions arising out of the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Campaign. Senate approved the proposal without comment.

The reason for the delegation was to allow approval

that it would be possible to bring data comparing the performance of students from the Affiliates and the Affiliate courses and those at the constituent university.

Professor Camiletti noted that a presentation to the Affiliated University Colleges had shown that the average grade drop after first year was 16.6% last year for students in the Faculty of Social Science. This called into question the accuracy of the entering grades. Dr. Davenport stated that Western conducted its first grade drop analysis several years ago. The results showed that students from some high schools experienced grade drops of 5-6% over three years while others experienced grade drops of over 25% with the average being 16%. The concern was that the grade drop was consistently higher at some high schools than at others. The Provost had written to those high schools involved and asked for comment. The high schools had welcomed the information and acknowledged that one day it might be taken into account during the admission process. It might be timely to repeat this exercise.

Professor Carroll stated that some of the differences among campuses might be because of different grading guidelines for first year courses. Dr. White noted that much time is spent discussing grading with new faculty and discussing grade drops with students. It is important to recognize that the experience students have at high school and at university are very different. Students adjust to university differently; some work harder, and there is differentiation in terms of preparation and training.

Professor Bowman remarked that Brescia places a lot of emphasis on the transitional first year. Because the entry classes are smaller and because students have access to their professors, the pedagogical experience is different than for students in a class of 800.

S.05-175 **ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMUNICATIONS** [Exhibit IV]

Announcements & Communications detailed in Exhibit IV were received for information.

**ENQUIRIES & NEW BUSINESS**

S.05-176 **Ivey MBA Program Changes** [S.05-154]

Professor Carroll recalled that at its meeting in September, Senate had been informed that recent changes to the MBA program were deemed changes to the mode of delivery and thus did not require Senate approval. A broadsheet circulated by UWOFAs suggests otherwise. The UWOFAs circular



research centres would have to conform to Policy 7.9, Collaborative Research at Western, which had been approved by Senate.

Dr. Weedon reported that Dean Stephenson had written to all Ivey faculty to correct the errors and misunderstandings in the UWOFAs broadsheet. The Dean's communication had made clear, among other things, that there would be an increase in





















