

28 April 2006

Dear Member of Senate:

I advise you that a meeting of the Senate of Acadia University will occur **at 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, 10 May 2006** in Room 132 of the Beveridge Arts Centre. The AGENDA follows:

- 1) Minutes of the Meeting of 13 March 2006
- 2) Announcements and Communications
- 3) Approval of List of Graduates for the Convocation of May 2006 (**056-60-CON**)
- 4) Business Arising from the Minutes
 - a) By-Laws Committee - Report on Proposed Restructuring of Research & Graduate Studies Committee (**056-56-LAW**) *
- 5) New Business
 - a) Nominating Committee - Nomination Report for 2006-2007 Senate Vacancies (**056-57-NOM**) *
 - b) 2005-2006 Annual Reports from Senate Committees (**056-58-REP**)
 - i) Research Ethics Board *
 - ii) Nominating *
 - iii) Honorary Degrees *
 - iv) Research & Graduate Studies *
 - c) Research & Graduate Studies - Proposed Interdisciplinary MA in Social and Political Thought (**056-59-RGS**) *
- 6) Other Business

Yours sincerely,

Rosemary Jotcham
Registrar and Secretary of Senate

Items Carried Over/Tabled

- *Ad hoc* Committee on Students with Learning Disabilities Report

By-laws Committee
May 10, 2006

Notice of Motion
On Proposed Restructuring of Research & Graduate Studies Committee

As instructed by Senators at the March Senate meeting, the By-laws Committee moves that the following modifications to the Proposed Restructuring of Senate R&GS Committee (056-53-RGS) be discussed by Senators:

[Note: Upon consultation with the Acadia Divinity College and the Acting Dean of Graduate Studies, the modifications have been struck to include representation from the Faculty of Theology on the Research Committee and the Graduate Studies Committee.

In respect to the Graduate Studies Committee, the Faculty of Theology committee members and governance of the Faculty of Theology are excluded from Section VIII. (t) ii. (d) -To establish policies governing the allocation of University funds to graduate students.]

MOTION

TO REMOVE Section VIII. (f)

VIII. (f) RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES COMMITTEE

- i. Membership of the Research and Graduate Studies Committee shall be elected in accordance with Article VI. 1. and shall be as follows:

The Dean of Research and Graduate Studies, Chair
Two members of the Faculty of Arts
Two members of the Faculty of Professional Studies
Two members of the Faculty of Pure and Applied Science
Three graduate students (one from each Faculty) appointed by the Graduate Students' Association
One honours student appointed by the Students' Representative Council

- ii. The duties of the Research and Graduate Studies Committee shall be:

-- to encourage the development of faculty research programs;

-- to oversee the awarding of the University's research funds;

-- to formulate general policy in matters regarding all programs beyond the Bachelor's degree at Acadia University, and to recommend such policy to Senate;

- to recommend minimum standards governing the admission of students into graduate programs and minimum residence and academic requirements

for graduate degrees;

- to consider submissions from departments and schools, inform Faculty, and make recommendations to Senate on the establishment of new graduate programs or courses and the modification or termination of existing ones. The addition of new graduate programs and the expansion of existing ones will be undertaken only when required library materials and other facilities are available. Graduate programs will be maintained only in those areas where there is outstanding expertise among Faculty and sufficient student demand to justify a program;
- to monitor the quality of graduate programs and deal with graduate curricula and course content as determined by the University Curriculum Committee;
- to make recommendations to Senate on what graduate programs should be reviewed, the review criteria, and the implementation of Senate decisions regarding recommendations from review committees;
- to review all graduate study applications and ensure conformity with Calendar or general regulations;
- to be responsible for the resolution of any problems pertaining to graduate examinations which have not been resolved by the schools or departments;
- to hear and deal with requests from graduate students and from departments and schools regarding graduate work;
- to allocate the funds available for graduate teaching fellowships (for which a student performs specific duties), and to disburse graduate scholarships and prizes awarded on the basis of demonstrated ability or other criteria (for which no duties are required);
- to ensure that all degree requirements have been fulfilled;
- to recommend to Faculty and Senate the granting of graduate degrees, diplomas and certificates to students who have satisfactorily completed program requirements;
- to consider any other matters of policy relating to research and graduate studies, and any matters referred to it by the Faculty, Vice-President (Academic), Senate, or Board of Governors.

TO ADD a new Section VIII (f)

VIII. (f) RESEARCH COMMITTEE

i. The membership of the Research Committee shall be as follows:

One Faculty member of the Faculty of Arts, elected in accordance with Article VI.1

One Faculty member the Faculty of Professional Studies, elected in accordance with Article VI.1

One Faculty member of the Faculty of Pure and Applied Science, elected in accordance with Article VI.1

One Faculty member of the Faculty of Theology, elected in accordance with Article VI.1

One Canada Research Chair elected by the Canada Research Chairs

One graduate student elected by the Acadia University Graduate Student Association

One undergraduate student engaged in research and appointed by the ASU

One Director of a research centre chosen by the Directors

One professional librarian elected by members of the University Community holding appointments as professional librarians

The Dean of Research and Graduate Studies.

ii. The duties of Research Committee shall be:

- a. To develop policies and programs that encourage and support faculty, graduate and undergraduate research at Acadia University.
- b. To establish and oversee the adjudication process for Acadia University's internal research funds, excluding the University Research Fund (Article 25.55).
- c. To establish, propose to Senate for approval and subsequently to implement a consultative process for regular reviews of the Acadia University Strategic Research Plan.
- d. To encourage and facilitate interaction among Acadia's researchers, community members, community organizations, government and industry in order to expand and enhance research collaboration and dissemination.
- e. To consider and respond to research matters referred to it by graduate students, faculty members, Departments, Schools, Faculties, the VP Academic or by the Senate of Acadia University.
- f. To receive the annual reports of Research Centres and the Research Ethics Board, for submission to Senate.
- g. To consider any other matters of policy relating to research, and any other matters referred to it by Faculty, Vice-president (Academic), Senate, or Board of Governors.

TO ADD Section VIII (t)

VIII. (t) GRADUATE STUDIES COMMITTEE

i. The membership of the Graduate Studies Committee shall be as follows:

The graduate coordinator of each graduate program within each of the four Faculties
One graduate student from each of the Faculties of Arts, Professional Studies and Pure and Applied Science elected by the Graduate Student Association
One graduate student from the Faculty of Theology elected by the Acadia Divinity College Student Association
The Dean of Research and Graduate Studies.

ii. The duties of the Graduate Studies Committee shall be

- a. To develop policy on all matters regarding programs beyond the Bachelor's degree at Acadia University including but not limited to admission and graduation requirements and to recommend such policy to Senate.
- b. To consider graduate curriculum submissions from Departments, Schools and Faculties and to make recommendations to Senate. Such submissions include changes in existing programs, courses and degree requirements and proposals for new courses, degree requirements and programs.
- c. To provide assistance to the Academic Program Review Committee in the review of graduate programs and by addressing recommendations resulting from those reviews.
- d. To establish policies governing the allocation of University funds to graduate students (Faculty of Theology committee members and governance of Faculty of Theology excluded).
- e. To establish and oversee the internal adjudication process for Acadia's applicants to external scholarship funds.
- f. To identify needs and provide for educational opportunities for graduate students beyond specific degree programs.
- g. To make recommendations to the Research Committee to enhance research programs and opportunities for graduate students.
- h. To consider and respond to graduate program matters referred to it by graduate students, faculty members, Departments, Schools, Faculties, the VP Academic or by the Senate of Acadia University.
- i. To recommend to Faculty and Senate the granting of graduate degrees, diplomas and certificates to students who have satisfactorily completed program requirements.
- j. To consider any other matters of policy relating to graduate studies, and any other matters referred to it by Faculty, Vice-president (Academic), Senate, or Board of Governors.

TO REMOVE the current Section VIII. (i)

VIII. (i) HONOURS COMMITTEE

i. The membership of the Honours Committee shall be elected in accordance with Article VI. 1. and shall be as follows:

Two members of the Faculty of Arts
One member of the Faculty of Professional Studies
Three members of the Faculty of Pure and Applied Science
The Registrar or delegate
The Dean of Research and Graduate Studies or delegate

N.B. Faculty members of the Honours Committee shall be elected from departments and schools which offer honours programs.

ii. The duties of the Honours Committee shall be:

- to consider all honours applications which are not routinely accepted by the Registrar's Office;
- to prepare and update regulations regarding Honours theses;
- to examine and approve or reject Honours theses;
- to make recommendations to Senate for modification of the regulations respecting Honours programs;
- to consider such other matters as Senate may from time to time entrust to the Committee.

TO ADD a revised Section VIII (i)

VIII. (i) HONOURS COMMITTEE

i. The membership of the Honours Studies Committee shall be as follows:

Two Faculty members of the Faculty of Arts, elected in accordance with Article VI.1
Two Faculty members of the Faculty of Pure and Applied Science, elected in accordance with Article VI.1
Two Faculty members of the Faculty of Professional Studies, elected in accordance with Article VI.1
One Honours student from each of the Faculties of Arts, Pure and Applied Science, and Professional Studies. These students are to be designated by the Students Representative Council.
The Dean of Research and Graduate Studies.

- ii. The duties of the Honours Committee shall be
 - a. To review policies governing Honours theses regularly and to recommend changes to Senate as necessary.
 - b. To establish and oversee the process of evaluation for Honours theses.
 - c. To establish and oversee the internal adjudication process for Acadia's in-course Honours student applicants to external scholarship funds, summer research awards.
 - d. To establish and oversee the adjudication process for Acadia University's awards to honours students.
 - e. To make recommendations to the Research Committee to enhance research programs and opportunities for undergraduate students.
 - f. To consider Honours Program applications not routinely accepted by the Registrar (i.e. special cases, appeals).
 - g. To consider and respond to Honours program matters referred to it by undergraduate students, faculty members, Departments, Schools, Faculties, the VP Academic or by the Senate of Acadia University.
 - h. To make recommendations to Senate for modification of the regulations respecting Honours programs.
 - i. To consider such other matters as Senate may from time to time entrust to the Committee.
 - j. To identify needs and provide for educational opportunities for honours students beyond specific degree programs.

Respectfully submitted:
Patricia Corkum, Chair
Andrew Mitchell
Anne Quéma

Nominating Committee Report
April 10, 2006

The Nominating Committee places in nomination the following names for the positions listed:

- i.* Chair of Senate (1 year term): Ian Wilks
- ii.* Deputy-Chair of Senate (1 year term): Pat Corkum
- iii.* Layperson (3 year term): Don Julien (Executive Director of the Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq)
- iv.* Executive Committee Members (1 year term)
 - Faculty of Arts: Paul Abela
 - Faculty of Pure and applied Science: Soren Bundrop-Nielsen
 - Faculty of Professional Studies: Darren Kruisselbrink
- v.* By-Laws committee member from the Faculty of Arts (1 year replacement): Herb Wylie
- vi.* By-Laws committee member from the Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences (3 year term): Svetlana Barkanova
- vii.* Faculty Elections Officer (1 year term): Ying Zhang

Respectfully submitted:

Darlene Brodeur (Chair)
Jan Buley
Gail Dinter-Gottlieb
Susan Markham-Starr
Jan Marontate
Anne Quéma
Holger Teismann

**Nominating Committee
Annual Report to Senate
May 10, 2006**

Committee Members:

Darlene Brodeur , Jan Buley, Susan Markham-Starr, Jan Marontate, Anne Quéma,
Holger Teismann

The committee met several times over the year to prepare nominations for various positions as requested by Senate.

Nominations were brought forward to Senate for the following positions:

February 2006

Senate Ad hoc Committee to Examine Current Policies and Practices Regarding Students with Disabilities that Affect Learning

Senator from each Faculty:

- Tony Thomson, Faculty of Arts
- Susan Markham-Starr, Faculty of Professional Studies
- Svetlana Barkanova, Faculty of Pure and Applied Science

Students involved in the Learning Disability Panel

- Tara Loughnane
- Megan Pearson

Student Senator - Josh Gould

Representative from the School of Education - Debra Day

May 2006

Various Committees and Senate Positions

- Chair of Senate (1 year term): Ian Wilks
- Deputy-Chair of Senate (1 year term): Pat Corkum
- Layperson (3 year term): Don Julien (Executive Director of the Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq)
- Executive Committee Members (1 year term):
 - o Faculty of Arts: Paul Abela
 - o Faculty of Pure and applied Science: Soren Bundrop-Nielsen
 - o Faculty of Professional Studies: Darren Kruisselbrink
- By-Laws committee member from the Faculty of Arts (1 year replacement): Herb Wyle
- By-Laws committee member from the Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences (3 year term): Svetlana Barkanova
- Faculty Elections Officer (1 year term): Ying Zhang

Respectfully submitted,
Darlene Brodeur, Chair
Senate Nominating Committee

HONORARY DEGREES COMMITTEE

Annual Report for 2005-2006

May 2006

Committee Members 2005-2006

Dr. Gail Dinter-Gottlieb (Chair)
Dr. Robert Wilson (Acadia Divinity College)
Dr. John Colton, Professional Studies Representative until Dec. 31, 2005
Prof. Roxanne Seaman, Professional Studies Representative effective Jan. 1, 2006
Dr. Sharon Roscoe, Faculty of Science Representative
Dr. Gregory Pyrcz, Faculty of Arts Representative
Mr. Peter Eirikson, Acadia Student's Union Representative
Mr. Andrew Smith, Board of Governors
Ms. Alecia Tucker, Recording Secretary

Purpose of Committee:

- (1) Solicit and receive suggestions for honorary degrees from the University community and to make recommendations to the Senate for the award of honorary degrees;
- (2) To receive, through the President, nominations for the appointment of "Professores Emeriti" and to make recommendations thereon to Senate.

Meetings 2005-2006

November 10, 2005
January 12, 2006

Agenda of Meetings:

1. Minutes of previous meetings or results of Senate votes on nominees
2. Consideration of Nominees
3. Review and update criteria and procedures for nomination of Professores Emeriti
4. Adjournment

Summary of Committee Activities:

The Committee forwarded to Senate for a vote by secret ballot a total of 10 Honorary Degrees and 4 Professor Emeritus nominations of which nine honorary degrees and four Professor Emeritus received approval by Senate. The Committee forwarded to Senate for a vote a revised document to clarify the procedures and criteria for nominations of Professores Emeritus.

Respectfully submitted by the Chair,

ORIGINAL SIGNED

Gail Dinter-Gottlieb
President and Vice-Chancellor
Chair, Honorary Degrees Committee

Senate Committee on Research and Graduate Studies
2005-2006 Annual Report

Meetings:

The Committee met four times (October 18, December 12, January 25, April 5) during 2005-2006 academic year.

Summary of Activities:

1. The committee reviewed proposals for changes in graduate course offerings and programs. Two new graduate programs received committee approval: MSc (Applied Geomatics) and MA (Social and Political thought).
2. Following Senates approval of the 'Guidelines for the Appointment of Adjunct Professors', the committee recommended that the designation 'Honorary Research Associate' be discontinued.
3. The committee provided advice to Research and Graduate Studies on the distribution of conference funding for graduate students.
4. The committee received the proposed revisions to the Strategic Research Plan from the Vice President Academic and recommended the revised plan with amendments to Senate.
5. The committee established the goals of the Acadia Graduate Awards program as (1) to attract excellent graduate students, (2) to provide support to students thus enabling them to immerse themselves in graduate study and (3) to provide research support for faculty. Subsequently, the distribution of Acadia Graduate Awards to our eleven graduate programs was approved.
6. The committee developed and recommended to Senate that its committees responsible for research, graduate studies and honours studies be re-structured.
7. Subcommittees adjudicated and subsequently forwarded selected Acadia student applications to NSERC and SSHRC scholarship programs.

Respectfully submitted,

E. Wendy Bedingfield, Chair, on behalf of

Andrew Biro (Faculty of Arts)

Jan Marontate (Faculty of Arts)

David MacKinnon (Faculty of Professional Studies)

John Colton (Faculty of Professional Studies, May – Dec, 2005)

Glyn Bissix (Faculty of Professional Studies, (Jan – present, 2006)

Michael Domaratzki (Faculty of Science)

Richard Karsten (Faculty of Science)

Karen Blair (Acadia Graduate Student Association)

Jennifer Hamilton (Acadia Graduate Student Association)

Richard VanBeek (Acadia Graduate Student Association)

Madeline Fowler (Honours student)

ACADEMIC PROGRAM REVIEW COMMITTEE

Annual Report to Senate for 2005-2006

May 10, 2006

Committee Members 2005-2006

- Dr. Ralph Nilson, Vice-President (Academic) (Chair)
- Ms. Rosemary Jotcham, Registrar (Secretary)
- Dr. Linda Lusby
- Dr. Heather Higgins
- Dr. Heather Kitchin
- Mr. Daniel Macintosh

Purpose of Committee:

- (3) To determine policy and procedures for conducting program reviews;
- (4) To determine annually which academic units are to be reviewed;
- (5) To select the members of each unit review committee;
- (6) To oversee the process of review in each case;
- (7) To make recommendations to Senate on the basis of the findings of each unit review committee
- (8) To deal with such matters as Senate may from time to time entrust to the Committee.

On June 13, 2005, the academic senate of Acadia unanimously approved a new program review process for academic units. The purpose of a unit review is “to sustain, and wherever possible, enhance the quality of each academic unit’s activities, and through each unit the University as a whole.” The process outlines the information to be included in a unit self-study, and the timeline for the review process. Below is the general timeline for academic reviews:

<i>MONTH</i>	<i>ACTIVITY</i>
May	APRC to inform Senate as to which units are to be reviewed in the coming year.
September	Self study initiated; review team nominees submitted to VP-Academic
January	Self study received by APCR
February	Terms of reference determined and Review team established, documentation sent to review team
March/April	Review takes place (2 to 3 days)
June	Report received by APCR and transmitted to unit
October	Unit response received by APCR
December	Implementation plan finalized within the faculty
Five years later	Follow up to review and preparation of priorities and directions for next four years

The APRC met on February 21, 2006 to discuss upcoming reviews, suggest Review Team members, and the overall process. (I also consulted with the Academic Deans and University Librarian concerning the reviews.) It was determined that the School of Music was to be reviewed March 27/28, 2006, and the Department of Chemistry on April 5/6, 2006.

As per the review process, each unit worked with the Office of the Vice-President Academic to determine the review schedule and finalize the review team. The following individuals were selected for each review team:

School of Music Review Team:

External: Dr. Fred Hall (Chair), McMaster University
Dr. Glen Carruthers, Brandon University
Internal: Dr. Susan Markham-Starr, Faculty of Professional Studies
Dr. Greg Pyrcz, Faculty of Arts

Department of Chemistry Review Team:

External: Dr. Robert Haines (Chair), University of Prince Edward Island
Dr. Anna Ritcey, University of Laval
Internal: Dr. Anne Quema, Faculty of Arts
Dr. Robert Raeside, Faculty of Science

Each review team met with faculty, students, staff, and other members of the community. Members of the university community also provided confidential written briefs to the review teams. Each team will submit a report by June 2006 which will be reviewed by the individual unit and the APRC. As stated in the review process, the report will normally be considered a public document and at the completion of the review process will be available to members of Senate along with the unit's response. The Department of Psychology and the School of Business are also in the initial stages of academic program reviews.

The 2005/06 academic year was the first for the new academic review process. It has already been a valuable exercise which will provide important information for understanding and supporting academic units. I anticipate another active year in 2006/07.

Respectfully submitted by the Chair,

ORIGINAL SIGNED

Ralph Nilson
Vice-President (Academic)
Chair, Academic Program Review Committee

ADMISSION & ACADEMIC STANDING COMMITTEE (Policy)

Annual Report to Senate for 2005-2006

May 10, 2006

Committee Members 2005-2006

Dr. Ralph Nilson (Chair)
Ms. Rosemary Jotcham (Secretary)
Dr. George Iwama
Dr. Bruce Matthews
Dr. Bill McLeod
Ms. Kim Rose
Dr. Andrea Schwenke Wylie
Dr. Barry Moody
Dr. Heather Hemming
Dr. Brenda Robertson
Dr. Elizabeth Johnston
Dr. Jianan Peng
Dr. Christopher Killacky
Dr. Gail Noel
Mr. Peter Eirikson
Ms. Jenny White

Purpose of Committee:

- (9) To interpret and to apply the conditions of admissions and academic standing as outlined in the University Calendar and to make recommendations to Senate with respect to its policy as it relates to admissions, failures, and academic regulations.

On October 11, 2005, the Academic Senate of Acadia passed the following motion:

“Senate directs the Senate Admissions and Academic Standing Committee (Policy) to invite the office of Enrollment Management to engage in ongoing dialogue and study of enrolment matters and report annually to Senate about those investigations. The AASC(P) shall determine the sequence and scope of their investigations but should be guided as to topics and immediacy by input solicited from Senators in the form of questions, issues, comments and concerns about enrolment, recruitment, admission and retention strategies, policies, operating practices and related factors. “

Following this direction from Senate, the AASCP met three times during the 2005/06 academic year concerning enrolment matters. Ms. Shawna Garrett, Director of Enrolment Management, was invited to present to the committee concerning Acadia’s key enrolment guidelines. Ms. Garrett articulated eight key guidelines for enrolment, which included:

1. Target enrolment: 3600-3800 undergraduate students.
2. Goal to become increasingly selective in its admission of students. Current goal is to maintain enrolment without compromising admission screening average of 70%.

3. Program enrolment goals determined by a planning document developed by the Academic Sector Planning Committee in 2001. The target enrolments are reviewed by the VP Academic and Deans and are adjusted as requested.
4. Acadia aspires to be increasingly Nova Scotian.
5. Acadia aspires to increase the number of students from the US (primarily New England).
6. In addition to Nova Scotia, key Canadian student recruitment areas are New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Ontario, Alberta, and British Columbia. While Acadia continues to have a presence in Ontario, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and PEI, recruitment efforts are aimed at maintaining (rather than increasing) the number of students from these provinces. We look for growth in Nova Scotia, Alberta and British Columbia.
7. The goal of international recruitment is to have 15% of the student body from countries other than Canada and the US. It is desirable to have 60 countries represented and the international student population spread evenly as possible from those countries. Major emphasis has been placed on Bermuda and the Caribbean last year and will be again this year.
8. The number of incoming transfer students in any one year should be equal to the number of students lost through attrition.

Dr. Matt Calfin, Deans of Students, presented a draft policy for Involuntary Administrative Student Withdrawal, where committee members were able to make suggestions and better understand the draft policy. The work on this policy continues.

The committee also discussed issues surrounding the International Baccalaureate (IB) program being introduced in Nova Scotia high schools and how Acadia can accommodate advanced standing for IB students without compromising academic standards. There will be significant growth in IB programming in Nova Scotia and there is considerable competition among Universities in recruiting these highly qualified students.

Enrolment Issues

Information provided to the AASCP indicates significant enrolment challenges facing Acadia University. Full-time undergraduate enrolment has declined 11.3% over the past two years, and currently sits at its lowest level in six years. If these trends continue the Acadia student population will decline below 3100 full-time undergraduate students in five years, which would be 14% below the current targeted undergraduate student population. Meanwhile, the international student population has more than doubled over the past five years and now represents over 18% of the student population (compared to 9% in 2000/01). While this increase has helped to offset some of this enrolment shortfall, it has also increased support demands for administrative and academic units.

As discussed at the most recent meeting of the AASCP, enrolment concerns represent both a challenge and an opportunity for the university. The new Strategic Plan for Acadia has

articulated a bold vision for the university community. Part of the implementation process for the Plan will be a broader discussion of the appropriate size of the student body, who those students are, and where those students come from. Determining these factors will best enable the Acadia community to deliver a high-quality “personalized education for a complex world.” This will be an important discussion for the AASCP, and the Academic Senate, as these enrolment measures can effect (or are influenced by) admissions policy or academic regulations.

The AASCP will be producing a fuller report to Senate on these enrolment issues at a later date.

Respectfully submitted by the Chair,

ORIGINAL SIGNED

Ralph Nilson
Vice-President (Academic)
Chair, Admission and Academic Standing Committee (Policy)

ADMISSION & ACADEMIC STANDING COMMITTEE (Appeals)

Annual Report for 2005-2006

May 10, 2006

Committee Members 2005-2006

Dr. Ralph Nilson (Chair)
Ms. Rosemary Jotcham (Secretary)
Dr. Michael Dennis
Dr. G. Corbeil
Prof. Patrick Lahey
Dr. Nancy Clarke
Dr. Jeff Hooper
Dr. Robert Pitter
Mr. Peter Eirikson

Purpose of Committee:

- (10) To hear appeals against academic regulations or the interpretation of such regulations that have not been resolved at the Departmental, School, or Faculty level or through the Registrar's Office.

Business:

The committee heard 40 appeals since the last report to Senate in May 2005.

There were 35 appeals against academic dismissal. Twenty-six of these students were permitted to return to Acadia without spending a year on dismissal; 21 of these were required to participate in the Academic Support Program.

There were 2 successful appeals against the residency requirement. In each case the students asked to do either their 3rd or final year elsewhere. In both cases, they had taken the rest of their studies at Acadia.

Two students appealed the regulation that requires degree requirements to be met within 7 years of beginning their program; both were successful.

One student appealed the requirement to complete 6 hours of credit in a language other than English for a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) degree. This appeal was not granted.

The Committee continues to track the success of students who are continued on appeal to assess the effectiveness of the interventions that are provided through the Academic Support Program.

Respectfully submitted by the Chair,

ORIGINAL SIGNED

Ralph Nilson
Vice-President (Academic)
Chair, Admission and Academic Standing Committee (Appeals)

BOARD OF CONTINUING AND DISTANCE EDUCATION

Annual Report to Senate for 2005-2006

May 10, 2006

Board Members 2005-06:

Dr. Ralph Nilson, VP Academic

Dr. Bruce Matthews, Dean of Arts

Dr. George Iwama, Acting Dean of Science

Dr. Bill McLeod, Acting Dean of Faculty of Professional Studies

Ms. Rosemary Jotcham, Registrar

Mr. Joan Masterson, Vice President, Finance

Mr. Peter Eirikson, ASU Vice President, Academic

Dr. Nancy Van Wagoner, Director, Continuing and Distance Education

The Board met several times over the past year to address the issues facing the Division of Continuing and Distance Education (DCDE).

Dr. Nancy Van Wagoner resigned from her position of Director of DCDE after almost seventeen years of service in the position. Dr. Van Wagoner developed many new initiatives and programs while fostering significant growth in DCDE. The Board congratulated her on her many years of dedicated service. Over the past seventeen years as she has built the program, she created a successful unit meeting the goals that had been established.

Ms. Susan Oland, Managing Director of DCDE, also resigned her position during the past academic year to pursue an external opportunity. Ms. Oland provided excellent service to DCDE and the Board also thanked her for all of her efforts. Ms. Kim Rose was appointed Acting Managing Director of DCDE.

The Board also reviewed and discussed the accomplishments and challenges of DCDE over the past year, and reviewed goals for the coming year. DCDE is in a time of transition and more discussion will take place over the coming months.

Respectfully submitted by the Chair,

ORIGINAL SIGNED

Ralph Nilson

Vice-President (Academic)

Chair, Board of Continuing Education

***By-Laws Committee
Annual Report to Senate
May 10, 2006***

The Committee met several times over the 2005/2006 academic year to deal with matters referred to it by Senate.

Responses submitted to Senate from the By-laws Committee were:

October 2005 Senate Meeting

-A recommendation/motion for Senate's response to the Board of Governors, regarding the proposed changes to the appointment process for the Chancellor.

March 2006 Senate Meeting

-A response to the question of whether or not Senate had the legal authority to create a new Council for Graduate Studies.

May 2006 Senate Meeting

-A motion to discuss modifications to the Proposed Restructuring of Senate R&GS Committee (056-53-RGS) so as to incorporate the restructuring into the Senate By-laws.

Respectfully submitted:

Patricia Corkum, Chair
Andrew Mitchell
Anne Quéma

SENATE LIBRARY COMMITTEE

Annual Report to Senate for 2005-06

Committee Members:

Heather Hemming (Chair), Peter Eirikson (Student Vice-President Academic), Ian Hutchinson (Business), Sara Lochhead (University Librarian), Jianan Peng (Science), George Perry (Professional Studies), Marc Ramsay (Arts), Ann Smith (Librarian), Leigh Whaley (Arts), Glenn Wooden (Theology)

Terms of Reference:

To develop policy recommendations to the library sector regarding a strategic approach to collection development and regarding, for example, issues such as weeding practices (deaccessioning), acquisitions of electronic journals, access/ownership, and decision-making on purchases for the library

To advocate for necessary and appropriate resources for the academic functions of the library
To address academic concerns regarding the library, including the formulation of policy, by making recommendations to the University Librarian and where and when necessary by making motions for Senate to act upon, in addition to making an annual report.

Report:

The Senate Library Committee met once this year on March 3, 2006. The committee focused its attention on the development of a Collections Policy and a draft of this policy was then circulated to the Faculties of Arts, Pure and Applied Sciences and Professional Studies. It has not yet been circulated to the Faculty of Theology. Once all input has been received, a revised draft will be reviewed by Senate Library Committee and brought to Senate for approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Hemming,
Chair, Senate Library Committee.

Faculty Development Committee Report

Members: (2005-2006)

Darcy Benoit (chair)
Robert Pitter
Ann Marie Powers
Jonathan Wilson

Meetings:

No meetings were held this year.

Business:

The committee was following the issues associated with the Learning Commons to determine the role that the Learning Commons would play in faculty development. A member of the FDC was invited to attend meetings of Learning Commons Committee. The chair is currently attending said meetings and will continue to provide input until his term ends.

Respectfully submitted by the Chair,

Darcy G. Benoit
Chair, Faculty Development Committee.

Honours Committee
Report to Senate, May 2006

In the Fall, the Committee considered a request from the Faculty of Science to eliminate the step of distributing honours thesis to external readers for review, i.e. having a faculty member outside the student's "home" department review the thesis after it has been approved by the supervisor and department head(s). In response to this request the Registrar's office compiled the following summary of the external review process for 98 theses submitted for the 2004/05 academic year;

External reader's findings / recommendations	Number
No corrections required	10
Few (<10), minor changes required	38
Many (>10), minor changes required	41
Significant changes required for thesis to be deemed acceptable.	9
Total	98

Based on this data and consideration of the type of feedback students receive from external readers, the committee unanimously agreed that the external review process should be maintained.

The table provided on the following page provides a breakdown by Faculty and department of the 112 honours thesis submitted for the 2005/06 academic year. At the time of submitting this report, a summary of the nature of the feedback secured from external reviewers for the 2005/06 theses was being compiled.

Finally, the Committee recently received a request from an individual faculty member to consider variability in the expectations of honours thesis across different departments in the University. This matter will be considered by the committee at its next meeting to be called in early June, 2006.

Honours Thesis Submitted – 2005/06 Breakdown by Faculty & Department	
Faculty / Department	Number of thesis
Faculty of Arts	
ECON	3
ENGL	9
FRAN	1
HIST	8
PHIL	2
POLS	4
SOCI	5
ECON	3
sub-total	32
Faculty of Professional Studies	
BUSI	4
KINE	6
sub-total	10
Faculty of Science	
BIOL	22
CHEM	5
COMP	6
ENVS	1
GEOL	3
MATH	2
NUTR	3
PHYS	6
PSYC	22
sub-total	70
Total	112

Annual Report of the Senate Curriculum Committee (2005-06)

Members

Ashley Buote: Student
Deborah Day: School of Education
Scott Follows: School of Business
Rosemary Jotcham: Registrar
Heather Kitchin: Sociology
Sara Lochhead: Librarian
Franklin Mendivil : Mathematics and Statistics
Anne Quéma : English
Elhadi Shakshuki : Computer Science
Romira Worvill : Languages and Literatures

The Curriculum committee met twice on December 5, 2005 and January 23, 2006.

The two meetings were devoted to a long and thoughtful analysis of twenty-one different proposals for changes and modifications to academic programs. Some of these proposals were minor, while others presented major and complex revisions to existing programs.

Faculty representatives were invited to present the rationale for major proposals. The latter exercise is not a final examination or oral defence. Instead, it is a key component of a cooperative process and should be regarded as a means of transmitting and clarifying information that will assist the members of the Committee in making final and enlightened decisions.

Correspondence between the chair on behalf of the Committee and chairs and directors of departments and schools took place either to request further clarification or to indicate the Committee's response to presentations by representatives.

Changes to the curriculum for the Faculties of Arts, Professional Studies, and Pure and Applied Science were approved by Senate on January 9, 2006.

Anne Quéma
Chair of the Senate Curriculum Committee
May 9, 2006

Proposed Interdisciplinary MA in Social and Political Thought

Rationale for the Program:

There is a continued recognition of the importance of the value and importance of research and education conceived as open-ended critical inquiry. Many of today's most pressing social and political issues – from the mitigation of and adaptation to climate change, to the challenges of a globalized knowledge economy – were barely perceived a generation ago. Indeed, SSHRC's new Strategic Plan emphasizes that we live “in an increasingly complex and unpredictable world” (SSHRC 2005, 3), and that “Canada needs in the 21st century... highly skilled and adaptable people; [and] new understanding and innovative ideas.” (SSHRC 2005, 5) The MA program in Social and Political Thought is designed to develop the Highly Qualified Personnel (HQP) who will lead in meeting the challenges of the future. Consistent with the need for innovation and the capacity to adapt to unpredictable events, this interdisciplinary program will develop in students a flexible set of skills in thinking critically, broadly, and abstractly about social and political issues. These skills will prepare students to be leaders in meeting the social and political challenges of the future, with the potential to be actively engaged from a broad array of social sectors: government civil service, political parties, NGOs, business, and labour unions. The program will also provide students with a solid academic foundation for disciplinary or interdisciplinary doctoral studies.

Social and Political Thought is an established and growing interdisciplinary field of study. York University's graduate program in Social and Political Thought is well established (now over 30 years old), internationally recognized, and highly competitive. The last few years in Canada have seen a growth in other programs in Social and Political Thought and in interdisciplinary social science/ humanistic theory more generally. The University of Regina has just opened (Sept. 2005) an MA program in Social and Political Thought. Both the University of Western Ontario's graduate program in Theory and Criticism, and the University of Victoria's graduate program in Cultural, Social, and Political Thought, have recently expanded from MA only programs to include a Ph.D. program as well (in 2002 and 2005, respectively).

Acadia's Strategic Research Plan emphasizes the role that smaller universities play in building Canada's research capacity. The graduate program in Social and Political Thought could provide synergies with a number of research centres on campus, including the new Center for the Study of Ethnocultural Diversity, and the Academy for the Environment. Notwithstanding the importance that disciplinary training continues to play in research and education (both graduate and undergraduate), Acadia's size has long necessitated a flexibility and openness to interdisciplinary collaboration (Acadia University 2003). Currently, the external environment is similarly moving towards an increased emphasis on research that is unconstrained by traditional disciplinary boundaries. Thus, both internal and external factors highlight the propitiousness of offering a multidisciplinary graduate program. (For example, Senate has recently approved a multidisciplinary Masters of Science in Applied Geomatics.) The proposed MA program in Social and Political Thought would similarly take advantage of existing recognized research strengths at Acadia that cross disciplinary boundaries. Its interdisciplinary nature would develop the open-ended critical skills in graduate students that will be crucial to resolving and managing the socio-political issues of the future. Furthermore, its interdisciplinary nature, and in particular the focalized interdisciplinarity of the graduate colloquium course (see below) would nurture collaborative crossdisciplinary relationships among the program's faculty as well as students.

The “Vision” presented in Acadia’s recently revised Strategic Plan, includes “offer[ing] outstanding graduate programs.” (Acadia University 2005) By focusing research strengths from across three departments, building on already existing interdisciplinary strengths and collaborations, and including both of the Canada Research Chairs in the Faculty of Arts, this has the potential to be an outstanding program. The program would be the only one in this field in Atlantic Canada, and one of only a handful across the country. The unique features offered by the program, and by Acadia more generally, provide the potential to attract outstanding students regionally, nationally, and internationally.

Program Details:

Entrance Requirements:

Honours degree, typically in Political Science, Sociology, Philosophy, or other appropriate disciplinary or interdisciplinary program, with a minimum GPA of 3.5, or equivalent. Regardless of the specific discipline or interdisciplinary undergraduate program, candidates should have a background in at least some of the cognate areas relevant to the program.

No more than nine students will be admitted to the program in any given year. The actual number of students may well be lower than this, particularly in the program’s first years, providing an opportunity to “ramp up” program development.

Program Requirements:

Students would be required to complete a total of 24 credit hours. This includes 18 credit hours of course work (normally completed September – April of the first year), and a thesis (6 credit hours). The normal time to completion would be 2 years (20 months) – i.e. students would normally convocate in the Spring of their second year. While such a two-year MA program would be unique in the Faculty of Arts at Acadia, the extra time is required to ensure that students receive a broad and truly multidisciplinary education, as well as sufficient depth to be able to pursue a Ph.D., if desired. As well, a two-year MA in this field is not unusual: the University of Regina’s MA in Social and Political Thought requires a minimum 16 months to complete.

Of the 18 course work credit hours, the following courses (12 credit hours) are required:

- IDST 5xx3 “Social and Political Thought Colloquium” (new course – see below)
- SOCI 5113 “Social Theory”
- POLS 5343 “Political Theory 1” or “5443 Political Theory 2” (whichever is offered in the student’s first year)
- PHIL 5xx3 “Topics in Social and Political Philosophy” (new course – see below)

The remaining 6 credit hours are to be chosen from the following:

- POLS 5543 “Political Inquiry”
- POLS 5643 “Critical Political Theory”
- POLS 5843 “Directed Reading in Political Theory” (new course to be developed by the Political Science Dept.)

- POLS 5943 “International Political Theory” (new course to be developed by the Political Science Dept. – this is a graduate level equivalent of POLS 4143 “Applied International Ethics”)
- SOCI 5333 “Sociology of Political Economy”
- SOCI 5343 “Sociology of Development”
- SOCI 5413 “Sociology of Gender and Feminism” (note: Currently listed as “Sociology of Gender”; ‘and Feminism’ will be added by 2007)
- SOCI 5553 “Ethnocultural and Cultural Theory” (new course being developed by the Sociology Dept., not necessarily in conjunction with this program)
- SOCI 5603 “Special Topics 1”
- SOCI 5616 “Special Topics 2”
- PHIL 5yy3 “Directed Reading in Social and Political Philosophy” (new course to be developed by the Philosophy Department)

New Courses to be proposed for this program:

IDST 5xx3 “Social and Political Thought Colloquium”:

Offered each fall, this course would be required for incoming students. All faculty members active in the program for that year would also participate in the course, thus providing a common program foundation as well as developing cohesion among (within and across) students and faculty in the program. Course content would be determined collectively by the faculty members (each determining one or two weeks of content, and all attending/participating throughout the term), and coordinated by the program coordinator. The course would be offered pass/fail (A- or better to pass).

PHIL 5xx3 “Topics in Social and Political Philosophy”

This course examines selected concepts, themes, or traditions within the field of social and political philosophy. Specific course content in any given year will be available from the Philosophy department.

POLS 5943 “International Political Theory”

This seminar course is a critical exploration of ethical dilemmas in contemporary international politics. A special emphasis will be placed on cosmopolitan and communitarian approaches to issues such as international justice; war; terrorism; global poverty; sovereignty; human rights; women's rights; humanitarian affairs and intervention; and the environment.

POLS 5843 “Directed Reading in Political Theory”

PHIL 5yy3 “Directed Reading in Social and Political Philosophy”

IDST 5996 “Masters’ Thesis in Social and Political Thought”

Faculty Resources:

Specific faculty involvement would vary somewhat from year to year. The program’s faculty complement in any given year would include anyone teaching one or more of the program’s

courses, as well as any other interested faculty member willing to participate actively in the graduate colloquium course in that year.

Faculty members (and departmental affiliation) currently active in developing the program:

Dr. Paul Abela (PHIL)
Dr. Andrew Biro (POLS)
Dr. Antonio Franceschet (POLS)
Dr. Jan Marontate (SOCI)
Dr. Greg Pycrz (POLS)
Dr. Marc Ramsay (PHIL)
Dr. Jim Sacouman (SOCI)
Dr. Tony Thompson (SOCI)
Dr. Ian Wilks (PHIL)

The initial program coordinator will be Andrew Biro. As long as the coordinator holds a Canada Research Chair (or similar appointment with reduced teaching load), no course reduction is necessary. Coordinating the “Social and Political Thought Colloquium” course (IDST 5xx3) may be construed as the “additional teaching (e.g., a multi professor IDST course, graduate course)” required of CRCs per article 17.37 of the Collective Agreement.

Because the Philosophy department does not otherwise offer graduate level courses, the Philosophy department will require an annual 0.17 course replacement in order to mount PHIL 5xx3 (“Topics in Social and Political Philosophy”). The Dean of Arts has confirmed his intention to provide these funds.

Other Resources

The main “core” funding requirement for the operation of this program is the 0.17 course replacement for the Philosophy Dept., mentioned above. Since this is a graduate program built on existing departments, administrative resources required for the operation of the program can largely be met through existing university-wide and departmental structures.

In order to attract high quality students, student funding will be required. This funding may come from a variety of sources, including AGAs, research assistantships funded by faculty research grants (CRCs, SSHRC Standard Research Grants, etc.), and internal and external scholarships. Space requirements, at least at the outset, would be limited to a room for students’ carrels (max. 18 (9 first year and 9 second year), although likely to be less than that for the first few years).

Competitive programs:

There are currently only two other programs in Social and Political Thought in Canada: at York (MA/PhD), and the University of Regina (MA only). York’s one-year MA program is designed as an entrée to their PhD, and does not require students to produce an MA thesis; Regina’s is a thesis MA, but draws largely from only two departments (Political Science and Philosophy). Somewhat similar graduate programs exist at Trent University (MA in Theory, Culture, and Politics); Victoria (Graduate Program in Cultural, Social, and Political Thought); and Western Ontario (Graduate Program in Theory and Criticism). Nationally, this program would be unique

in its configuration of disciplinary orientations and degree requirements. Regionally (i.e. in Atlantic Canada) there are no graduate programs that are at all similar.

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