



**ACADEMIC COUNCIL
Executive Committee**

Report to Academic Council
at its meeting of February 23, 2010

For Action

1. Academic Council and Executive Committee Nominations

The Executive Committee recommends:

That Academic Council approve the appointment of the following individuals to serve as members of Academic Council:

a) Academic Council

John Friedlan, Associate Professor, Faculty of Business and Information Technology (for a three year term to June 30, 2012)

Kamal Smimou, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Business and Information Technology (as a temporary replacement for one term)

b) Academic Council Executive Committee

Ron Hinch, Professor, Faculty of Criminology, Justice and Policy Studies

Rationale:

Dr. Bill Goodman, a teaching staff representative on Academic Council for the Faculty of Business and Information Technology and member of the Academic Council Executive Committee, has regretfully resigned from Academic Council as he has a teaching conflict during the meeting times of these bodies for a second term. To fill the vacancies, Dr. Friedlan has been nominated for the position following a call for nominations from among the Business and IT faculty, and Dr. Hinch has graciously agreed to take Dr. Goodman's place on the Executive Committee.

Further, the attendance policy for Academic Council allows for the temporary replacement of its members for a period of not more than one term (fall or winter) if a member is unable to attend meetings due to a teaching or other scheduling conflict. Dr. Raymond Cox, a teaching staff representative on Academic Council for the Faculty of Business and Information Technology, has made such a request as he is teaching a class at the time that Academic Council meets. Dr. Smimou has agreed to stand for nomination to temporarily replace Dr. Cox on Academic Council.

2. Academic Council Regular Meeting Time

The Executive Committee recommends:

That Academic Council approve a change to its terms of reference beginning in the 2010-11 academic year as follows:

Regular Meeting Date and Time

Academic Council normally meets at ~~1:00~~ 2:30 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month, except in July and August. Where the regular meeting date falls during the university's Reading Week, the meeting will be held on the second or fourth Tuesday as determined by the Chair.

Rationale:

As part of its ongoing efforts to ensure the broadest participation by the academic community in Academic Council, the Executive Committee is recommending that the regular meeting time of this body be changed to 2:30-4:30 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month. At present, the 1:00-3:00 meeting time straddles two teaching blocks and invariably at least one and as many as three members each term have been unable to attend all or part of the meeting as they were scheduled to teach during this time. In June 2009, the Executive Committee began to address this situation by introducing a provision that would allow a member of Academic Council to arrange for a temporary replacement for period of not more than one term. The proposed change provides further redress as it would serve to narrow the potential for scheduling conflicts to one teaching block from 2:00-5:00 p.m. The start time of 2:30 p.m. provides a half-hour at the beginning and end of the teaching block to allow time for members to travel between campuses if necessary.

As an additional measure, each March the Secretary of Academic Council will provide central scheduling with the names of all current members of Academic Council so that the Tuesday 2:00-5:00 teaching block will be held free for them. While the Committee is aware of the need to avoid placing any additional constraint on the central scheduling software, it considers participation on this central governing body to merit the extra measure. The Committee also explored the possibility of blocking off a common meeting time across the university, but found that we do not yet have the space or capacity to realize this.

The additional provision regarding the scheduling of meetings in February serves to regularize the Committee's current practice of re-scheduling this meeting so that it does not fall during the university's Reading Week, which normally takes place in the third week.