



**ACADEMIC COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
MEETING OF TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2016**

**Present:**

Tim McTiernan (Chair)  
Reem Ali  
Robert Bailey  
Pietro-Luciano Buono  
Carla Cesaroni  
Greg Crawford  
Brian Cutler  
Becky Dinwoodie  
Maurice DiGiuseppe  
Pamela Drayson (*via teleconference*)  
Mikael Eklund  
Brenda Gamble  
Mark Green  
Andrew Hogue  
Andrea Kirkwood

Hossam Kishawy  
Sharon Lauricella  
Lori Livingston  
Brad MacIsaac  
Susan McGovern  
Atef Mohany  
Kimberly Nugent  
Michael Owen  
Andre Pinsonnault  
Pamela Ritchie  
Deborah Saucier  
Hannah Scott  
Mahmoud Shaaban  
Kamal Smimou  
Victoria Smye

**Guests:**

Kristen Boujos  
Brad Easton  
Krista Hester  
Ramiro Liscano  
Christine McLaughlin  
Olivia Petrie

**Regrets:**

Craig Elliott  
Cheryl Foy  
Hossam Gaber  
Mayur Patel  
Langis Roy  
Noreen Taylor

**1. Call to Order**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:33 p.m.

## **2. Agenda**

M. Eklund suggested adding an update on the Policy Against Violence, Sexual Violence, Harassment and Discrimination and the presidential search under “Other Business”. H. Scott suggested an item for discussion regarding ethical partnerships under the Colleagues’ Exchange.

The Agenda was approved as amended.

## **3. Chair’s Remarks**

The Chair discussed the announcement regarding his departure in July 2017. He addressed the timing of his decision. He advised that the reasons underlying his decision are expressed in his letter. Next summer represents a fundamental turning point as the University shifts from negotiating to implementing the SMA. He advised that he will not be directly involved in the recruitment process. He confirmed that the Board is contemplating the presidential search process and the process will be communicated once finalized. M. Eklund encouraged Academic Council and the administration to consider including members of Academic Council on the presidential search committee.

The President reported on the discussions that took place at the last meeting of the COU Executive Heads. The Minister of Advanced Education and Skills Development was in attendance. She was clear about the Ministry’s priorities, which include experiential learning and the need for good college-university relations.

He also discussed the Federal Government’s recent focus on gender and diversity, using the example of the Canada Excellence Research Chairs Program’s requirement for diversity going forward.

He advised that the COU is launching a year-long conversation on what Ontarians imagine Ontario to be and the role universities play in that vision.

The President also highlighted the upcoming deadlines for deliverables the University will be required to meet, including the Policy Against Violence, Sexual Violence, Harassment and Discrimination (PAV), and the new funding formula requirements.

## **4. Minutes of the Meeting of June 21, 2016**

M. Eklund asked for the minutes to indicate that the Policy Against Violence, Sexual Violence, Harassment and Discrimination will return to Academic Council.

The Minutes were approved, as amended.

## **5. Business Arising from the Minutes**

None.

## **6. Inquiries and Communications**

### **6.1 Synopsis of Board of Governors Meeting of June 29, 2016**

The President reviewed the synopsis from the Board meeting. He highlighted the list of colleagues who received promotions to Associate Professor and Professor. He also acknowledged the Teaching Faculty members who were promoted to Senior Lecturer effective July 1, 2016.

The President answered a question relating to the Board's approval of restricted funds.

## **7. Provost's Remarks**

The Provost reported a change to the search committee for the Dean of the Faculty of Social Science and Humanities – Joanne Evans has been replaced by Jocelyn Churchill.

### **7.1 Enrolment Planning**

The Provost presented the discussion paper entitled "UOIT ENROLMENT 2017-2022". She reviewed the forecasted growth rates. As the number of "101s" decreases, competition will increase. As a result of increased recruiting efforts, the University might have to change its approach to recruitment. UOIT has historically done well with the recruitment of mature students. She advised that the bulk of "105s" are pathways students and there is increased competition for these students, as well. There was a discussion regarding UOIT's retention rates and the possible reasons students do not return. The Provost advised a large percentage of students who do not return are local students who performed well in high school. The Provost confirmed she will be returning in January with a retention report, which will include a breakdown by Faculty.

There was a discussion of the approaches being undertaken to improve UOIT's retention rate. The Council also discussed the general preparedness of incoming undergraduate students.

The Provost responded to a question about what approach will be taken to setting enrolment targets. Enrolment target will be determined by the proposed corridor funding model. Enrolment is also determined by the amount of space available at the University. The recommendation is to maintain flat enrolment over time, which will allow the University to continue to build quality and provide additional space for students. B. MacIsaac added that the possible strategies for enrolment will be included in the next report (e.g. increasing number of programs available to increase applicants and positively affect quality).

The Provost provided an overview of the graduate student enrolment projections, including a comparison of UOIT and other institutions. She discussed the reasons for enrolment blips in graduate student enrolment. Council considered whether trying to grow graduate enrolment until 2022 is a realistic target.

The Provost responded to a question regarding whether there is a faculty growth plan in place. She confirmed that faculty growth is examined during the budget review and that net new positions have been approved. She advised that she relies on the Deans and their knowledge of the Faculty's needs. Further, the ability to expand the faculty is also determined by the budget and space constraints.

There was a brief discussion regarding professional graduate enrolment. D. Saucier advised that she will obtain further information and report to Council. B. MacIsaac advised that we are below our funded targets and for PhD students, it will take approximately 3-4 years to achieve target. There was a discussion regarding the link between the number of PhD students and the number of tenure/tenure track faculty with available funding. R. Bailey confirmed that the current faculty are not at capacity.

## **7.2 Strategic Plan**

D. Saucier presented the updated 2017-2022 Strategic Plan. She confirmed that the Board of Governors approved the Strategic Plan the previous week. She remarked that an executive summary of the updated plan is included on the back of every UOIT business card: Challenge, Innovate, Connect. The focus is on having every pillar represent each one of UOIT's constituencies. She reviewed each of the plan's pillars.

(S. Lauricella left the meeting at 3:37 p.m.)

D. Saucier discussed the implementation of the plan and determining whether we have achieved the goals set out in the plan. Unit plans are being compiled into a University Academic Plan, which will be presented to Academic Council. It is important to develop metrics that allow us to capture what we do. D. Saucier encouraged Council to be creative when developing metrics.

There was an engaged discussion as to whether the reference to the "real-world" creates an artificial divide and detracts from the work being done at the University. There was also a concern expressed about the business-type language used in the charts. D. Saucier explained how the use of the term "real-world" demonstrates the success of our students. There was support expressed for the terms "outputs" and "outcomes", although, it was argued, that outcomes are difficult to quantify. A member commented that as an outward facing document, particularly with respect to the Arts and Humanities, that he supported the reference to the "real-world" as a measure to counter the stereotype that university graduates do not leave with real-world skills.

There was also concern expressed about the Strategic Plan's approval process. There was an understanding that it would come back to Academic Council for recommendation prior to Board approval. T. McTiernan responded that the updated plan is a rollover from the existing strategic plan, which involved a wide array of consultation. Further, the lifelong learning element came about from consultation with Academic Council and Deans and is enshrined in our legislation.

After Council’s April meeting, there was a call for additional feedback on the plan, which was considered and incorporated.

R. Bailey advised that he is assembling the unit plans and he referenced several examples of how the unit plans and proposed metrics have been inspired by the Strategic Plan. Essentially, the unit plans will be the nuts and bolts of the implementation of the Strategic Plan.

(P. Drayson left the meeting at 3:53 p.m.)

**8. Committee Reports**

**8.1 Curriculum and Program Review Committee (CPRC)**

**8.1.1 Office of the Registrar - Revision and Clarification of Program Change Calculation of Cumulative Grade Point Average**

B. MacIsaac provided the background for the proposed change. He advised that the amendment was made to clarify the exceptions to the change implemented last year. He clarified that the change in calculation of cumulative GPA is only to be used when changing degrees. He confirmed that the transcript is the student’s academic history and all grades will remain.

*Upon the recommendation of the CPRC, that Academic Council approve the clarification to the Program Change Policy. Specifically, that the exclusions of D and F grades will occur for ‘degree’ changes only, rather than major or specialization changes.*

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**8.1.2 Bachelor of Health Science in Kinesiology - Major Program Modification**

*Upon the recommendation of the CPRC, that Academic Council approve the creation of a Kinesiology major without specialization.*

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**8.1.3 FOR INFORMATION**

**(a) Faculty of Health Sciences - Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Collaborative – Minor Program Adjustment**

**(b) Bachelor of Health Science in Kinesiology – Minor Program Adjustment**

R. Bailey referred to the items coming forward for information from CPRC.

**8.2 Graduate Studies Committee (GSC)**

**8.2.1 Graduate Studies Regulations – Amendments**

**(a) Supporting document requirements**

B. Easton provided the background to the proposed amendments.

*Upon the recommendation of the GSC, that Academic Council approve the changes to the*

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*supporting document requirements in the Graduate Academic Calendar as proposed in the attached documentation.*

**(b) Academic standing**

B. Easton provided the background to the proposed amendment.

MOTION CARRIED *Upon the recommendation of the GSC, that Academic Council approve the changes to the academic standing section in the Graduate Academic Calendar as proposed in the attached documentation.*

**(c) Academic misconduct**

B. Easton clarified that there are 2 separate policies for academic misconduct, one for undergraduate students and another for graduate students. He answered a question regarding whether the amendments should include a reference to “health and safety”. It was agreed that the amendment should include a reference to health. B. Easton also confirmed that the proposed amendment was made to align it with the undergraduate calendar. It was then suggested that the corresponding policy in the undergraduate calendar should be amended to include reference to “health and safety”, as well.

MOTION CARRIED *Upon the recommendation of the GSC, that Academic Council approve the changes to the academic misconduct section in the Graduate Academic Calendar as amended.*

**8.3 Executive Committee**

**8.3.1 Academic Council Governance**

**a) Nominations to Curriculum and Program Review Committee**

R. Bailey presented the recommended nomination of J. Friedlan to Council for approval.

MOTION CARRIED *That pursuant to the nomination received from the Faculty of Business and Information Technology and the recommendation of the Executive Committee, and in accordance with the Curriculum and Program Review Committee’s Terms of Reference, the Council hereby appoints the following faculty member to serve on the Curriculum and Program Review Committee for a term of three years ending on June 30, 2019:*

- John Friedlan, Associate Professor, Faculty of Business and Information Technology

P. Ritchie provided background on the reason for the need of a temporary replacement for J. Friedlan on CPRC.

MOTION CARRIED *That pursuant to section 4 of the Academic Council Handbook, the nomination received from the Faculty of Business and Information Technology, and the recommendation of the Executive*

*Committee, the Council hereby appoints the following faculty member to serve on the Curriculum and Program Review Committee as a temporary replacement for John Friedlan until January 2017:*

- Josh Lowe, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Business and Information Technology

**b) Academic Council Orientation**

B. Dinwoodie reported on this year’s Academic Council Orientation session. She advised that attendees were introduced to the University’s governance model, as well as the meeting procedures. An evaluation form was distributed to those who attended and the feedback was generally positive.

She advised that due to low turnout at the reception with the Board of Governors following orientation, consideration will be given to holding the reception on another evening or coordinating a different joint event next year. M. Eklund commented that he was unable to attend orientation but that he heard positive comments from those who attended.

**c) Faculty Council Membership Lists**

B. Dinwoodie presented the Faculty Council Membership Lists for 2016-2017 and explained that it is a responsibility of the Executive Committee to approve the lists annually. It was suggested to include the Faculty Council membership on organizational charts.

**9. Conferral of Degrees for Summer 2016**

B. MacIsaac presented the motion for consideration.

*That Academic Council authorize the granting of degrees to those students who have fulfilled all degree requirements at the end of the Summer term 2016 and who have been recommended for graduation by their Faculty.*

**10. Other Business**

The update with respect to the presidential search was provided during the President’s remarks.

T. McTiernan updated Council with respect to the PAV. He advised that the Board tabled the policy at the meeting on October 14 in order to allow for additional consultation and review. The policy and procedures must be in place by the end of the year. He confirmed that the University has committed to reengage in the consultation process. The policy team will be engaging in consultation in a number of different ways. Drafts of the policy and supporting procedures will be posted online to obtain community feedback. The goal is to have them posted by Friday, October 21 but the President asked to give the project team a day’s grace if it is not posted by then. He advised that the documents that will be posted will be in rough draft and likely not entirely complete.

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T. McTiernan discussed the principles underlying the policy. He explained that the policy team will be working on a standalone policy that nests among the background policies.

D. Saucier added that the policy and supporting procedures will be coming back to Council at least once and perhaps twice. She reminded Council that the policy will be reviewed annually and, if further revision is required, we will have an opportunity to do that next year. D. Saucier clarified the approach that will be taken to the policy. The intention is to keep an umbrella policy, but add a separate standalone sexual violence policy. She clarified that the policy is victim-centred and focuses on how to get help. The fact that there are two institutions on campus must also be taken into consideration.

### **11. Colleagues' Exchange**

Terminated at 4:31 p.m.

**Becky Dinwoodie, Secretary**

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