

Office of the Senate Secretariat

Acadia University
Wolfville, Nova Scotia
Canada B0P 1X0

Telephone: (902) 585-1617
Facsimile: (902) 585-1078



Dear Member of Senate:

I advise you that a meeting of the Senate of Acadia University will occur from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Monday 14th September 2015 in BAC 132.

The agenda follows:

1) Approval of Agenda

2) Minutes of the Meeting of 16th June 2015

3) Announcements (*normally 10 minutes per speaker*)

- a) Link for updated list of membership of all standing and ad hoc committees of Senate:
http://senate.acadiau.ca/Senate_Comm_Membership.html

4) New Business

- a) Senate Executive White Paper – detailed follow-up from summer meetings (*attached*)

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED
Rosie Hare
Recording Secretary to Senate

Senate Executive: Follow Up to the Executive White Paper (June, 2015)

Preamble:

At the July 8 meeting of Senate Executive, the Executive followed up on the agenda item “Senate Executive White Paper “ from the June 16, 2015 Senate Meeting. Specifically, the Executive addressed the matter raised in the June Attachment 6) a) “Senate Discussion Paper,” and discussed at the June Senate meeting, of a perceived lack of engagement at Senate of larger academic issues important to the academic core and future of the University. In order to contribute to establishing a re-engagement of “big issues” discussion at Senate, the Executive brainstormed a preliminary list of potential topics for consideration at 2015/16 Senate meetings, the topics be forwarded to Senate members for the September meeting, and members invited to add to/revise the list. The preliminary topics list is also intended to be forwarded to appropriate Senate sub-committees for consideration, the sub-committees encouraged to select issues to tackle and to report their determinations at the October Senate meeting, so that Senate may then prioritize topics for the year. Ultimately, the aim is to support and encourage discussion of at least one academic item of substance at each Senate meeting, in the form of a motion proceeding either from Senate sub-committees or from individual Senators.

The list of potential topics identified by Senate Executive is as follows:

- Consistency of minors and majors and the number of required hours
- Equitable distribution between Faculties of Tier 1 Scholarships
- Processes for putting in place course enrolment restrictions
- Mandate of the new Curriculum Committee (Policy)
- Review of the level of 1st, 2nd or 3rd year courses and whether there are differences
- Consideration of a common requirement of 6 credit hours of English across the campus or a collection of writing intensive courses approved by Senate
- Continued work on changes to the slot system, including consideration of differential credit hours
- Consideration of mechanisms/processes for degree and program changes, including program closure
- Consideration of academic integrity issues and whether changes to the current policy would be desirable.

