



**ACADEMIC COUNCIL
MINUTES
MEETING OF TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2017**

Present:

Tim McTiernan (Chair)
Robert Bailey
Pietro-Luciano Buono
Carla Cesaroni
Greg Crawford (*via teleconference*)
Maurice DiGiuseppe
Becky Dinwoodie
Mikael Eklund
Craig Elliott
Hossam Gaber (*via teleconference*)
Andrew Hogue
Douglas Holdway
Andrea Kirkwood
Hossam Kishawy

Sharon Lauricella
Lori Livingston
Brad MacIsaac
Qusay Mahmoud
Kimberly Nugent (*via teleconference*)
Pamela Ritchie (*via teleconference*)
Langis Roy
Hannah Scott
Akira Tokuhira

Guests:

Chris Grol
Krista Hester
Thomas McMorrow
Nichole Molinaro
Olivia Petrie
Jill Thompson

Regrets:

Reem Ali
Shahid Alvi
Pamela Drayson
Cheryl Foy
Hossam Gaber
Brenda Gamble
Mark Green
Ramiro Liscano
Atef Mohany
Susan McGovern
Michael Owen
Andre Pinsonnault
Deborah Saucier
Kamal Smimou
Noreen Taylor

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:35 p.m.

2. Agenda

The Agenda was approved, as presented.

3. Chair's Remarks

The Chair offered his congratulations to those faculty who successfully went through the tenure and promotion process this year. He noted that the number of individuals promoted to full professor indicates the growth of the University. There was also an announcement made regarding the change of name of the Office of Graduate Studies to the School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies, effective 1 July 2017.

The Chair noted that Convocations are approaching quickly. He is looking forward to the ceremonies, including hearing the addresses of the remarkable group of honorary degree recipients. Seeing the smiling faces of our graduates is reward for all of our hard work.

4. Minutes of the Meeting of April 18, 2017

Upon a motion duly made, the Minutes were approved, as presented.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was none.

6. Inquiries and Communications

(a) UOIT's Role in Reconciliation: Options and Opportunities in Indigenizing Curricula

The President introduced the guest speakers, T. McMorrow, J. Thompson and C. Grol.

T. McMorrow thanked Council for the invitation to speak. He proceeded to introduce J. Thompson and C. Grol. He added that one of the authors, Rachel Ariss, was unable to attend as she is currently on research leave, but she has joined them for other presentations of the report. He informed Council that they have also presented the report at other institutions.

He started the presentation by playing a video featuring Murray Sinclair discussing reconciliation.

T. McMorrow provided an overview of the process of researching and developing the report. He presented the six principles of reconciliatory education. He reported that the faculty reaction to their presentations has been very positive and the faculty are engaged and receptive.

T. McMorrow discussed the eight recommendations:

- 1) Integrate Indigenous content & perspectives into currently required core courses in professional programs (nursing, engineering, education).
- 2) Increase course offerings across the board, including an accessible introductory course on these topics and integrate Indigenous content & perspectives into required courses.
- 3) Develop resources and supports for faculty – to assist them in integrating Indigenous content & perspectives into their course materials and teaching methods.
- 4) Maintain and strengthen support for Indigenous students.
- 5) Increase the level of Indigenous faculty, staff, and student representation on campus.
- 6) Improve Indigenous cultural and artistic representation on campus.
- 7) Continue and enhance the role of Elders and Indigenous Knowledge Keepers in curricula and in student support.
- 8) Design and implement an Interdisciplinary Indigenous Studies minor by developing a cross-faculty working group to devise a plan for this project.

T. McMorrow highlighted UBISC as a valuable resource to the University. He invited J. Thompson and C. Grol to discuss the types of resources available at UBISC.

J. Thompson also emphasized the positive response received by the Faculties. She said some faculty expressed concerns regarding teaching subject matter that they are not familiar with. They can collaborate with faculty to develop appropriate training material.

UBISC has many contacts in the Aboriginal community. C. Grol talked about starting at UOIT as a student and beginning to learn more about his Metis culture. He advised that UBISC can assist in many ways, including finding resources, organizing focus groups, conducting smudging/welcoming ceremonies, and arranging for guest lecturers. He invited Council members to contact them with any questions they might have.

T. McMorrow added that the recommendations are not exhaustive, but should be used as a stepping stone. The working group is currently working on developing an Indigenous Studies minor and an invitation was extended for people to join. He advised that you do not have to be an expert, just have an interest in it.

The Chair repeated that reconciliation will be a long process. He reported on a recent meeting of the Universities Canada Standing Committee on Education at which National Chief Perry Bellegarde attended. It is important to start the conversation and keep the dialogue going. He suggested that it should be an annual agenda item for Council in order to continue the formal discussion.

There was a discussion regarding the type of support UBISC requires. R. Bailey advised that the Deans and members of the Senior Academic Team will continue to work on the academic plans, including indigenous programs and staffing. They will aim to provide an update to Council in the Fall.

A Council member added that it is not only the responsibility of the Indigenous individuals at the University to fulfill the recommendations – everyone has the responsibility to work towards implementing the plan. The Chair supported the statement.

7. Provost's Remarks

(a) Update on Senior Academic Administrator Appointment Searches

R. Bailey advised that they are still accepting expressions of interest for the Associate Dean positions until the end of the month. He also confirmed that the ad for the Dean of FBIT position has been posted nationally and internationally.

A comment was made regarding developing the appointment procedures for the Provost and Vice-President of Research, Innovation & International positions.

(b) Programs Update

R. Bailey delivered a presentation on Programs and Quality Enhancement. He provided a summary of the program reviews. The formal pathway enrolments are growing, which is an advantage to the University as students arrive prepared from their college experience. He showed that pathways retention is declining. B. Maclsaac clarified the definition of pathways retention, which means that a student who was here in one semester returned the next. They are working on the retention issue.

Continuing Education

In the past year, the Continuing Education Committee was launched and oversees courses/workshops that do not lead to an academic credential. R. Bailey reported on the activities of the Continuing Education Committee. He commented that more can be done to take advantage of opportunities present across faculties.

Program Reviews

R. Bailey identified the trends emerging from the reviews:

1. curriculum/course level changes – alignment of overall program learning outcomes to course outcomes & assessment methods
2. improving program visibility – recruitment, brand development/identity
3. enhancement and/or integration of activities/services to support student success
4. resources: space, human, equipment, professional development

There was an engaged discussion regarding the 2+2 pathways and the challenges experienced by students, as well as the rationale for students choosing the 2+2 pathways program.

The Council also discussed whether introducing pathways programs reduces first year enrolment at UOIT. Pathways are a way of dealing with flat enrolment due to the demographic shift. A member commented that pathways also reflect the modern reality of students getting multiple degrees.

8. Budget

R. Bailey introduced the budget presentation. It is critical that Council understands the University's budget. He reminded Council that it is the Board's responsibility to approve the budget and the 2017-18 budget was approved by the Board on May 3. The budget will also be presented to Council in the Fall to discuss what factors are coming into play for the 2018-19 budget. R. Bailey will highlight the key aspects of the budget that are important from an academic perspective.

C. Elliott presented the 2017-18 approved budget. He advised that the budget had unique challenges this year, including:

1. Funding formula changes – still not finalized but government has confirmed funding will remain at same level next year;
2. Enrolment – current year, enrolment frozen at current enrolment – have plus/minus 3% that will not impact funding; have purposely reduced enrolment to improve NASM/FTE; also changing strategy to increase international enrolment;
3. Budget reductions – implementing plan to balance budget over 10 years;
4. Nothing in operating budget relating to SIRC as being paid for out of reserves;
5. Contingencies – continue to put aside money for building, deferred maintenance & unforeseen items – we will build up a surplus over the first 5 years in order to balance deficits in the last 5 years; and
6. TELE transformation – impacts revenue and expenses.

C. Elliott reviewed the major issues facing the University, as well as the key challenges, main opportunities for the institution, and key budget assumptions.

R. Bailey highlighted the amounts allocated to the debenture and shared services to Durham College. C. Elliott provided a breakdown of the revenue and expense components, highlighting the debenture obligations.

C. Elliott discussed the budget's contingencies, as well as budget allocations. He also explained the concept of restricted funds. He confirmed that if there are no unexpected changes, there will be approximately \$19M in restricted funds.

R. Bailey reviewed the strategic initiatives for 2017-2018, as well as one-time only expenses. He clarified that new faculty hires included under the base expenses are in addition to current vacant positions.

There was a robust discussion regarding the impact of the transition to BYOD on the budget and base expenses.

C. Elliott clarified what the operating expenses are for ACE and the ICE Centre.

Council had an engaged discussion regarding the debenture, as well as the shared services costs.

There was clarification that the tenured & tenure track ratio improved from 41:1 to 40:1. R. Bailey advised that they will deconstruct the faculty complement at a future meeting. C. Elliott also clarified that the Marceau Chair is a one time only expense as it is not included in the base budget.

There was a discussion regarding development of the 10-year plan. R. Bailey added that the 10-year plan will continue to evolve as facts are confirmed. A question was raised about the surpluses being greater than what had been anticipated. C. Elliott responded that they must be conservative in planning and contingency funds are needed in order to cover unanticipated events.

(A. Kirkwood and K. Nugent left at 4:23 p.m.)

9. SIRC Building Project Update

T. McTiernan provided a brief update on the SIRC building construction. The building construction is on schedule.

10. Committee Reports

10.1 Graduate Studies Committee

10.1.1 FOR APPROVAL

(a) Major Program Modification – Addition of a Pathway

L. Roy provided the background to the proposal. L. Roy advised the program has been developed in collaboration with the professors and it is a post-grad degree building on the college degree. He responded to questions from Council.

MOTION
APPROVED

That Academic Council approve the proposed pathway with Durham College for the Master of Information Technology Security program.

(b) Program Review – Final Assessment Report

L. Roy summarized the final assessment report.

MOTION
APPROVED

That Academic Council approve the summary report of the graduate program review for the Master of Information Technology Security.

10.2 Executive Committee

10.2.1 Governance

(a) Board By-Law Review Project

T. McTiernan presented the draft of By-law No. 1. M. Eklund added that the intention is to bring it forward to the Board for approval at the AGM in June.

11. Other Business

12. Colleagues' Exchange

There being no other business, upon a motion duly made the Meeting terminated at 4:40 p.m.

Becky Dinwoodie, Secretary

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