



ACADEMIC COUNCIL
MINUTES
MEETING OF TUESDAY, APRIL 19, 2016

Present:

Tim McTiernan (Chair)
Reem Ali
Robert Bailey
Chantelle Bishop
Carla Cesaroni
Christopher Collins
Taylor Collins
Greg Crawford
Becky Dinwoodie
Maurice DiGiuseppe
Pamela Drayson
Craig Elliott
Mikael Eklund
Brenda Gamble
Mark Green
Ferdinand Jones

Sharon Lauricella
Helene LeBlanc
Lori Livingston
Brad MacIsaac
Qusay Mahmoud
Susan McGovern (*via
teleconference*)
Kimberly Nugent
Pamela Ritchie
Langis Roy
Namdar Saniei
Deborah Saucier
Hannah Scott
Mahmoud Shaaban
Tarlochan Sidhu
Kamal Smimou

Guests:

Tara Ashley
Kristen Boujos
Nadia Jagar
Nichole Molinaro
Olivia Petrie

Regrets:

Nawal Ammar
Perrin Beatty
Cheryl Foy
Hossam Gaber
Michael Owen

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:32 p.m.

2. Agenda

The Agenda was approved as presented.

3. Chair's Remarks

The Chair congratulated the individuals who were at the bargaining table on the successful completion of the Collective Agreement. He advised Council that R. Bailey will be keeping a speaker's list during the meeting to keep track of those who would like to speak to an agenda item. He reminded Council of the Chancellor's Installation on May 4, which is a centuries old tradition and a lovely part of the history of institutions.

He reported on the Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities' announcement of the investment of \$22M in Durham College (DC) to help replace the Simcoe Building. This is good news for DC and good news for the campus in general. We are actively working on what the general academic building might look like in order to achieve more space for teaching and student experience. We will be looking at the option of obtaining funding from the federal Strategic Investment Fund.

He also discussed the upcoming Higher Education in Transformation Symposium that UOIT will be co-hosting with DC, Trent and several Irish institutions at the beginning of November. This will be the second of a series of conferences. He referred to the symposium as an example of colleagues working well together and focused engagement around a particular theme.

4. Minutes of the Meeting of March 15, 2016

The Minutes were approved as amended.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

None.

6. Inquiries and Communications

None.

7. Provost's Remarks

The Provost announced the members of the search committee for the Dean of the Faculty of Education. She also announced the members of the renewal committee for the Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science. M. Eklund thanked the Provost for attending at the Faculty Council meetings to discuss the selection of committee members.

8. Refreshing the Strategic Plan

The Chair invited D. Saucier to discuss refreshing the Strategic Plan. She reminded Council that the University received the Board's approval to keep the 3 main pillars of the Plan. When the Strategic Plan was initially written and given the rate of growth of the University, it was believed the UOIT could grow to 20,000 students. It has been decided to scale back on some of the items and focus on achieving some of the strategic goals. Metrics are needed to measure success.

D. Saucier reviewed the three Strategic Directions and explained why each of them matter and the plan to achieve them. A key component is to develop leadership in all who would like to participate in leadership activities. She also provided an overview of the metrics to be used. She used community engagement as an example of something that is more challenging to measure and welcomed ideas.

There was a discussion about whether a formula is needed to measure our success. The institution is required to report on several of the metrics. Once the updated Strategic Plan is finalized, it will be used to develop an academic plan and the measures of success are to be provided by each Faculty by the end of May. She will return to Academic Council to discuss the particulars of the metrics.

Council also discussed how the overall Strategic Plan will also be used to drive the Strategic Research Plan. D. Saucier confirmed that there is time to develop the updated Strategic Research Plan together.

The issues of seemingly outdated metrics, bias in metrics and support mechanisms to help improve metrics were also discussed. D. Saucier responded to members' additional questions regarding metrics.

(M. Vargas Martin left at 3:05 p.m.)

D. Saucier advised that she is looking forward to bringing the updated Strategic Plan back to Council for further discussion and welcomed input from members on the items to be measured.

9. Conferral of Degrees for Winter Term 2016

The Chair noted that the conferral of degrees is one of the most important approvals made by Academic Council during the year.

MOTION CARRIED *That Academic Council authorize the granting of degrees effective May 6, 2016 to those students who have fulfilled all degree requirements at the end of the Winter term 2016 and who have been recommended for graduation by their Faculty.*

MOTION CARRIED *That Academic Council authorize the granting of degrees at the University's convocation on June 9/10, 2016 to those students who have fulfilled all degree program requirements and those students who, pending submission of incomplete grades or payment of outstanding financial obligations, will fulfill the degree program requirements and receive a recommendation for graduation from their Faculty between the date of this meeting of Academic Council and Convocation.*

10. Committee Reports

10.1 Curriculum and Program Review Committee

10.1.1 Faculty of Social Science and Humanities

(a) Bachelor of Arts in Communication and Digital Media Studies – Removal of Specializations

R. Bailey reviewed the recommendation from CPRC.

MOTION CARRIED *That Academic Council approve the removal of the two specializations from the Bachelor of Arts in Communication and Digital Media Studies program.*

10.1.2 Faculty of Business and Information Technology

(a) Bachelor of Informatics – New Program Proposal

R. Bailey reviewed the recommendation from CPRC. He invited the Council members to pose any questions they might have about the new program to the Dean, Faculty of Business and Information Technology. P. Ritchie answered questions regarding the program. There was a discussion regarding whether separation sections will be necessary.

The name of the program, particularly the use of the word “informatics”, was also discussed. There was also extensive discussion as to why faculty from Business and Information Technology would be teaching the program’s math courses instead of members of the Faculty of Science.

Council also discussed whether there would be job prospects for graduates from the new program.

P. Ritchie clarified that revenue from industry partners coming from paid internships for students would not be considered as revenue from the program and that industry partners would not influence how the programs will be run. R. Bailey also clarified that the money for the introduction of the program will be coming out of current budget resource allocations.

MOTION CARRIED *That Academic Council approve the new program proposal for the Bachelor of Informatics in Business Technology Management.*

K. Smimou opposed and Q. Mahmoud abstained.

10.1.3 For Information:

(a) Faculty of Business and Information Technology - Bachelor of Commerce (2 Year Bridge) – Minor Program Adjustment

R. Bailey referred to the item for information.

10.2 Graduate Studies Committee

10.2.1 Graduate Studies Regulations – Amendments to Section 3.2 of the Graduate Academic Calendar

L. Roy reviewed the proposed amendments. He discussed the purpose of the amendments, including to provide the guiding principles as to what constitutes graduate faculty membership. They also wanted to make emeritus graduate faculty explicit by recognizing their role, which is in line with what other institutions do.

There were concerns raised about the criteria to be used in determining “adequate scholarly publications”. L. Roy clarified that this is decided at the faculty level and that the people within the program are in the best position to determine what should be considered adequate scholarly publication. It was also confirmed that this would be a committee decision that can be appealed.

L. Roy explained that this is meant as an overarching policy and further procedures will be developed out of comments received. There was further discussion regarding the criteria set

out in s.3.2 and agreed to change the wording from “for one or more of the following reasons” to “based on factors, such as”.

MOTION CARRIED *That Academic Council approve the changes to section 3.2 of the Graduate Academic Calendar as amended.*

M. Eklund and H. Scott opposed and N. Saniei and M. DiGiuseppe abstained

10.2.2 Graduate Studies Policy – New Cotutelle Policy

The International Plan calls for increased international collaborations, which is captured in the policy. The policy will apply to existing PhD programs. Students will spend half their time in another institution. There was a discussion regarding the eligibility requirements. L. Roy explained that the eligibility requirements of a participating institution would already have to be met in order to be accepted by UOIT; therefore, it does not refer to other institutions’ students. It was suggested to replace the reference in ss. 6.1(e) and 6.2(e) from “studies abroad” to “at the international institution”.

There was also a discussion regarding the provision relating to Intellectual Property. L. Roy explained that this provision is included to ensure that IP arrangements have been considered at the outset. L. Roy also confirmed that the examining policy provision provides for some flexibility with the international institutions depending on what their examining policies are.

MOTION CARRIED *That Academic Council approve the Cotutelle policy and procedural document as amended.*

10.2.3 For Information:

(a) UOIT Outstanding Thesis Award

L. Roy reported on the introduction of the UOIT Outstanding Thesis Award.

10.3 Executive Committee

10.3.1 Academic Council Governance

a) Board By-Law Review Project Update

B. Dinwoodie provided an update on the progress of the Board By-Law Review Project Working Group. She advised that the Group had not met since the last Academic Council meeting and would be meeting later that week. She expects there will be a more detailed update at the next Academic Council meeting.

b) Academic Council Election Results

B. Dinwoodie reviewed the results of the 2016-2017 Academic Council Election. She advised that the election was conducted fairly and there were no allegations of improper conduct on behalf of any of the candidates. Upon the recommendations of the Executive Committee, the following motions were approved:

MOTION CARRIED *That Academic Council appoint the following faculty member to serve on Academic Council for a three year term ending on June 30, 2019:*

- Hossam Kishawy, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science

MOTION CARRIED *That Academic Council appoint the following undergraduate students to serve on Academic Council for a two year term ending on August 31, 2018:*

- Mayur Patel, Faculty of Energy Systems and Nuclear Science
- Andre Pinsonnault, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science

MOTION CARRIED *That Academic Council appoint the following faculty member to serve as COU Academic Colleague for a three year term ending on June 30, 2019:*

- Ramiro Liscano, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science

MOTION CARRIED *That Academic Council appoint the following undergraduate student to serve on the Academic Appeals Committee for a two year term ending on August 31, 2018:*

- Johnathan Subramaniam, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science

MOTION CARRIED *That Academic Council appoint the following undergraduate student to serve on the Admissions & Scholarship Committee for a two year term ending on April 18, 2018:*

- Munera Ahmed, Faculty of Science

MOTION CARRIED *That pursuant to the nominations received from the Admissions & Scholarship Committee and the recommendation of the Executive Committee, and in accordance with the Admissions & Scholarship Committee's Terms of Reference, the Council hereby appoints the following faculty members to serve on the Admissions & Scholarship Committee for a term of three years ending on April 18, 2019:*

- Teresa Pierce, Faculty of Social Science and Humanities
- Christopher Collins, Faculty of Science
- Mihai Beligan, Faculty of Science

MOTION CARRIED *That Academic Council appoint the following undergraduate student to serve on the Honorary Degrees Committee for a two year term ending on August 31, 2018:*

- Lauren Kimberly Santiago, Faculty of Health Sciences

MOTION CARRIED *That Academic Council appoint the following faculty members to serve on Academic Council for a three year term ending on June 30, 2019:*

- Andrew Hogue, Faculty of Business & Information Technology
- Pietro-Luciano Buono, Faculty of Science
- Mikael Eklund, Faculty At-Large
- Andrea Kirkwood, Faculty At-Large
- Victoria Smye, Faculty At-Large

10.4 Honorary Degrees Committee

10.4.1 Honorary Degree Recipients

T. McTiernan confirmed the successful Honorary Degree recipients for this year’s Convocation: Perrin Beatty, Robert Houle, Kate Lines, Neil Pasricha. They represent a diversity of backgrounds and all excel in what they do. We will be putting out a call for next year’s honorary degrees before we break for the summer to allow an abundance of time to submit nominations.

11. University Governance

11.1 Sexual Violence Prevention & Response Policy

Deferred until May meeting.

11.2 Administrative Fairness Policy

N. Jagar delivered a presentation reviewing the Administrative Fairness Framework and key elements of the Administrative Fairness Policy. She also reviewed the rationale for the policy, as well as the new policy instruments coming forward.

There was a discussion as to whether the application of the Sexual Violence Prevention Policy should be shown as being more broad in the diagram of the Administrative Fairness Framework.

(P. Drayson left the meeting at 4:10 p.m.)

There was a discussion regarding whom the delegated decision-maker is. N. Jagar clarified that the delegated decision-maker is determined within each relevant policy and that the delegated decision-maker can cease the process at any time. The person responsible for the ultimate decision making guides the process and, if an informal resolution can be reached, the delegated decision-maker can decide to stop the formal process.

N. Jagar clarified that the policy only applies to quasi-judicial decision-making processes and is not intended to apply to regular administration and day-to-day operations of the University. Further, other legal and/or reporting requirements would dictate the process if in conflict with the policy.

MOTION CARRIED *That Academic Council recommend the Administrative Fairness Policy to the Board for approval.*

The Council had a discussion regarding the definition of “non-academic” misconduct. R. Bailey provided the example of a student driving through the arm of a parking lot gate.

11.3 Investigation Procedures for Allegations of Student Non-Academic Misconduct

N. Jagar delivered a presentation on the key elements of the Investigation Procedures. Given the time constraints, the Chair invited Council to provide written feedback to N. Jagar on the procedures and tabled the item until the next meeting.

11.4 Student Judicial Committee Procedures & Terms of Reference

Deferred until May meeting.

11.5 Workplace Violence Policy & Procedures

Deferred until May meeting.

12. Other Business

None.

13. Colleagues' Exchange

The meeting was terminated at 4:23 p.m.

Becky Dinwoodie, Secretary

*Documents attached (A) Approval (C) Consultation (D) Discussion
(I) Information (P) Presentation (R) Recommend for approval