



ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Minutes

Meeting of October 16, 2007

Present:

R. Bordessa, Chair	E. Muller-Cheng
G. Bereznai	F. Naumkin
C. Byrne	D. Palmer
B. Campbell	B. Schell
I. Dincer	W. Smith
B. Goodman	R. Tinawi
J. Grant	N. Trivedi
M. Green	S. Van Nuland
J. Greenlaw	O. Petrie, Secretary
M. Greenley	
R. Levin	Guests:
R. Marceau	K. Spearing
B. Muirhead	

1. CHAIR'S REMARKS

President Bordessa read for information a statement on proposed boycott of Israeli universities, as follows:

I wish to add my voice the growing coterie of Canadian University leaders who condemn the move by the British University and College Union to place a freeze on ties with Israeli universities. Like our sister institutions, the free exchange of ideas and research is our most deeply treasured priority. We value and are enriched by the contributions of scholars from across the globe who serve to advance new knowledge and discovery. We denounce any attempt to circumscribe or otherwise exclude individuals from participating in the academic dialogue, regardless of where they study.

At UOIT, we remain resolute in defending the autonomy of universities and the preservation of academic freedom, and will stand in opposition to any action that disregards these fundamental values.

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 18, 2007

The minutes were approved as presented.

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was none.

4. INQUIRIES AND COMMUNICATIONS

4.1 A Summary of Actions of the Board of Governors at its September 2007 meeting was received for information.

5. PROVOST'S REMARKS

Richard Marceau noted that Olivia Petrie has been appointed to serve as Secretary of Academic Council.

He also noted for information that the deadline for nominations for Honorary Degrees is October 31, 2007, and that procedures, nomination forms and assistance are available through the Secretary.

Dr. Marceau also reported that the strategic planning process is well underway and a framework has recently been circulated to the Faculties to guide in their development of detailed action plans.

Further, Dr. Marceau noted that he has received a letter from the Faculty of Energy Systems and Nuclear Science concerning their wish to elevate the School to Faculty level status. He noted that discussions on this matter are ongoing and that he will report on their progress at an upcoming meeting.

In response to a query, President Bordessa noted that the Board of Governors has asked him to initiate a process of consultation and discussion within the local and broader university community on the question of whether the University's name should be changed. The outcome of these discussions will be reported back to the Board in the spring term.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

6.1 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Ron Bordessa presented the report of the Executive Committee which contained one item for action and two items for information:

1. Academic Council Committee Nominations

MOTION
CARRIED

That the following individuals be appointed to standing committees of Academic Council:

Academic Appeals Committee

François Desjardins, Associate Professor, Faculty of Education (to serve as chair)

Graduate Studies Committee

Robert Weaver, Professor, Faculty of Health Sciences

Two items were also reported for information: the approval of Faculty Council membership lists for 2007-08; and the election results of student representatives to Academic Council and its committees.

6.2 CURRICULUM AND PROGRAM REVIEW COMMITTEE

Bill Muirhead presented the report of the Committee which contained two items for information: modifications to documentation required for new programs; and changes to courses and program requirements in the Bachelor of Information Technology program.

6.3 ADMISSIONS AND SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Richard Levin presented the report of the Committee which contained two items for information: a new scholarship sponsored by the Institute for Electrical and Electronics Engineers; and procedures for admissions appeals decisions.

7. RESEARCH EXCELLENCE AWARDS

A report on the Research Excellence Award Selection Process, announcing the two recipients of the inaugural award, Walter DeKeseredy and Greg Naterer, was received for information.

In response to queries about the monetary value associated with this award relative to other university-wide awards and whether the selection committee might include graduate student representation, the Chair undertook to consult with the Associate Provost Research on these matters.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

Richard Levin noted that UOIT was included for the first time in the Globe and Mail's University Report Card 2007. He observed that the University achieved very good rankings overall and thanked everyone for their contributions to this important accomplishment.

On the consent of Academic Council, Richard Levin presented the following motion:

1. Degree Conferral Motion

MOTION CARRIED *That Academic Council authorize the granting of degrees to those students who have fulfilled all degree program requirements at the end of the 2007 summer semester and who have been recommended for graduation by their Faculty.*

Olivia Petrie, Secretary