



Minutes

MEETING OF THE SENATE

A meeting of the Senate was held on Thursday, February 26, 2009 in Robert Sutherland Hall, Room 202 at 3:30 p.m.

Present: Principal Williams in the Chair **Senators:** Archibald, Baird, Barnett, Boag, Brien, Brinkworth, Brock,

a number of policies and administrative structures. In terms of their work as instructors, their direct responsibility is to the head of their unit and through the head to the dean of their faculty. However, their function is also closely related to their standing as graduate students and therefore in the event of a dispute, the Society of Graduate and Professional Students (SGPS) would represent Teaching Fellows.

Senator P. Welsh noted that there is confusion amongst faculty and graduate students regarding the status of Teaching Fellows and when certain policies apply. He stated that to date, the SGPS has not been involved in discussing issues such as teaching conditions for Teaching Fellows with the Administration. Senator Welsh asked if the Office of the Vice-Principal (Academic) in conjunction with the School of Graduate Studies could develop some guidelines on how principle and theory could be implemented in practice. Senator Deane responded that there is precedent to have compensation for Teaching Fellows parallel with what is laid out in the Collective Agreement and agreed to work on developing policy in this area.

III REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

1. Academic Development (Appendix D, page 12)

a) Enrolment Plan 2009/2010 – 2010/2011

Moved by Senator Deane

seconded by Senator Oosthuizen

that Senate approve the Enrolment Plan for 2009/2010 – 2010/2011 as set out in the attached document, and that Senate empower the University Registrar to make any adjustments as are necessary and appropriate to specific program goals and opportunities to ensure that the total projected enrolment for 2009/2010 is achieved.

Carried 09-13

Senator Deane noted that enrolment planning is an annual exercise that is driven by the University Registrar in cooperation with the faculty deans. It was noted that the planning process for the first time was also informed by the Principal's Enrolment Task Force.

J-A. Brady, University Registrar, stated that the objective of the Enrolment Plan is to strike a balance between preserving the quality of Queen's student body and at the same time optimizing potential fiscal revenue. It was noted that the University was currently in the middle of the admission cycle and there is every indication that Queen's will be able to achieve its enrolment targets at both the undergraduate and graduate level.

In response to a question from Senator J. Welsh, J-A. Brady stated that the capacity of ancillary services is taken into account during the enrolment exercise. Particular attention is given to Residence. The University Registrar assured Senate that a holistic approach is taken and that the deans and senior administrators understand the impact that growing enrolment has on support services and space. Senator Deakin, Associate Vice-Principal and Dean, School of Graduate Studies and Research, added that the Ontario Council of Graduate Studies (OCGS) requires remuneration of space for graduate students during its periodic review of existing programs and approval of new programs.

Senator J. Welsh asked what efforts were being made to identify and eliminate potential barriers to admission for graduate students and what programs are in place to encourage graduate students to complete their programs. Senator Deakin responded that the School of Graduate Studies and Research has invested significant resources to the recruitment of graduate students and continues to look for ways to improve in this area.

In response to a follow-up question by Senator J. Welsh on statistical data relating to graduate student applications, Senator Deakin responded that there were limitations on the types of questions/information that the University is allowed to collect. Queen's does however systemically gather data on applications, offers of admissions and acceptances.

Senator Brinkworth asked about the logic behind growing the Concurrent Education/Arts enrolment over the Concurrent Education/Science enrolment since there is a greater demand for

science teachers across Canada. J.-A. Brady responded that the enrolment plan for Concurrent Education is a collaborative effort between the Faculty of Education and the Faculty of Arts and Science. The demand for science teachers is strong and Queen's has chosen to sustain enrolment in this area. On the Arts side, the demand for Concurrent Education/Arts is very high for incoming students and the University continues to strive for a balance between the numbers of spaces available and the interests of the applicant pool. Another consideration is the capacity in the Faculty of Arts and Science which currently is at full capacity in the science stream. In response to a follow-up question, the University Registrar stated that the Concurrent Education/School of Computing program still existed and that those enrolment numbers were blended with the Concurrent Education/Science data since there were very few students currently in the program.

In light of the recommendation in the *Strategic Plan* to maintain undergraduate full-time enrolment at the 2005-2006 levels, Senator Koichopolos noted the steady increase in enrolment over the past three years. He asked why the University has deviated from its original plan and if there are plans to return to the 2005-2006 levels. The University Registrar responded that the University continues to strive for optimal balance. As mentioned by Principal Williams in the update to the community, there are pressures from the Ontario government to grow which impacts on a number of corollary issues including Queen's share of the funding system. The Deans work diligently to determine maximum number of students that their particular faculty can admit without negatively affecting the quality of a Queen's education. The University Registrar noted that the *Strategic Plan* is a living document that was adopted in December 2006 during a very different global economic situation.

- b) Governance Structure of the School of Graduate Studies and Research
Moved by Senator Deane
seconded by Senator Deakin
that Senate endorse the reform of the governance structure of the School of Graduate
Studies and Research and, in particular, recommendations A, B and C.**

Carried 09-14

Senator Deane noted that the proposal in front of Senate was a recommendation to restructure the administrative and governance structures of the School of Graduate Studies and Research. The review began in 2005 and was influenced by the Ontario government's "Reaching Higher" program which sought to substantially grow graduate education in the province. Historically the School of Graduate Studies and Research was established as a complement to the existing core faculties/schools whose main focus is undergraduate education. It became evident that in order to successfully grow Queen's graduate student body and effectively plan for the future, the faculty deans needed to be involved. The Senate Committee on Academic Development (SCAD) established a subcommittee to make recommendations in this area. The goal is to integrate graduate education and planning within each of the academic faculties. The implementation date for the proposed restructuring is July 1, 2009.

Senator Deane reported that the proposed changes are far reaching and hinge on three propositions: the creation of a Graduate Studies Executive Council, replacing the existing divisional structure with a faculty-based Graduate Council and renaming the School from the School of Graduate Studies and Research to the School of Graduate Studies. Senator Deane noted that the word "Research" in the original title is a relic from the past when the University's research enterprise was housed in the School.

Senator Deane reported that to avoid confusion regarding the membership of the Graduate Studies Executive Council, the word "**Registrar**" would be replaced with "**a senior staff representative from the School of Graduate Studies.**"

Senator Deane continued his introduction by reporting that three other issues surfaced during the review: interdisciplinary graduate programs and where they should reside, the administrative

status of post-doctoral fellows. SCAD is recommending that all three of these issues be attended

Senator Remenda, Chair of the Senate Residence Committee, drew Senate's attention to the annual report and highlighted the work of the various subcommittees and ad hoc committees. In response to a question from Senator Koichopolos regarding the new organizational structure of Residences, Senator Laker, Associate Vice-Principal and Dean of Student Affairs, stated that there will be clarification of language around the name of the third pillar "Intergroup Programs and Community Development" which will continue with its broad mandate regardless of the cancellation of the "Intergroup Dialogue Program" which was only a small project within a much larger program. Senator Laker expressed his regret about the negative attention the Intergroup Dialogue Program brought to the University. It was noted that the new structure of Residence had been introduced in a budget neutral fashion. There were no further questions or comments.

4. Scholarships and Student Aid (Appendix G, page 46)

c) New, Revised and Discontinued Awards February 2008-January 2009

Senator Archibald, Chair of the Senate Committee on Scholarships and Student Aid, drew attention to the annual report on new, revised and discontinued awards. It was noted that the Report represented \$3.5M in student assistance including 53 new awards, 25 revised awards and 9 awards that were discontinued due to lack of funds. There were no questions or comments.