

**MINUTES OF SENATE
ALGOMA UNIVERSITY
Second Regular Meeting of 2012-2013
September 7, 2012**

Humanities Division

L. Burnett, M. DiSanto, D. Innes, R. Isard, W. Johnston, T. O’Flanagan, A. Pinheiro, A. Ridout, C. Ross, R. Rutherford, H. Webkamigad
(regrets: W. Newbigging; on leave: A. Bondar, N. Boyle)

Social Sciences

G. Broad, R. Cameron, J. Clarke, N. Cruickshank, K. DeLuca, J. Hermida, H. Hornstein, K. Kadiyala, P. Matthews, N. Shaw, L. Turner, A. Vaillancourt, D. Woodman
(regrets: S. Gruner, D. Jackson)

Sciences

L. Bloomfield, D. Brodbeck, P. Dupuis, Y. Feng, J. Foote, M. Garcia-Ruiz, E. James, I. Molina, W. Osei, C. Reed-Elder, B. Schamp, S. Xu
(regrets: P. Antunes, D. Keough; on leave: N. Cameron)

Other Members

T. Fabiano, K. Hernden, R. Linklater, D. Marasco, R. Myers, A. Perlini, J. Reid, D. Schantz, L. Williams
(absent: E. Benton-Benai, K. Drew, H. Mclure, A. Oluwatosin, R. Totime)

Guests

M. Atkin, M. Graydon, M. Holt, J. Mantello, J. Syrette, L. Savory-Gordon, N. Verrelli, O. Whetung

The Speaker called the meeting of Senate to order at 1:02pm.

Dupuis also welcomed new senators and faculty to the September meeting of Senate.

12.09.01 APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved (Brodbeck/O’Flanagan): that Senate approve the agenda for the September meeting of Senate.

It was agreed that the strategic mandate submission for MTCU be discussed under 12.09.03.04 Business Arising (for action or information)

Motion carried.

12.09.02 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES from the meeting of June 1, 2012

Moved (Williams/Reed-Elder): that Senate approve the minutes from the meeting of June 1, 2012.

Vaillancourt noted a change to the minutes indicating that what she stated at the June meeting of Senate was not correct regarding courses being reviewed for Aboriginal content. The Secretary indicated the change to the minutes would be made.

Motion carried.

12.09.03 BUSINESS ARISING (for action or information)
12.09.03.01 Senate Membership (2012-2013)

The Speaker stated the Senate membership was attached to the Senate package as approved at the June meeting of Senate. He noted that any changes to the list should be forwarded to the Secretary of Senate.

12.09.03.02 Senate Committee Membership (2012-2013)

The Speaker stated the Senate committee membership was attached to the Senate package as approved at the June meeting of Senate. He noted that any changes to the list should be forwarded to the Secretary of Senate.

12.09.03.03 Senate Executive – Honourary Degree

The Speaker informed Senate the deadline to submit nominations for the Honourary degree, Senate Award and Distinguished Faculty Award (investiture June 8, 2013) is Friday, November 16, 2012. Nominations should be submitted to the Speaker of Senate, Dr. Paul Dupuis and the Secretary of Senate, David Marasco.

12.09.03.04 Strategic Mandate Submission

The President informed Senate of MTCU's initiative on the Strategic Mandate Statements that all post-secondary institutions are required to submit by September 30, 2012.

Moved (Reed-Elder/Schamp): that Senate approve the Strategic Mandate in principle as submitted.

Myers continued with details regarding TCU's objectives indicating we need to describe what Algoma University is all about and how an institution with our focus proposes to achieve the Ministry's objectives. Providing for a broad strategic objective statement will give the basis of negotiations with the province. The three priority objectives are not necessarily the three most important institutional initiatives.

Matthews questioned how the submission aligns with the current strategic plan. He asked what the process was for faculty and departmental inclusion.

Vaillancourt questioned the timeline for the submission and was concerned about the process adding that it is difficult to discuss at Senate with the current 'Speaker's rules'.

Hernden commented that for the last year Senate has grilled the work of its committees. Senate either needs to allow its committees to do their work or else simply decide everything in Senate. If there is an issue of not trusting the committees, then this should be said.

Myers reiterated that the deadline for the submission was September 30th.

Motion carried.

12.09.04 DECISION ITEMS (for action or information)

12.09.04.01 Office of the Registrar – Registrarial Dates and Deadlines 2013 – 2014

Moved (Marasco/Williams): that Senate approve the registrarial dates and deadlines for 2013 – 2014 as submitted.

The Registrar spoke to the calendar dates and noted any significant changes.

Motion carried.

12.09.04.02 Academic Regulations and Petitions – Exceptional Transfer Agreement

Moved (Marasco/Brodbeck): that Senate approve the exceptional transfer agreement between Algoma University and Sault College as submitted.

Marasco spoke to the agreement adding that the agreement is aligned with the Ministry's initiative of enhanced pathways for college graduates.

Broad also supported the agreement for college graduates of the Peace and Conflict, Social Service Worker and the Native Social Service Worker articulating to CESD and Sociology degree programming.

Woodman objected indicating this agreement was never proposed to the department.

Marasco added that this agreement was approved at the Senate Committee on Academic Regulations and Petitions in which the member of the Social Science division is also a member of the Sociology department.

Moved (Reed-Elder/Brodbeck): that the motion be tabled until further consultation.

Motion carried.

12.09.04.03 Scholarship Committee – International Scholarships

Moved (Marasco/Hermida): that Senate approve the international scholarship initiative as submitted.

Marasco spoke to the motion adding the Scholarship committee has discussed the international scholarship initiative. He added that the scholarship provides an opportunity to attract quality students as well as adding student diversity in BA programs that currently have no international students.

Myers added his support to the motion seeking a creative method to advance merit-based scholarships in an effort to increase enrolment to academic programs that have low subscriptions.

Matthews stated that a college in Ontario had a scholarship program similar to the one under discussion at Senate. He stated the college had been fined several million dollars by the Ministry because its program brought international tuition below the total amount of domestic tuition plus provincial per capita operating grants.

Ross asked why French was excluded from the list of eligible programs.

Marasco stated this was an oversight adding that all BA programs are included in the initiative.

Motion carried.

12.09.05 INFORMATION ITEMS (reports of committees)

Reed-Elder reported that the Aboriginal Peoples Council is currently discussing a change to their terms of reference and reviewing their strategic plan. Other topics of discussion include the COU initiative of Aboriginal self-identification. Representatives from COU held a forum on campus in August which she attended.

12.09.06 STANDING REPORTS

12.09.06.01 Board of Governors Representative Report

It was reported that the Board has not met since the last meeting of Senate – the next Board meeting is scheduled for September 20, 2012.

12.09.06.02 President's Report

The President reported on the following:

- Official move-in date of the new residence is September 15
- The Office of the Registrar/Student Accounts was renovated during August.
- The faculty lounge is also under renovation
- An induction ceremony for new students will be held on Friday, September 14 at the Robert Bondar Tent Pavilion

Woodman asked about fall enrolment.

Myers stated that current registrations indicate an increase in student registration as compared to fall 2011. Fall registration continues until Friday, September 14.

Vaillancourt asked about recruitment and retention efforts at the university and if data could be shared.

Schantz stated that the data had not been compiled.

12.09.06.03 Dean's Report

The Dean submitted a written report.

Perlini addressed the issue of the Indigenous Learning Committee recently approved at the June 2012 meeting of Senate as a sub-committee of the Curriculum Committee. The committee is tasked with providing counsel on indigenous course content prior to course and program approval. He added that there were some concerns by departments with respect to the two-tier process.

Senate was made aware of a recommendation contained within a program-specific (ANIS) External Program Review for the creation of an AU-SKG working group made up of academic members of both groups to translate the Covenant principles into academic plans and programs. The Senate acknowledged the value of the external reviewer's recommendation, as well as the important functions of the APC.

It was noted that the new process has the potential of undermining an existing process, for example, APC and its mandate to advise on indigenous curriculum.

Reed-Elder added that there was no divisional consultation before the motion went before Senate for approval in June, despite the motion having broad implications and that the new committee differs significantly from the former ILC in that it advises CURCOM rather than APPCOM. APC is mandated to encourage aboriginal awareness in the curriculum. She added the two-tier process will discourage faculty to enhance aboriginal content.

The Speaker asked Senate for a motion to extend Senate.

Moved (Vaillancourt/Fabiano): that Senate be extended for 15 minutes.

Motion carried.

Perlini added that the Curriculum Committee would consult on indigenous course content in the curriculum for all new courses/programs with the ILC. Recognizing the mutual autonomy of both the Indigenous communities and the University, the mechanism outlined in the ILC terms of reference recommends a collaborative process of curriculum development that meets our special mission to cultivate cross-cultural learning amongst our communities.

Ross said she wished to echo Reed-Elder's comments and added that the APC understands the landscape and the former ILC had a more positive role of advocating aboriginal content.

Perlini stated that the committee should be assembled as mandated by Senate at the June 2012 meeting.

12.09.07 DISCUSSION AND QUESTION PERIOD

None.

12.09.08 OTHER BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

None.

12.09.09 ADJOURNMENT

Moved (Brodbeck/DiSanto): that Senate adjourn.

Motion carried. (Senate adjourned at 3:15pm)