

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

MINUTES of MEETING of TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2019

DTB 524, 2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Present:

Steven Murphy (Chair)
Barari, Ahmad (*videoconference*)
Bliemel, Michael
Crawford, Greg
Davis, Owen
Desaulniers, Jean-Paul
Gaber, Hossam (*videoconference*)
Habibi, Sarah
Heydari, Shahram
Hogue, Jessica
Hossein Nejad, Mehdi
Jacobs, Les
Jones, Ferdinand
(*videoconference*)
Kishawy, Hossam
Lesage, Ann (*videoconference*)
Liscano, Ramiro
Livingston, Lori
Lloyd, Meghann
Mahmoud, Qusay
Marques, Olga

McCabe, Janet
Murphy, Bernadette
Naumkin, Fedor
(*videoconference*)
Nugent, Kimberly
(*videoconference*)
Petrie, Olivia
Pierce, Tess
Rinaldi, Jen
Roy, Langis
Scott, Hannah
Sidhu, Tarlochan
Stoett, Peter
Stokes, Joe
Tokuhiko, Akira
Williams, Alyssa
Woolridge, Lyndsay
Wu, Terry

Guests:

Dinwoodie,
Becky
Dupuis, Jackie
Foy, Cheryl
Hester, Krista
Lewis, Greg
MacIsaac, Brad
McCartney,
Kimberley
Molinaro,
Nichole
Pitcher, Cathy
Pu, Ken
Saeedi, Sehrish
Tufts, Emily

Regrets:

Davidson, Catherine
Jones, Ferdinand
Kay, Robin
Khalid, Osama
Mohany, Atef
Mostaghim, Amir
Partosoedarso, Elita
Rahnamayan, Shahryar
Shon, Phillip
Taylor, Noreen

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

2. Agenda

The Chair noted that G. Crawford must leave by 4:00 p.m. due to a scheduling conflict and requested that the Undergraduate Studies Committee Report be moved earlier in the agenda (before the budget presentation).

Upon a motion duly made by G. Crawford and seconded by P. Stoett, the Agenda was approved as amended.

3. Chair's Remarks

The Chair reported on his attendance at the annual Ontario Economic Summit (OES). In addition to hearing about trends in the post-secondary sector and other sectors, the OES provided opportunities to engage with the Premier and other members of the provincial government. The Chair also discussed his trips Scotland and Ireland, during which he had productive meetings with some of the university's partners. During his campus visits, he observed some great ways to enhance our sticky campus.

The Chair also discussed his recent speaking engagements and noted the tremendous amount of regional support for the university. The new brand continues to get more recognition. He commented on the success of the university's varsity teams and gave a special shout out to the women's basketball team, who lost by only one point on the weekend. The Chair reminded Council members of the annual Holiday Food Drive deadline of December 13 and encouraged them to contribute.

4. Minutes of the Meeting of October 22, 2019

Upon a motion duly made by H. Kishawy and seconded by B. Murphy, the minutes were approved as presented.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

(a) IQAP update

B. MacIsaac provided an update on the changes to the IQAP resulting from the discussion regarding the definition of academic weakness.

6. Inquiries and Communications

(a) COU Academic Colleague Update

A. King provided an update on the last COU Academic Colleagues meeting, a report of which was included in the meeting material. The goal of the COU is to move from

philosophical discussions of the future of the university to more tangible action plans for the next 5 to 10 years. Also, to avoid simply reacting to government changes in direction. There was a discussion regarding the change of language from “value added” due to concerns about the commodification of education. R. Liscano clarified that COU represents Ontario’s universities and not the provincial government.

7. Provost’s Remarks

The Provost thanked everyone for their contributions to recent events, including a partnership event with Ontario Shores and Open Educational Resources Day.

(a) Senior Academic Administrator Search Updates

The Provost updated Council on the status of the ongoing senior academic administrator searches. She advised that the interviews for the position of Director of EDI were completed and that an offer was imminent. The search committee for the Dean of Health Sciences would be conducting final interviews the following week. The Dean of FEAS search would also be kicking off next week and the search for the Dean of Education would be kicking off on December 12.

The Provost informed Council that there would be two town halls scheduled to discuss the proposed approach to the integrated plan. She also reminded faculty to complete the international service survey. She responded to questions from Council. She confirmed that there would be opportunities for community feedback during the FEAS search. She also confirmed that there would be open presentations for the role of Dean of Health Sciences. The community consultation process is fairly standard and the search committees rely on the guidance of the executive consultants.

(b) Formal Closure of the Bachelor of Engineering in Energy Systems Engineering Program

The Provost provided an overview of the report that was included in the meeting material. She emphasized that the program was not accredited. She also discussed the consultation process. Students have not been admitted to the program since Fall 2013. She responded to questions from Council. A member commented that during the consultation process, the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science (FEAS) expressed opposition to the closure. The Provost noted that the program closure proceeded under the relevant policy that was in place at the time the process began. The Provost addressed the letter received from the Dean of FEAS expressing the faculty’s concerns about the closure on the basis of process. She reviewed the timeline of the consultations, the content of the Dean’s letter and the response to the letter. She advised that the Dean of FEAS withdrew the letter on October 15, 2019. The Provost clarified that the program’s closure would not prevent FEAS from launching a similar program in the future. T. Sidhu added that they may very well see a similar program

launched. A comment was made about ensuring strong quality controls are in place throughout a program.

Upon a motion duly made by L. Livingston and seconded by A. Tokuhiro, pursuant to the recommendation of the Provost, Academic Council unanimously approved the closure of the Bachelor of Engineering in Energy Systems Engineering Program, effective immediately.

(c) Formal Closure of the Master of Business Administration (MBA) and the Master of Information Technology Security - Master of Business Administration (MITS-MBA) Programs

The Provost provided a brief overview of the proposal as set out in the report in the meeting material.

Upon a motion duly made by L. Livingston and seconded by M. Bliemel, pursuant to the recommendation of the Provost, Academic Council unanimously approved the closure of the Master of Business Administration (MBA) and the Master of Information Technology Security - Master of Business Administration (MITS-MBA) Programs, effective immediately.

(d) Formal Closure of the Bachelor of Applied Science – Nuclear Power Bridge Program and Bachelor of Applied Science – Nuclear Power Program* (M)

The Provost provided an overview of the proposal and confirmed that the program has had no students since 2004.

Upon a motion duly made by L. Livingston and seconded by A. Tokuhiro, pursuant to the recommendation of the Provost, Academic Council unanimously approved the closure of the Bachelor of Applied Science – Nuclear Power Bridge Program and Bachelor of Applied Science – Nuclear Power Program, effective immediately.

8. Undergraduate Studies Committee (USC)

(a) Faculty of Education – New Program Proposal - Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages

G. Crawford presented the proposal for consideration. It was noted that a few outdated links in the supplemental material refer to “UOIT” and must be updated.

Upon a motion duly made by G. Crawford and seconded by R. Kay, pursuant to the recommendation of the USC, Academic Council unanimously approved the Post-Baccalaureate Diploma in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages program and recommend approval to the Board of Governors.

(b) Faculty of Science – New Program Proposal - Bachelor of Science Honours in Integrated Mathematics and Computer Science

G. Crawford presented the proposal to Council. There was a discussion about the language in section 1(e) regarding the non-departmental structure of the Faculty of Science. A comment was made about the desire to see the introduction of programs that are unique. In response to a question regarding where the industrial projects are going to come from, G. Crawford clarified that they will be capstone type projects. A suggestion was made that additional consultation might be required. G. Crawford shared the feedback from the external reviewer on the strength of the program. The introduction of this program is viewed as a strategic direction for the Faculty of Science; while it is not going to be a big program, it could potentially be a flagship program.

K. Pu added that computer science undergrad students meet a wide range of industry demands. He also explained the difference between the proposed program and a specialization in data science. It was confirmed that there will be co-op opportunities for students in the program. P. Stoett remarked that in terms of interdisciplinary cooperation, FSSH communications could contribute to the program, as well. A member commented that the proposal reminded him of the Informatics Program brought to Council several years ago, which was not approved by the Quality Council.

Approved

Upon a motion duly made by G. Crawford and seconded by B. Murphy, pursuant to the recommendation of the USC, Academic Council approved the Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Integrated Mathematics and Computer Science and recommends approval to the Board of Governors.

2 members opposed and 2 members abstained.

(c) Minor Program Adjustment - Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science – Bachelor of Engineering and Bachelor of Engineering and Management in Mechanical Engineering

There were no questions.

(d) Minor Program Adjustment - Faculty of Science – Minor in Mathematics

There were no questions.

(G. Crawford left at 3:27 p.m.)

9. Budget Approach 2020-2021

B. MacIsaac reviewed the budget assumptions and discussed the goal of growing the university's international student enrolment. He also discussed the rollout of the SMA metrics and explained that the university can weight the metric categories. P. Onsiang reviewed the operational budget for 2020-2021. They responded to questions from Council. There was a discussion regarding the university assuming responsibility for its book store. L. Livingston discussed the forecasted budget deficit and emphasized the the focus on university morale. They are proposing to continue the strategic implementation outline in 2019-20 for the 2020-21 budget with the addition of reducing budgets for staff professional development (PD) and travel. This would not affect faculty/ staff contracts. The budget working group will continue to work to balance the budget. A member commented that the spending for staff PD is already quite limited and asked whether PD spending for staff would be reviewed as a priority when things turn around. The Provost confirmed our dedication to PD and that some spending could be redirected to PD offered on campus.

10. Policy Consultation:

(a) Use of University Automobile Driving Policy

J. Dupuis provided an overview of the proposed policy and its purpose. She responded to a question about the online consultation process. C. Foy advised that announcements about online policy consultations are made in the university's Weekly Report, as well as AC being informed about policies undergoing written consultation. There was a clarification about the risk assessment process for drivers under the age of 21. J. Dupuis also clarified that the Automobile Driving Policy and Rental Vehicle Directive are complementary.

(b) Technology Use Policy

C. Foy advised that there is an existing policy that is undergoing review and amendment. The changes to the policy will include an explicit acknowledgment that university technology may be used for limited and reasonable personal use. The current policy is very short and the updated on will have more detail as to what would constitute a misuse of resources. The amended policy will also address the expectation of privacy while using university resources. C. Foy reviewed the consultation pathway. The updated version of the policy will be presented to Academic Council in the new year for consultation.

There was a discussion about the expectation of privacy from third party service providers and Durham College (DC). C. Foy advised that the expectation of privacy from DC is addressed in the Service Level Agreement and is limited to a "need to know basis". There was also a discussion about when information would be released to police. C. Foy explained that a warrant would be required before releasing information to police.

Committee Reports

11. Graduate Studies Committee (GSC)

(a) Final Assessment Report Executive Summary for the Master Applied Science and Doctor of Philosophy in Nuclear Engineering Program Review

L. Roy presented the report for approval.

Upon a motion duly made by L. Roy and seconded by B. Murphy, pursuant to the recommendation of the GSC, Academic Council unanimously approved the Final Assessment Report Executive Summary for the Master Applied Science and Doctor of Philosophy in Nuclear Engineering Program Review, as presented.

(b) Graduate Academic Calendar Migration Project

(i) Graduate Faculty Appointments Policy & Graduation and Conferral of Degrees Policy

L. Roy provided an overview of the academic calendar migration project. He explained that no substantive changes were being proposed.

Upon a motion duly made by L. Roy and seconded by H. Kishawy, pursuant to the recommendation of the GSC, Academic Council unanimously approved the "Graduate Faculty Appointments policy" migration from the Graduate Academic Calendar to the Policy Library, as presented.

Upon a motion duly made by L. Roy and seconded by H. Kishawy, pursuant to the recommendation of the GSC, Academic Council unanimously approved the "Graduation and Conferral of Degrees policy" migration from the Graduate Academic Calendar to the Policy Library, as presented.

(c) Graduate Award

(i) Postdoctoral Fellow Excellence Award

(ii) Excellence in Service Award

(iii) Graduate Student Leadership Award

L. Roy discussed the new graduate awards and explained how the Graduate Student Leadership Award and the President's Leadership Award would be handled. He advised that there are approximately 29 postdocs on campus this year.

12. Research Board (Les Jacobs)

L. Jacobs delivered the Research Board report. He informed Council that a proposal would be coming forward for consideration at the January meeting. He also provided an update on the status of the research plan. Faculty would be receiving a survey in the

next few days. Also, they will be holding town halls to solicit feedback on the strategic research plan framework and content.

13. Executive Committee

(a) Faculty Council Membership Lists

B. Dinwoodie referred Council to the remaining Faculty Council membership lists approved by the Executive Committee.

14. Registrar's Office

(a) Conferral of Degrees – Fall 2019

J. Stokes answered questions from Council. He advised that the university currently has about 200 fall graduates and would need approximately 600 to consider having a fall convocation ceremony.

Upon a motion duly made by J. Stokes and seconded by H. Scott, pursuant to the recommendations of each Faculty and the Registrar, Academic Council unanimously confirmed the eligibility for graduation of those students who have fulfilled all degree requirements at the end of the Fall Term 2019 and recommends the conferral of degrees by the Chancellor.

15. Other Business

16. Termination

Upon a motion duly made by Q. Mahmoud and seconded by J. McCabe, the meeting terminated at 4:18 p.m.

Becky Dinwoodie, Secretary