



ACADEMIC COUNCIL
MINUTES of MEETING of TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2017
DTB 524, 2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Present:

Alam, Safwan
Asiedu-Boateng, Peter
Bailey, Robert (Acting Chair)
Clarke, Jessica
Crawford, Greg (*teleconference*)
Davidson, Catherine
Desaulniers, Jean-Paul
DiGiuseppe, Maurice
Eklund, Mikael
Gaber, Hossam
Green, Mark
Hogue, Andrew
Kirkwood, Andrea
Kishawy, Hossam
Lauricella, Sharon (*teleconference*)
LeSage, Ann
Livingston, Lori
Lloyd, Meghann

Mahmoud, Qusay
McMorrow, Thomas
Nugent, Kimberly
(*teleconference*)
Ritchie, Pamela
(*teleconference*)
Roy, Langis
Scott, Hannah
Sidhu, Tarlochan
Smimou, Kamal
Stoett, Peter
Tokuhiko, Akira
Tuppal, Sai Tejus
Wu, Terry
Dinwoodie, Becky (non-voting)
Elliott, Craig (non-voting)

Guests:

Liscano, Ramiro
McLaughlin, Christine
Molinaro, Nichole
O'Halloran, Niall
Petrie, Olivia
Van Nuland, Shirley

Regrets:

Foy, Cheryl
Holdway, Doug
Maclsaac, Brad
McGovern, Sue
McTiernan, Tim
Taylor, Noreen

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:31 p.m.

2. Agenda

Upon a motion duly made, the Agenda was approved as presented.

3. Chair's Remarks

The Chair discussed the transitional period between the end of President McTiernan's term on December 31, 2017 and the start of the next president's term on March 1, 2018. R. Bailey will be Interim President during that time. Given the short duration of time, an acting Provost will not be appointed. R. Bailey's priority during that time will be to oversee the transition.

The Chair also reported on the establishment of the President's Equity Task Force (the paper behind it will be circulated at the January meeting). He provided an overview of the mandate and composition of the task force. It will be a 3-year task force and a call for expressions of interest to serve on the task force will be communicated.

4. Minutes of the Meeting of October 17, 2017

M. Eklund proposed a minor amendment to the minutes by adding "bicameral" before governance in the first paragraph on page 7.

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

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

(a) UOIT Student Course Feedback Survey

The Chair referred Council to the course feedback survey that was included in the material.

6. Inquiries and Communications

(a) Board of Governors Meeting Synopsis – October 26, 2017

The Chair referred Council to the Board meeting synopsis included in the material and invited questions.

(b) COU Academic Colleague Update

The Chair directed Council to the COU Academic Colleague report included in the meeting material. R. Liscano responded to questions from Council members. L. Roy clarified the Ministry's changes to how international PhD students may be counted for funding eligibility. The change will allow the university to increase the number of conversions of international PhD students to domestic status to seven.

7. Provost's Remarks

(a) Update on Senior Academic Administrator Appointment Searches

The Chair delivered an update on the status of the search for the next Dean of FBIT. The search is complete except for Board approval of the recommended candidate, which will be coming forward on December 7. Upon Board approval, the announcement will be made.

Work continues on the Integrated Academic Plan. A draft of the plan will be presented to Council in January. The Provost also provided an update on the development of the search and appointment procedures for the roles of Provost and Vice-Presidents.

8. Budget Planning

C. Elliott and R. Bailey delivered the presentation entitled “Academic Council Budget Update”, which was circulated prior to the meeting. There was an engaged discussion regarding the allocation of surplus funds on one-time spending in 2017-2018. The Budget Working Group (BWG) canvassed the senior leadership team (SLT) to solicit expenditures of a strategic nature, within their areas of responsibility. The BWG prioritized these items and proposed an incremental \$3.5M in spending (\$0.9M base and \$2.6M one-time expenditures) for this year. The SLT approved these additional expenses. R. Bailey clarified that the roles of the Academic Council Executive Committee and Academic Council in the budgeting process are consultative as opposed to decision-making.

There was clarification of how the expense of open positions is calculated. A comment was made on considering increasing the amount of investment in people and benefits. There was also a discussion regarding improving the link between what Faculties would like to achieve and budget planning. C. Elliott highlighted the space needs of the university. There was a discussion regarding the assumption of keeping the student to faculty ratio constant over the next 10 years and a suggestion was made to review the assumption. Space and staffing are issues – a balance must try to be achieved. Academic Council members expressed a desire for a more balanced approach to the allocation of the \$7.6M surplus instead of allocating it entirely to a new building. Council also discussed how priorities are identified and incorporated into the budget plan.

9. Committee Reports

9.1 Graduate Studies Committee

9.1.1 FOR APPROVAL

(a) Graduate Academic Calendar – Amendment to Examination Policy Regulation

L. Roy presented the proposed amendment that was circulated for consideration and discussed the rationale for the amendment. He responded to questions from Council members.

MOTION APPROVED *That Academic Council approve the changes to the Examinations regulation in the Graduate Academic Calendar as proposed in the attached documentation.*

9.2 Executive Committee

9.2.1 Academic Council Governance

(a) Nominations to Standing Committees

B. Dinwoodie presented the nominations to Academic Council for consideration.

MOTION
APPROVED

That pursuant to the recommendation of the Executive Committee, and in accordance with the Executive Committee's Terms of Reference, the Council hereby appoints the following student member to service on the Academic Council Executive Committee for a term of two years ending on August 30, 2019:

- Peter Asiedu-Boateng, graduate student

MOTION
APPROVED

That pursuant to the nomination received from the Faculty of Social Science and Humanities and the recommendation of the Executive Committee, and in accordance with the Graduate Studies Committee's Terms of Reference, the Council hereby appoints the following faculty member to serve on the Graduate Studies Committee for a term of three years ending on June 30, 2020:

- Leigh Harkins, Faculty of Social Science & Humanities

(b) Delegation of Authority to Associate Dean of Quality Enhancement

R. Bailey responded to questions from Council regarding the report circulated in advance regarding the delegation of authority approved by the Executive Committee. He confirmed that this is a temporary delegation until the review of the Curriculum and Program Review Committee's Terms of Reference has been completed.

(c) Faculty Council Membership Lists

B. Dinwoodie referred council to the Faculty Council membership lists included for information. Due to several questions raised by Council members, she will review the compliance of the membership lists as set out in the Faculty Councils' Terms of Reference and report back at the next meeting.

10. Conferral of Degrees for Fall 2017

R. Bailey presented the report in B. MacIsaac's absence. He advised that there were 332 graduates in the Fall 2017 term.

MOTION
APPROVED

That pursuant to Article 8.10 of UOIT's By-law No. 1, Academic Council hereby authorizes the granting of degrees to those students who have fulfilled all degree requirements at the end of the Fall term 2017 and who have been recommended for graduation by their Faculty.

11. University Governance

(a) By-Law Review Project

B. Dinwoodie confirmed that the updated By-laws were approved at the Board's October meeting. The goal is to present a By-law implementation plan at the January meeting.

(b) Approval Path for Academic Policy Instruments

N. O'Halloran provided an overview of the recommendation to update the approval path for the Policy Framework. He responded to questions from Council. He explained that the proposed approval path would streamline the process for implementing procedures and directives. There was extensive discussion of the proposal. Concern was expressed about no Council members serving on the underlying committees; accordingly, there is less connection between the Academic Council and its committees unlike the Board of Governors. Also, the committees are not composed of elected members. There was also a concern about Council's authority to overturn a decision of a lower body.

That Academic Council hereby tables the proposed approval paths for Academic Policy Instruments for further consideration.

12. Other Business

A suggestion was made to include a topic such as "The Arc of Jordan Peterson" on a future agenda for discussion.

13. Colleagues' Exchange

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

Upon a motion duly made, the Meeting terminated at 4:16 p.m.

Becky Dinwoodie, Secretary