



The UNIVERSITY of WESTERN ONTARIO

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SENATE

March 20, 2009

The meeting was held at 1:30 p.m. in Room 1R40, Richard Ivey School of Business.

SENATORS: 69

I. Ajiferuke
A. Barnfield
J. Barron
D. Bartlett
A. Beach
J. Berge
I. Birrell
B. Blumer
S. Brennan
C. Busch
N. Caldwell
S. Camiletti

REPORT OF THE OPERATIONS/AGENDA COMMITTEE [Exhibit I]

S.09-55 **Notice of Motion re Student Financial Aid Awareness Study Group**

At the February 20th, meeting of Senate, a Notice of Motion was put forward by the student senators regarding the creation of a Student Financial Aid Awareness Study Group.

On March 10th, the student Senators met with the Associate Vice-President (Academic Programs and Students) [Registrar] and some of the staff of the Registrar's Office and the Secretary of Senate. They agreed that it would be helpful to establish a small working group, comprised of the Associate Registrar and his staff and undergraduate student representatives (including representatives from the University Students' Council and from the Senate student caucus), with a view to finding ways of communicating better with students about the financial aid available to them.

Students and the administration have agreed to move forward on establishing a working group and Senate consideration of the Notice of Motion is therefore not required.

S.09-56 **Senate Meetings**

Senators were reminded that they should highlight their name on the sign-in sheet when they pick up their nametags from the table at the west door and that it would be helpful if Senators continue the tradition of raising their nametags to be recognized during the meeting.

Voting Senators were reminded to sit in the centre section and in the sections to the right of the stage, when seated facing the stage. There is no guarantee that senators' attendance can be noted if they are seated in either the observer/press section or in the gallery section at the rear of the room. It is also more difficult to count votes when individuals are sitting outside the members' section.

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE [Exhibit II]

S.09-57 **Review Committee for the University Libraries**

The following were elected to the Review Committee for the University Libraries:
P. McKenzie, R. Semmens, R. Stooke, and M. Griffis.

S.09-58 **University Research Board**

A. MacEachern was elected to membership on the University Research Board to complete the term of M. Valvano, who has resigned (term to June 30, 2009).

REPORT OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC POLICY AND AWARDS [Exhibit III]

S.09-59 **School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies: MEng, MSc, and PhD Programs in Chemical and Biochemical Engineering, Electrical and Computer Engineering, Mechanical and Materials Engineering, and Civil and Environmental Engineering**

It was moved by R. Stainton, seconded by D. Pennee,

That Senate approve that, pending full OCGS approval, new MEng, MSc and PhD Programs in Chemical and Biochemical Engineering, Electrical and Computer Engineering, Mechanical and Materials Engineering, and Civil and Environmental Engineering, be established in September 2009; and, that the existing MEng, MSc, and PhD program in Engineering Science be discontinued, effective May 1, 2016 or on the date of graduation of

S.09-60 **School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies: PhD in Women's Studies and Feminist Research**

It was moved by D. Pennee, seconded by C. Herbert,

That effective September 1, 2009, a PhD in Women's Studies and Feminist Research, detailed in Exhibit III, item 2, be introduced by the School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies, pending final approval by OCGS.

CARRIED

S.09-61 **School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies: Reorientation of the Program Requirements for the Master of Nursing/Nurse Practitioner (MN/NP) Degree Program and Change of Name to the Master of Nursing (MN) Degree Program**

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

That effective May 1, 2009, the Master of Nursing/Nurse Practitioner (MN/NP) program and degree be renamed the Master of Nursing (MN), that the program be re-oriented to a more general focus on advanced practice, and that the degree requirements be adjusted to reflect this change as outlined in Exhibit III, item 3.

CARRIED

S.09-62 **Faculty of Health Sciences: Reinstatement of the Primary Health Care Nurse Practitioner**

That effective September 1, 2008, a Minor in Advanced Physics, detailed in Exhibit III, item 6b, be introduced in the Faculty of Science.

CARRIED

S.09-65 **Faculty of Social Science: Withdrawal of the Major in Population Studies**

It was moved by S. Schaffer, seconded by S. Camiletti,

That effective September 1, 2009, admission to the Major in Population Studies be discontinued for new students, and that the module be withdrawn from the Faculty of Social Science effective September 1, 2012.

CARRIED

S.09-66 **Richard Ivey School of Business: Admission to the HBA Program for Advanced Entry Opportunity (AEO) Students**

It was moved by C. Stephenson, seconded by N. Caldwell,

That effective September 1, 2009, the Steps for Admission to HBA for AEO students be updated to reflect minor changes in messaging (shown in bold italics in Exhibit III, item 8), and,

that any AEO references to the Academic Excellence Opportunity [formerly Academic Excellence Program (AEP)] be revised to Advanced Entry Opportunity.

CARRIED

S.09-67 **Policy on Eligibility for Western's Gold Medals**

It was moved by C. Stephenson, seconded by R. Wood,

That Senate approve that the number of gold medals to be awarded by the Richard Ivey School of Business be revised to two: one gold medal to the Honors Business Administration program and one gold medal to the HBA/Approved combined program, and,

That the policy on eligibility for Western's Gold Medals be amended to read as shown in Exhibit III, item 9, to bring it up to date.

CARRIED

S.09-68 **New Scholarships and Awards**

SCAPA has approved on behalf of the Senate the terms of reference for the following new scholarships and awards, for recommendation to the Board of Governors through the President & Vice-Chancellor:

Society of Graduate Students' OTSS Bursaries (School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies)
Society of Graduate Students' Bursaries (School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies)
Dr. Bryan Smith Award in Graduate Orthodontics (School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies, Graduate Orthodontics)

S.09-69 **Faculty of Law: Revision to the Electives for the JD/MBA Combined Program; Impact of Approval of the JD on Combined Program Offerings**

S.09-69a **Revision to the Electives for the JD/MBA Combined Program**

Senate was advised that effective September 1, 2008, the number of MBA elective courses required in the JD/MBA combined program will be reduced as detailed in Exhibit III, item 11a.

That Senate strike a committee to conduct a review of the terms of reference, guidelines and criteria of the Honorary Degrees Committee.

S.09-71 **ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMUNICATIONS** [Exhibit V]

Announcements & Communications, detailed in Exhibit V, were received for information.

S.09-72 **REPORT OF THE ACADEMIC COLLEAGUE** [Exhibit VI]

The Report of the Academic Colleague, detailed in Exhibit VI, was received for information.

ENQUIRIES & NEW BUSINESS

S.09-73 **Budget Update**

Dr. Longstaffe provided an update on the budget:

- about 40 staff members have applied for the voluntary retirement incentive; the university will review the applications and employees will be notified whether the application has been accepted or declined before the end of the month
- the modified phased retirement option for faculty members is open until the end of March; the deans are working with faculty who have indicated some interest in taking the retirement options
- the Provincial budget will be announced on March 26; however it is not expected that the budget will contain anything that will help with the operating budget pressures
- the University continues to examine the operating budget for areas, specifically non-salary items, where spending can be reduced
- a second town hall meeting to discuss the University budget will be held on Monday, March 30 from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. in Room 1R40, Richard Ivey School of Business

Responding to a question about the format of the Town Hall meeting, Dr. Davenport confirmed that it will be conducted in the same manner as the previous meeting.

Asked if the suggestions arising from the first Town Hall meeting will be submitted to the Board, Dr. Davenport replied that he will do so at the March 24th meeting of the Property & Finance Committee, including the suggestion that the \$2.5 million operating reserve policy be reviewed.

Professor Coulter asked whether the University has a quota on the intake of international graduate students imposed for financial reasons. Dr. Longstaffe stated that incremental funding from the government is directed only toward domestic graduate students and that there is a cost rather than an incentive to recruit international students at the graduate level. Nevertheless, he indicated that current percentages of graduate enrolment are roughly 25% at the doctoral level and just under 10% at the masters level, consistent with aspirations set out in the Strategic PI 0.tni

and by the logic governing the distribution of current Observerships on Senate. The majority of Senate membership is designed to ensure that the primary focus of Senate is the academic mission of the University. Observerships assigned are confined to those constituencies that are wholly defined by their direct and complete participation in the specific areas of responsibility that make up Senate's proper business: academic policies, regulations, and plans with respect to academic programs and research across the University. The Operations/Agenda Committee noted that current Senate membership provides for participation of the administrative staff who are elected to Senate.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

P. Davenport
Chair

I. Birrell
Secretary



