

Minutes

Present:

Heidi Abramyk
David Atkinson
Kathleen Bigsby
Brian Carr
Dana Cserepes
Wade Deisman (Chair)
Rob Fleming
Aysha Haq
Judith McGillivray
Robin Russell

Regrets:

Arvinder Bubber
Bob Davis
Harj Dhaliwal
Stephanie Howes
Minni Kalra
Paul Tyndall
Robert Wood

University Community Members

Maggie Fung
Sandi Klassen
Takashi Sato

Recorder: Elizabeth Merritt, University Secretariat

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 am.

2. Confirmation of Agenda

The agenda was confirmed by consensus subject to the following addition:

- Item 6.d, Institutional Change forums

3. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of March 26, 2010 were approved by consensus subject to the following amendment:

- Item 4, a. iii: Action: "...The discussion will also include the possibility of a semester of 13 weeks of instruction plus a 2 week examination period."
- Item 4. b.i: The Chair has met with the Faculties of Academic and Career Advancement, Business, and Social Sciences to discuss the establishment of Faculty Council Academic Planning and Priorities sub-committees.

4. Chair's Report

a. Correspondence

The Chair received correspondence from the Faculty of Science and Horticulture regarding creation of a separate Faculty of Horticulture. The committee discussed the relationship between the Board of Governors and Senate with respect to the policy under development regarding creation and discontinuance of programs and faculties. Although the policy is not fully formed, the proponents of the new faculty are welcome at the May 28 meeting. Discussion is also ongoing regarding the possible amalgamation of the Faculties of Humanities and Social Sciences into a new Faculty of Arts.

b. Progress Report:

Wade Deisman has made a presentation to the Faculty of Humanities. He noted that the committee should consider developing a timeline for asking faculties to establish their academic priorities.

c. Policy Formation Status &

d. Graduate Studies Status

At a previous meeting, the committee had discussed hiring a consultant to examine the issue of developing graduate programs. After discussion, it was agreed that the more urgent matter is the polytechnic planning process. Once this is resolved, the committee will return to the discussion of graduate programming.

Moved by Robin Russell; seconded by Kathleen Bigsby:

THAT the committee invite those who are interested in post-baccalaureate programming to convene preliminary discussions about the development of graduate programs.

MOTION CARRIED

5. Old Business

a. Extended Reading Break

At a previous Senate meeting a notice of motion regarding an extended reading break of 5 days was referred to the Senate Governance Committee. A number of considerations about this proposal need to be addressed including:

- the impact on certain programs
- the length of the academic year
- the proposed pilot program for reduced instructional hours
- Measurement model and evaluation of the pilot program
- academic schedule for 2011/12

The pilot matrix program will be put on the agenda of the May 28 meeting.

**Moved by Kathleen Bigsby; seconded by Robin Russell:
THAT the discussion regarding lengthening the reading break from 3 days to 5 days and shortening the instructional semester length from 14 weeks to 13 weeks be considered in July 2011.**

MOTION CARRIED

b. Proposal from the School of Horticulture

The committee discussed a proposal to create a new Faculty of Horticulture. The proponents will be invited to the June meeting.

Action

- A subcommittee (Robin Russell, Dana Cserepes, Rob Fleming) will put together draft questions regarding the proposal to bring to the May meeting.

c. Virtual Space – Microsoft SharePoint

Maggie Fung provided the committee with information about Microsoft SharePoint, a software application that will soon be available to everyone at Kwantlen. IET has a number of pilot projects up and running and is looking at the use of SharePoint as tool for collaboration and inter-connection at the university.

6. New Business

a. Polytechnic Planning Process

The President provided context to the changes in this relationship since Kwantlen was granted university status. The committee discussed the relationship between the Board of Governors and the Senate in the context of bi-cameral governance and the need to develop an institutional vision and strategic plan that incorporates the polytechnic mandate. The Board of Governors passed a motion at its recent Governance Committee meeting that the President develop a vision statement with appropriate consultation with all sectors of the university. The vision statement is to be returned to the Board at the end of August 2010. Further discussion followed about the composition of a task force to work on the vision statement, including the need to provide historical and environmental context to the definition of polytechnic in the development of the vision statement. It was agreed that technology needs to be a key component of a polytechnic institution. Meg Goodine can provide help in this area.

Kathleen Bigsby distributed information to the committee about polytechnic institutions in Canada, the United States and Europe

b. Polytechnic Planning Exercise

This exercise was deferred to the next meeting in May.

7. Other Business

a. Workload – Governance Discussion

Wade Deisman asked the group if there was an opportunity for communication before Senate regarding the amount of work required to represent Senate and its various committees as well as faculty councils.

Wade distributed institutional change forms and asked for input from the committee.

Other items were deferred in the interests of time.

8. Announcements

On May 25, a conference on Engaged Learning is being held at Kwantlen. Email Wade if you are interested in attending.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:15pm.