

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND
SENATE

The regular meeting of Senate was held on March 8, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. in Room E5004, Education Building.

70. PRESENT

The President, Dr. E. Simpson, Dr. C. Loomis, Dr. H. Pike, Dr. M. Abrahams, Dr. A. Al-Krenawi, Mr. B. Belbin, Ms. L. Busby, Dr. A. Card, Mr. G. Collins, Dr. N. Golfman, Dr. J. Quaicoe, Dr. N. Roy, Dr. E. Waterman, Dean W. Zerbe, Dr. J. Brunton, Professor D. Carroll, Dr. J.J. Connor, Dr. S. Corbin-Dwyer, Dr. A. Fiech, Dr. D. Foster, Dr. K. Gallagher, Dr. S. Ghazala, Dr. G. George, Dr. R. Helleur, Dr. D. Kelly, Dr. S. Kocabiyik, Professor V. Kuester, Dr. P. Marino, Dr. D. McKay, Dr. W. Okshevsky, Dr. D. Peters, Mr. B. Riggs, Professor G. Riser, Dr. A. Rose, Dr. W. Schipper, Dr. P. Trnka, Dr. E. Warkentin, Dr. M. Wernerheim, Dr. P. Wilson, Mr. S. Despres, Mr. N. Hartmann, Mr. B. Evoy, Mr. G. Furey, Ms. A. Highway, Ms. A. Hannaford, Mr. R. Leamon, Ms. M. McCarthy, Mr. M. Walsh, Mr. C. Wass.

Attending by invitation:

Ms. Sheila Singleton, regarding agenda items 4A. and 4.B.

Dr. Doreen Neville, regarding agenda item 5.

71. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Mr. G. Blackwood, Dr. L. Hensman, Ms. K. Kennedy, Dr. J. McFetridge-Durdle, Dr. R. Shea, Dr. J. Connor, Dr. A. Muhammad, Ms. K. Keats.

72. MINUTES

It was moved by Dr. McKay, seconded by Dr. Schipper and carried that the Minutes of the regular meeting held on February 8, 2011 be taken as read and confirmed.

73. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Item 3. Appeals to Senate. Since the report of the Senate Committee on Academic Appeals has not yet been received, it was agreed that this item be removed from the agenda.

The agenda was then approved as amended.

CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Mr. Riggs, seconded by Dr. Pike, and carried that the consent agenda, comprising the item listed in 74 below, be approved as follows:

74. REPORT OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

74.1 Grenfell Campus

Page 472, 2010-2011 Calendar, under the heading 10.23.3 Senior Courses, amend the prerequisites for Psychology 4910 as follows:

“PR: At St. John’s, 30 credit hours in Psychology courses required in the majors program and admission to a Major in Psychology or Behavioural Neuroscience or, at Grenfell, 30 credit hours in Psychology courses including Psychology 3950”

Page 422, 2010-2011 Calendar, under the heading 8.10.2 Majors Courses, amend the prerequisites for Psychology 4910 as follows:

“PR: At St. John’s, 30 credit hours in Psychology courses required in the majors program and admission to a Major in Psychology or Behavioural Neuroscience or, at Grenfell, 30 credit hours in Psychology courses including Psychology 3950”

75. Correspondence from the Committee on Senate Elections

Ms. Sheila Singleton, Chair of the Committee on Senate Elections was in attendance to present the following two items.

75.1 Committee on Committees - Terms of Reference

A memorandum dated February 3, 2011, was received from the Chair of the Committee on Senate Elections regarding the terms of reference of the Committee on Committees.

At its February, 2010 meeting, Senate accepted the recommendation of the Executive Committee that the operations of the Committee on Committees be suspended and that its mandate (i.e. Terms of Reference) be transferred immediately and for a one year period to the Committee on Senate Elections, a Committee with a similar mandate which has operated successfully for many years.

It was moved by Mr. Collins, seconded by Dr. Foster, and carried to extend the above mandate by one month to March 8, 2011.

In this regard, in the past twelve months, Ms. Singleton reported that the Committee on Senate Elections has

- Conducted both Senate elections and calls for nominations and volunteers for Senate committees
- At the request of the President, conducted the call for nominations and elections for elected academic staff members for the Search Committee for the Vice-President (Academic) and pro-Vice Chancellor
- At the request of the Vice-President (Research), conducted the call for nominations for elected academic staff members for the Search Committee for the Associate Vice-President (Research)

Committee on Committees - Terms of Reference (cont'd)

- At the request of the Vice-President (Academic), pro tempore, conducted the call for nominations and elections for elected academic staff members for the Review Committee for the Associate Vice-President (Academic)
- Recommended the Membership and Terms of Reference for the Senate Committee on Academic Appeals, and conducted the call for nominations and volunteers
- Recommended the Membership and Terms of Reference for the ad hoc Committee on making Senate less Paper-Dependent, and conducted the call for nominations and volunteers

Having executed the duties of both the Committee on Senate Elections and the Committee on Committees for one year, Committee members agree that the duties are complementary and not an unreasonable workload. They are therefore recommending to Senate

- That the Committee on Committees be abolished
- That the Committee on Senate Elections be renamed the Senate Committee on Elections and Committees
- That the attached Membership and Terms of Reference be approved for the renamed Committee.

It was moved by Mr. Collins seconded by Dr. Schipper, and carried that the above three recommendations as well as the following membership and terms of reference for the Committee be approved:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS AND COMMITTEES

Membership

-
- Secretary of Senate (Chair)
 - Three undergraduate students, one appointed by the Memorial University Students' Union, one by the Grenfell Campus Student Union, and one by the Marine Institute Students' Union
 - One graduate student, appointed by the Graduate Students' Union
 - An appropriate number of academic staff members

Terms of Reference

- a) To make recommendations on the interpretation of the term "full-time members of the academic staff" in the approved procedures for the election of members of the academic staff to the Senate.
- b) To make recommendations for the selection of non-statutory ex-officio members of the Senate.
- c) To assume responsibility for the annual election of members of academic staff to the Senate.
- d) To recommend for Senate approval the structure and terms of reference of Senate standing committees, and any other committees as requested by Senate.

Committee on Committees - Terms of Reference (cont'd)

- e) Membership of Senate standing committees shall be recommended for the approval of Senate in accordance with the following procedures:
 - a. In January of each year, the Committee shall call for volunteers and nominations to fill vacancies on Senate standing committees. Nominations require the signatures of the nominee and one nominator, both of whom must be eligible electors in accordance with Senate regulations. Volunteers, who must also be eligible electors, need only submit their own signature to be eligible for nomination by the Committee.
 - b. The Committee shall forward its recommendations to Senate in time for its April meeting. The list of recommended committee members shall be accompanied by a statement of the number of candidates who volunteered or were nominated, including the number who are not being recommended by the Committee for appointment to a Senate committee.
 - c. In the case of this Committee, the names of all volunteers and nominations will be forwarded to Senate without recommendation on membership. Senate will select an appropriate slate.
 - d. If any committee slate proposed by the Committee is rejected at the April meeting, the Senate shall decide whether to hold an election or ask the Committee to revise its recommendations for presentation at the May meeting. If an election is held, nominations shall be accepted from the floor of Senate, provided that the nominee has given consent (in writing if the nominee is not present at the meeting).
- f) In nominating membership of Senate standing committees, the Committee shall observe the following guidelines:
 - a. Terms of office for academic staff members on standing committees shall commence on 1 September following the candidate's appointment unless the bylaws for individual committees specify a different date. Terms shall be for three years and shall be staggered so that one-third of the membership of each committee is replaced each year.
 - b. With the exception of those committee members serving on a committee by virtue of their office, normally, no academic staff member shall serve more than six consecutive years on any one Senate standing committee.
 - c. With the exception of those committee members serving on a committee by virtue of their office, normally, no academic staff member shall serve on more than two Senate standing committees at one time.
 - d. The Committee shall strive to nominate members for standing committees with an appropriate balance among constituencies, if such balance is not more precisely specified in the bylaws governing the membership of the committee. Efforts shall also be made to include both male and female members, faculty from both junior and senior ranks, and members of target groups in accordance with the university's equity policies. Unless exceptional circumstances prevent it,

Committee on Committees - Terms of Reference (cont'd)

at least one-third of each standing committee's membership shall be female and at least one-third shall be male.

- g) The Committee shall recommend membership of ad hoc committees and Senate representatives to other bodies as instructed from time to time by Senate.

75.2 GCSU Representation on Senate Committee

On behalf of the Senate Committee on Elections, Ms. Singleton presented the following nominations recommending their approval. It was moved by Mr. Evoy, seconded by Dr. Ghazala, and carried that the following nominations be approved:

Committee on Copyright

Amy Baker

Committee on Educational Technology

Ian Spencer

Committee on Honorary Degrees and Ceremonial

Robert Leamon

Committee on Senate Elections

Robert Leamon

Executive Committee of Senate

Brad Evoy

76. Teaching and Learning Framework

At the February 8, 2011, meeting of Senate, Dr. Simpson reported in the Chair's Remarks that a discussion paper on the Teaching and Learning Framework would be released later that month for consultation with the university community.

At today's meeting of Senate, Dr. Simpson noted that approximately 90 people attended the retreat for the release of the discussion paper which occurred a few days after the February Senate meeting.

Dr. Simpson further noted that following the release of the discussion paper, there were a series of consultations. Instead of discussing the discussion paper, people were asked the following questions: What was your best teaching or learning experience? What would it take for all students to have a similar good experience and for the faculty? Dr. Simpson noted that the responses to those questions from the various groups have been remarkably similar.

Dr. Simpson then invited Dr. Doreen Neville to say a few words about the process to date. Dr. Neville noted the following developments with respect to consultations, communications and writing the framework document:

Consultations:

- Underway; with 24 sessions completed to date
- 54 sessions scheduled to date (15-20 more anticipated, mostly external community stakeholders)

Teaching and Learning Framework (cont'd)

- Student surveys are going out through D2L shell this week
- Reports of consultation sessions are posted online at the VPA website
- President met with Working Group and Advisory Committee Chairs for 2 hours this week.

Communications:

- Dr. Simpson was interviewed for an article in the university newspaper
- Banners are hanging in key areas through the University
- This report to Senate about the project by Dr. Simpson and Dr. Neville.

Writing the Framework Document:

- 2 sessions scheduled to help “frame out” the Framework document with one half day on March 15 and full day on April 4, 2011
- Working Group and the Advisory Committees plus others invited
- Steering Committee members welcome to attend one or both.

Dr. Simpson thanked Dr. Neville for her informative summary of progress to date.

Dr. Simpson noted that the plan for the group is to develop a comprehensive framework and present it to Deans and Directors by April 15. If it passes there, the plan is to consult with Senate in late April and then come back to the May meeting of Senate for consideration of the revised document. He noted that there may be need for a further special meeting of Senate before the framework document is submitted to the Board of Regents for approval in July 2011.

77. Faculty of Business Administration Constitution

A copy of the Faculty of Business Administration Constitution of the Faculty Council was received proposing amendments to its Constitution.

It was moved by Dr. Zerbe, seconded by Dr. Foster, and carried that the proposed amendments to the Constitution of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Business Administration be approved for submission to the Board of Regents.

78. Items for Information

78.1 The Executive Committee of Senate denied the following appeal:

ECS 2010-11: #9 - Appeal against the decision of the Special Senate Subcommittee on Readmission Appeals and the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies for readmission to the Winter Semester 2011.

79. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR - QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM SENATORS

Dr. Kachanoski reported on his activities over the last month noting in particular activities relating to the appointment of Dr. Wardlaw as Vice-President (Academic) and Pro Vice-Chancellor, and Dr. Bluehardt as Vice-President (Grenfell Campus); meetings with the Teaching and Learning group; and internal as well as government meetings concerning the budget.

80. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

SECRETARY