

Senate Standing Committee on Academic Planning & Priorities

Friday, February 17, 2012 9:00am - 12:00pm Surrey Boardroom

Minutes

Present:

Jennifer Au Bob Davis

Wade Deisman (Chair)

Tru Freeman
Aysha Haq
Karen Inglis
George Verghese
Robert Wood

Regrets:

Kathleen Bigsby Arvinder Bubber Christine Crowe Jane Fee Marc Kampschuur John McKendry May Velasco Non-Voting:

Dana Cserepes Jason Dyer Anne Lavack

Guests:

Josephine Chan

Recorder: Elizabeth Merritt, University Secretariat

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:06am.

2. Confirmation of Agenda

The agenda was confirmed by consensus with the addition of an item on Canada Research Chairs (6b)

3. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of January 27, 2012 were approved by consensus.

4. Report from Chair

The Chair distributed a written report outlining several themes:

- Kwantlen as a young university
- Faculty amalgamation governance issues
- Scenario planning
- Institutional academic priority setting
- Program prioritization criteria
- Work plan for 2012

Patrick Gilligan-Hackett provided a talk on February 13 about the University Act visà-vis the roles of Senate and the Board of Governors. The talk was videocast and will be available for the university community to review.

An article from *University Affairs* regarding the value of university senates was distributed.

As of March 31, 2012 the Faculties of Humanities and Social Sciences will cease to exist and a new Faculty will be created as of April 1, 2012. As a result, the 4 senator and 2 dean positions from these Faculties will be eliminated. The new faculty will have to choose 2 new senators. The new dean will represent the new faculty on Senate.

Scenario Planning is intended to be linked with the institution's strategic planning and will be put on the agenda for the Board/Senate Task Force on Bicameral Governance.

The Chair has consulted with the Faculties of Academic & Career Advancement, Design and Social Sciences regarding program prioritization criteria.

5. Old Business

a. Kwantlen English Threshold Report (KEPT)

The Kwantlen English Threshold Report was completed in May 2011 and an action committee was convened in September to turn the plan into action. The committee's recommendations will be circulated to the faculty councils and recommendations are anticipated in the fall of 2012.

b. Refreshing Academic Priorities

The Provost has asked the deans to engage in a discussion about academic priorities. The results of this will be sent to the Provost and the Chair of SSCAPP in a few months. The academic priorities need to be aligned with the strategic plan.

6. New Business

a. Program Discontinuance: BSc in Integrated Pest Management

The committee considered the discontinuance of the BSC in Integrated Pest Management program. Discussion about the program has taken place at SSCC. The program, although approved some years ago, never had the marketing, resources, and curriculum to succeed. Program elements have now been incorporated into other degrees including the Plant Health: Bachelor of Horticulture Science Major. Students have been placed in other programs or have received a settlement.

Moved by Jennifer Au; seconded by Robert Wood:

THAT SSCAPP recommends to Senate the discontinuance of the BSC in Integrated Pest Management program.

MOTION CARRIED

b. Governing Research & Scholarship at Kwantlen

SSCAPP needs to start a discussion about research at Kwantlen. Jason Dyer, Exec.Dir. Research and Scholarship, indicated that the university needs to define what it means by a research chair in terms of the University Act and the roles of SSCAPP and Senate. The University Act requires that research be applied at a teaching university.

He updated the committee on Canada Research Chairs and current opportunities at Kwantlen. The Deans have been asked to prioritize preferred areas of focus for recruiting one or more external Canada Research Chairs.

Action:

A sub-group consisting of Wade Deisman, George Verghese, Dana Cserepes, Jason Dyer, Robert Wood and Anne Lavack will provide information to the committee regarding the structure of research governance at other universities.

c. Spring/Summer Work Plan

The committee needs to be considering the following issues over the next few months:

- Refreshing academic priorities
- Role of APP in Strategic Planning, Board/Senate Task Force on Bicameral Governance, and the Board of Governors
- Development of policy regarding dissolution of academic units
- Lack of policy regarding research institutes: Jason Dyer is developing one
- Review of mandate and membership
- Accountability Report to committee in May

d. Election of Interim Chair

Deferred until after February 27 Senate meeting.

e. Biology Degree

The committee discussed the funding of the degree in Biology. The Provost is meeting with the Faculty on February 17. The limited new funding available for university programming is earmarked either for new programs or those with no funding or not enough funding. The Faculty of Science and Horticulture is not getting new funding for Biology because the program is not unique. The Faculty can fund the degree with current resources if it makes adjustments.

7. Scenario Based Planning Workshop

The Chair briefly discussed scenario planning but the exercise was deferred to a future meeting.

8. The meeting adjourned at 11:55am.