



**ACADEMIC COUNCIL
MINUTES
MEETING OF TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2017**

Present:

Deborah Saucier (Acting Chair)
Reem Ali
Robert Bailey
Pietro-Luciano Buono (*via teleconference*)
Carla Cesaroni (*via teleconference*)
Greg Crawford (*via teleconference*)
Maurice DiGiuseppe
Becky Dinwoodie
Pamela Drayson (*via teleconference*)
Mikael Eklund
Hossam Gaber
Brenda Gamble
Mark Green
Andrew Hogue
Douglas Holdway
Andrea Kirkwood
Hossam Kishawy

Ramiro Liscano
Lori Livingston
Brad MacIsaac
Qusay Mahmoud
Susan McGovern
Atef Mohany
Kimberly Nugent (*via teleconference*)
Michael Owen
Pamela Ritchie (*via teleconference*)
Langis Roy
Hannah Scott
Mahmoud Shaaban
Kamal Smimou
Akira Tokuhiro

Guests:

Glenn Harvel
Krista Hester
Adele Imrie
Nichole Molinaro
Shirley Van Nuland
Olivia Petrie
Stephanie Sykes

Regrets:

Brian Cutler
Craig Elliott
Cheryl Foy
Sharon Lauricella
Tim McTiernan
Andre Pinsonnault
Noreen Taylor

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:34 p.m.

2. Agenda

The Agenda was approved, as presented.

3. Chair's Remarks

3.1 2017 Honorary Degree Recipients

The Chair reviewed the President's memo announcing the Honorary Degree recipients for 2017 - Sarabjit Marwah, Jeanette Southwood, Shirlee Sharkey, and Shirley Williams. The Chair provided a brief summary of each candidate's background and outstanding achievements. She encouraged Council members to attend the Convocation ceremonies.

4. Minutes of the Meeting of February 28, 2017

The Minutes were approved, as presented.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

Arising from item 2 in the minutes, M. Eklund noted that he raised the Acting Chair issue with the University Secretary and that the issue will be addressed during the By-Law Review.

6. Inquiries and Communications

None.

7. Provost's Remarks

The Provost discussed her upcoming departure from the university and advised that when the President returns from vacation, finding an interim replacement will be a priority. She also announced the recent granting of Professor Emeritus status to Dr. Jim Greenlaw, former Dean of Education and Professor in the Faculty of Education, and Dr. Ebrahim Esmailzadeh, Professor in the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science.

(a) Update on Senior Academic Administrator Appointment Searches

The Provost advised that the search for the next Dean of the Faculty of Business and Information Technology is ongoing. She also confirmed that the new University Librarian, Catherine Davidson, has been appointed and the Provost is delighted she will be joining the university.

(b) SMA/Partnerships

The Ministry has given the university the new SMA template and the Provost is currently working on the draft. The draft SMA will be presented to Academic Council for consultation at the next meeting. She advised that the template is not as different as she thought it might be and it includes the same 5 pillars that have already been discussed during the ongoing consultations.

Partnerships

Partnerships remain a strong feature of the collaborative nature of the university. She referred to the Ministry recognizing the Faculty of Health Sciences for having strong partnerships in its nursing program. She highlighted the large number of positive ways we benefit from partnerships with other institutions.

8. Committee Reports

8.1 Curriculum and Program Review Committee (CPRC)

8.1.1 FOR APPROVAL

(a) Office of the Registrar - Course Description Format Change

R. Bailey provided a brief background for the proposed change of the course description format in the calendar listing the credit hour and contact hour only rather than the specific mode of course delivery. He advised that the proposal inspired a robust debate at the last CPRC meeting regarding the definition of “lecture” and how it has evolved. He confirmed that this would be limited to the course calendar description and that students will be able to confirm the actual instructional method by logging into MyCampus before registration.

A question was raised about the number of credit hours required for a course. R. Bailey clarified that the motion relates specifically to calendar descriptions, not the number of hours required for a credit. B. MacIsaac advised that CPRC discussed the issue of hours required for a credit several years ago.

R. Bailey acknowledged that there are different requirements for accredited programs. Changing the calendar description does not constrain the delivery method of a course. B. MacIsaac will clarify that course descriptions for the same course will be consistent but the means of assessment can vary. There was also a discussion regarding the use of “other” as a type of course contact.

That, upon the recommendation of the CPRC, Academic Council approve the adoption of an institution-wide course description format that lists the credit hour and contact hour only, effective for the 2017-18 Undergraduate Academic Calendar.

8.1.2 FOR INFORMATION

(a) Office of the Associate Provost - Academic Calendar Nomenclature Alignment

R. Bailey advised that these are changes to provide for consistency and clean up.

MOTION
APPROVED

8.2 Graduate Studies Committee (GSC)

8.2.1 FOR APPROVAL

(a) Program Reviews – Final Assessment Report

L. Roy presented the program reviews to Council for approval. He provided an overview of the assessment process and confirmed that a summary of the process is condensed into the final assessment reports. He informed Council that additional reports will be coming forward at the next meeting.

i. Master of Arts in Criminology

L. Roy advised that the review found the program to be of good quality and included a number of recommendations to further enhance the program. He confirmed that representatives from the program attended the GSC meeting at which the report was approved. Upon approval by Academic Council, the document will be forwarded to Quality Council for their records.

A concern was raised that not all of the Faculty of Social Science and Humanities faculty members had an opportunity to review and comment on the assessment report prior to going to GSC for recommendation. There was an engaged discussion about the consultation process for assessment reports.

L. Roy confirmed the report is a good news story and that many of the recommendations are being implemented. R. Bailey advised that it is the responsibility of each Committee to ensure proper process is followed before it arrives at Academic Council.

C. Cesaroni advised that the review was presented at Faculty Council and that the assessment report did not go to Faculty Council due to an oversight. She also confirmed that the specific changes resulting from the recommendations went through Faculty Council. It was confirmed that the action plan excluded recommendation 4.

MOTION APPROVED *That, upon the recommendation of CPRC, Academic Council approve the Final Assessment Report dated February 2017 for the Master of Arts in Criminology Program Review.*

H. Scott abstained.

ii. Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy in Modelling and Computational Science

L. Roy provided a summary of the review. He advised Council on the 3 minor changes to the report that were made as a result of the GSC review. He added that when the report includes recommendations that involve resources beyond the Faculty's control, the recommendations can be flagged and the Faculty can advocate for the recommended changes. G. Crawford used the first recommendation as an example. The Council discussed the status of several of the recommendations.

L. Roy explained the difference between the Faculty Response and the final assessment report, which is a condensed version of the entire process.

MOTION
APPROVED

That, upon the recommendation of CPRC, Academic Council approve the Final Assessment Report dated February 2017 for the Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy in Modelling and Computational Science Program Review.

iii. Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy in Computer Science

L. Roy presented the report and advised that it was accepted “as is” by GSC.

A suggestion was made that these reports should be shared throughout the faculties for learning purposes. L. Roy clarified that the reports are available to the faculties through their representatives on the GSC. He also confirmed that the reviews were completed by reviewers external to UOIT.

MOTION
APPROVED

That, upon the recommendation of CPRC, Academic Council approve the Final Assessment Report dated February 2017 for the Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy in Computer Science 18-Month Follow-Up.

9. 2017-2018 Academic Schedule

B. Maclsaac advised that minor amendments to the fee due dates might have to be made prior to posting.

A question was raised about having a mid-term break during the summer as it makes it challenging for scheduling teaching faculty due to the timing of the break. B. Maclsaac advised Academic Council considered this issue years ago when the decision was made to add it. The Provost asked the Registrar’s group to find out what other institutions are doing and to report the results to Academic Council.

10. Presidential Candidate Profile

The Chair introduced A. Imrie, the Chair of the Board of Governors, to Council. A. Imrie reviewed the presidential search consultation process, as well as the key questions asked of UOIT constituents. She also updated Council on the timeline of the finalization of the presidential candidate profile.

A. Imrie introduced S. Sykes, a representative of Knightsbridge. S. Sykes listed the consultation sessions that were held throughout February. She advised that they continue to receive feedback through the online survey and that the survey will remain active throughout the search.

She explained that the position profile sets out the next president’s mandate. The Committee to Recommend a President (CRP) is seeking feedback on the profile and the ideal characteristics of the next president. H. Scott added that the mandate was developed through summarizing the feedback given during the consultation process.

Preliminary Mandate

While reviewing the Mandate section, the comments included:

- the consultation process was excellent
- didn't see "connection with community" in document
- concepts are really good
- seems quite dense due to numerous words
- question about whether themes should be prioritized - S. Sykes advised that theme priorities are still evolving
- some of the bullets are repetitive

Ideal Candidate – Experiences & Qualifications

Comments regarding the Ideal Candidate Profile included:

- should incorporate doctoral degree with "a distinguished record of academic achievement"
- question about "similarly complex organization" - S. Sykes confirmed that the CRP is aware of that issue and had a robust discussion about it
- important for candidate to have academic experience in order to understand the academic environment
- "teaching and/or learning" – should remove the "or"
- leading a university is a complex job and requires many complementary qualities
- S. Sykes clarified that opportunities & challenges were used to guide the mandate
- difficult to prioritize certain qualifications over others as they are all essential
- "comfortable & confident" in bi-cameral governance system (under "Executive Leadership" section)
- focus on challenges of university & identify ideal candidate from there

S. Sykes confirmed Council's feedback will be considered by the CRP and she welcomed written feedback by e-mail until March 23 at noon.

(K. Nugent exited the meeting at 4:15 p.m.)

A. Imrie thanked Council for their thoughtful comments.

11. Other Business

None.

12. Colleagues' Exchange

There being no other business, upon a motion duly made the Meeting terminated at 4:17 p.m.

Becky Dinwoodie, Secretary