



**ACADEMIC COUNCIL
MINUTES
MEETING OF JANUARY 15, 2013**

Present:

T. McTiernan (Chair)
R. Marceau
O. Afifi
N. Al-Sadi
A. Barari
G. Bereznai
J. Bradbury
B. Campbell
V. Choy
S. De Castell
M. DiGiuseppe
R. El-Emam

B. Gamble
M. Green
R. Hinch
H. Kishawy
G. Lindsay
S. McGovern
B. Muirhead
L. Nacke
M. Owen
D. Petrarca
F. Qureshi
D. Saucier

H. Scott
T. Sidhu
K. Smimou
E. Vogel
E. Waller
M. Wideman
C.Foy, Secretary

Guests:

B. Maclsaac
N. Molinaro
O. Petrie
J. Percival

Regrets:

P. Beatty
S. Alvi
K. Buccieri
P. Drayson
C. Elliott
J. Friedlan

R. Machrafi
P. Ritchie

1. CHAIR'S REMARKS

Dr. McTiernan welcomed Cheryl Foy and Susan McGovern.

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 20, 2012

The Minutes were approved as presented.

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

4. INQUIRIES AND COMMUNICATIONS

Dr. McTiernan noted that agenda item 6.1.3 would be discussed prior to item 6.1.1 to allow the Dean of Science to attend another meeting. Dr. McTiernan referred to the Board Synopsis noting that the Board is very interested in Academic Council and in having more information regarding the Council's activities. He advised that as processes are improved we are working toward also ensuring that Academic Council have more insight into the activities of the Board.

5. PROVOST'S REMARKS

Dr. Marceau deferred his remarks to later in the agenda.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

6.1 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Dr. McTiernan presented the report of the Committee which contained three items for action.

6.1.1 (formerly 6.1.3 on the agenda)

Report of the Task Force on the Transformation of Learning

Dr. McTiernan asked Dr. Green to present on the Report of the Task Force on the Transformation of Learning. Dr. Green thanked Olivia Petrie and Brad Maclsaac and the members of the Task Force commending it on its excellent work. Dr. Green explained the context for the Task Force. He advised that the need for and costs of space gave rise to this initiative to look at how we can save space and reallocate space costs to other things. He said that this discussion of space led to a discussion of how we teach and how we can change the way we teach. He noted that the Committee discussion has been wide-ranging and the Committee has looked at more on-line course as well as how can we improve space utilization and learning. He advised that the report was not final and instead it is a draft for community input and consultation. He noted that while the Committee has made recommendations, it welcomes comments. He underscored that this is not a way of saving money or reducing quality of education.

Dr. Sidhu noted that the Committee recommendations are not new ideas and that many of the ideas are good. He commented that the implementation of some of the ideas will require additional resources, that this implementation must go through the faculties, and finally that accreditation requirements must be considered as we transform education. Dr. Scott raised concerns about the tone of the document and the sufficiency of the consultation stating her view that these recommendations will affect the way that faculty does its work. Dr. Green and Dr. Bradbury discussed the issue of standardizing time units and Dr. Bradbury endorsed the work of the Committee.

There was a further discussion about the motion and the amended motion proposed by Dr. Green. Dr. McTiernan confirmed that the report is an interim report and proposed that the Committee continue its work and report back later on suggested timelines for initiatives. Dr. Campbell expressed his support for the motion as amended encouraging the committee to further engage the faculties prior to finalizing the document.

Upon motion brought by R. Marceau, and seconded by G. Lindsay, the amended motion set out below was carried.

MOTION *That Academic Council endorses the work of the Task Force on the Transformation of Learning and receive the attached interim report.*

6.1.2 Professor Emeritus/Emerita Policy

Dr. McTiernan referred to the Professor Emeritus/Emerita Policy and responded to a comment about the reasons for developing the policy as well as the process. There being no proposals to modify the motion or the policy and upon motion brought by R. Marceau and seconded by H. Kishawy, the following motion carried.

	<i>The new policy on Professor Emeritus/Emerita Professorships as set out in the attached is hereby approved.</i>
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6.1.3 (6.1.1 on the Agenda) Nominations to Academic Council Committees

Dr. McTiernan referred to the next item on the agenda. Upon motion made by R. Marceau and seconded by R. Hinch, the following motion carried.

	<i>That Academic Council that the following core faculty member be appointed as a member of the Graduate Studies Committee: Shahram Heydari, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Business and IT (Winter 2013 term only)</i>
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6.2 CURRICULUM AND PROGRAM REVIEW COMMITTEE

Dr. Bill Muirhead made introductory comments in respect of the six agenda items put forth by CPRC noting that the proposed changes are a distillation of 1100 pages of proposals which have come from a huge amount of work from the faculties. Dr. Muirhead commended the faculties for their tireless work to develop these curriculum changes.

6.2.1 BIT Game Dev – New Minors in Operation Management and Game Production

Upon motion made by L. Nacke and seconded by R. Hinch, the following motion carried:

MOTION CARRIED	<i>That Academic Council approve the new minors in Operation Management and Game Production in the Bachelor of Information Technology, Game Development and Entrepreneurship program.</i>
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6.2.2 Bachelor of Science in Computer Science – Removal of Specialization in Digital Forensics

Upon motion made by B. Muirhead and seconded by R. Hinch, the following motion carried:

MOTION CARRIED	<i>That Academic Council approve the removal of the Digital Forensics specialization in the Bachelor of Science in Computing Science program.</i>
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6.2.3 Bachelor of Science in Physics – Name change of Specialization from Energy and the Environment to Energy and Environmental Physics

Upon motion made by B. Muirhead and seconded by D. Saucier, the following motion carried:

MOTION CARRIED	<i>That Academic Council approve approve the renaming of the Bachelor of Science in Physics Specialization from Energy and the Environment to Energy and Environmental Physics.</i>
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6.2.4 Bachelor of Arts in Forensic Psychology – Renaming Psychology of Law Minor to Forensic Psychology and moving it from Legal Studies to Forensic Psychology

Upon motion made by B. Muirhead and seconded by D. Saucier, the following motion carried:

MOTION CARRIED	<i>That Academic Council approve the renaming of the Psychology of Law minor to Forensic Psychology and moving the minor from Legal Studies to Forensic Psychology</i>
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6.2.5 a. Bachelor of Arts in Communication – Removal of Specializations in Commerce and Marketing; Health Science; and Science and Technology

Upon motion made by B. Muirhead and seconded by R. Marceau, the following motion carried:

MOTION CARRIED	<i>That Academic Council approve the removal of the Commerce and Marketing, Health Science, and Science and Technology Specializations in the Bachelor of Arts in Communication program.</i>
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6.2.5 b. Bachelor of Arts in Communication – New Specialization in Globalization, Communication and Social Change

J. Bradbury commented that as a matter of process he would like to see more information when new specializations are introduced. Upon motion made by B. Muirhead and seconded by L. Nacke, the following motion carried:

MOTION CARRIED	<i>That Academic Council approve the new specialization in Globalization, Communication and Social Changes to the Bachelor of Arts in Communication program.</i>
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6.2.5 c. Bachelor of Arts in Communication – Name Change of Digital Media Specialization to Media, Culture and Society

Upon motion made by B. Muirhead and seconded by L. Nacke, the following motion carried:

MOTION CARRIED	<i>That Academic Council approve the name change of the specialization in Digital Media to Media Culture and Society within the Bachelor of Arts in Communication program.</i>
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6.2.6 BHSc in Med Laboratory Science – Amendment to Program Progression Requirements

Upon motion made by B. Muirhead and seconded by R. Hinch, the following motion carried:

MOTION CARRIED	<i>That Academic Council approve amendments to the program progression requirements for the Bachelor of Health Science in Medical Laboratory Science, Section 13.4.7 of the Undergraduate Calendar as presented.</i>
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6.3 GRADUATE STUDIES COMMITTEE

Brian Campbell presented the Graduate Studies recommendation for a new diploma in Nuclear Design Engineering. Upon motion made by B. Campbell and seconded by R. Hinch, the following motion carried:

MOTION CARRIED	<i>That Academic Council approve the new Graduate Diploma in Nuclear Design Engineering</i>
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7. Auditor General of Ontario

7.0 AUDITOR GENERAL OF ONTARIO – REPORT ON TEACHING QUALITY

Dr. McTiernan asked Dr. Marceau to speak. Dr. Marceau confirmed that the Report on Teaching Quality is available on line. He clarified that he would not be presenting the report but would rather provide an overview of the report. Dr. Marceau presented the timeline for the audit and key observations from the exit interview with the Auditor General's audit team. He advised that the audit team focused exclusively on the use of student course and instructor evaluations in: Term and yearly performance assessments, 3rd year reviews, tenure and promotion processes, and merit increases. He advised that the audit team also wanted to know the extent to which teaching evaluations were accessible to students, when student evaluations were made for maximum effectiveness and whether information was aggregated to extract trends. He described those areas not addressed by the audit team including key areas in student learning and UOIT's quality assurance systems. Dr. Marceau noted that a draft report was received on August 9, 2012 and that after much consideration, UOIT's comments focused on two ideas: 1) course evaluation does not equate to teaching quality, and; 2) course evaluation does not equate to performance assessment of individuals. Dr. Marceau confirmed that the audit team was receptive and that the University was successful in defending the quality of teaching at UOIT. The Council members engaged in a lively discussion. Dr. Marceau concluded the discussion by emphasizing the importance of a sector response.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

There being no other business and upon motion made by J. Bradbury and seconded by D. Saucier, the Meeting terminated at 4:23 p.m.

Cheryl Foy, Secretary