

Senate Academic Planning Task Force

Senate Notice of Motion

24 October 2011

The Process

The Principal proposed a vision for Queen's University in (January 2010) and the Academic Writing Team's (August 2010) explored and expanded on a number of possibilities.

The Queen's community of students, faculty and staff responded extensively to both these documents.

The Academic Planning Task Force (APTF) was struck by the Senate "to develop an Academic Plan for Queen's University." (Senate Motion 10-72).

During its initial meetings in January 2011, the APTF laid out a work plan and started to develop its core concepts as the Four Pillars of the Academy. The initial texts, unit and individual responses, and the literature were reviewed and discussed. A series of community consultations were held during February, March and early April, that included reports and sessions at Senate on January 20, February 17, March 24, and an interim report to the Senate on April 28.

To ensure a transparent and accessible process, activities were published on the APTF interactive website and the Queen's community was invited to review and comment on any aspect as the development of the Academic Plan unfolded.

Additional meetings with groups and individuals continued during May and June. At the same time the individual APTF members undertook to author the full versions of the Four Pillars of the Plan. Authors circulated their drafts to the other members who returned comments and suggestions that resulted in revised texts. This process continued during July, August and into early September.

On September 27 the Senate received and discussed documentation, also presented on the website, that included an Introduction, Four Pillars, Recommendations, and Appendices.

In early October, the APTF met four times to discuss the feedback received at the Senate, via email and the website, and in personal and group meetings. The APTF members reaffirmed their commitment to the Four Pillars as the core of the plan; however, some revisions were made in response to concerns expressed at the 27 September Senate meeting and on the APTF website.

The list of eighty-nine separate recommendations has been removed; however, each Pillar continues to contain recommendations.

The Queen's University Academic Plan is supported by the Four Pillars and the Appendices that include the guiding documents, the list of consultations and the references.

Conclusion

The APTF presents the results of its work to the Senate as a Notice of Motion on October 24 for a vote

Given the importance of the Academic Plan, the APTF invites senators to review the material carefully before the October 24 Senate meeting at which it is prepared to answer any questions of clarification.

Before November 22, the APTF may make minor revisions for clarification and amplification and will correct any errors of fact.