

A meeting of the Senate of Acadia University occurred on Monday, 14 January 2008 beginning at 4:06 p.m. with Chair Ian Wilks presiding and 40 present.

1) Approval of Minutes

- a) Meeting of
10 December 2007

It was moved by C. Hoult and seconded by R. Perrins *that the minutes of Monday, 10 December 2007 be approved as distributed.*

MOTION WAS CARRIED.

2) Announcements and
Communications

- a) From the Chair

-re Regrets

Regrets were received from R. Gossage, B. Hagerman, A. Irving, D. Julien, J. Kirk, A. Warner, and J. White.

-re Agenda

There was no objection to adding the Senate Honorary Degrees Committee nomination report to today's agenda. The Chair noted that items brought forward by the Vice-President (Academic) would be dealt with when he arrived later in the meeting.

-re Senate Membership

I. Wilks welcomed L. Whaley, replacing J. Eustace for six months; A. Warner, replacing S. Markham-Starr; R. Sparkman returning from a six-month sabbatical; and H. Gardner, newly appointed Dean of Theology.

-re Visitors in Attendance

The Chair acknowledged the following guests to this meeting: S. Markham-Starr; A. Dulhanty; and J. Nielsen, Student.

-re Senate Executive
Meeting

I. Wilks reminded members of the Senate Executive of the meeting scheduled for Monday, 21 January 2008 in University Hall, room 223 beginning at 4:00 p.m.

-re Letter to Board of
Governors On Status of
Endowed Chairs
(078-35-END)

The Chair advised that a letter had been sent to Mr. George Lohnes, Secretary to the Board of Governors, regarding the status of endowed chairs (**APPENDIX A**) as discussed at the December meeting of Senate. He noted that the accuracy of the list of endowed chairs could not be confirmed at this time.

3) Business Arising from the

Minutes

- b) By-Laws Committee
Renaming the Senate
Academic Discipline
Appeals Committee
(078-31-LAW)

It was moved by P. Corkum and seconded by B. Moody *that the Academic Discipline Appeals Committee not be renamed to accommodate Academic appeals of a non-disciplinary nature such as appeals for Special Examinations.*

P. Corkum spoke to this motion and said that the Senate By-Laws Committee believed that the existing Senate Admissions and Academic Standing Committee (Appeals) was in place to deal with non-disciplinary appeals and that the formation of another similar committee would cause confusion.

MOTION WAS CARRIED.

- c) By-Laws Committee
Special Examinations
(078-32-LAW)

It was moved by P. Corkum and seconded by S. Barkanova *that the regulations for special examinations as approved at the September 2007 meeting of the Senate and as revised in the December 2007 minutes, by recommendation of the Senate By-Lay Committee, be approved.*

MOTION WAS CARRIED.

- d) By-Laws Committee
Revision of Mandate for the
Admissions & Academic
Standing Committee
(Appeals) (078-33-LAW)

It was moved by P. Corkum and seconded by W. Brackney *that the wording of the mandate for the Admissions and Academic Standing Committee (Appeals) be changed to read - "to hear appeals **in respect to or arising from** 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".*

MOTION WAS CARRIED.

It was confirmed that these new rules/changes would be effective beginning 1 July 2008 for the 2008-2009 academic year and be reflected in the upcoming calendar.

With the arrival of the VP (A), items previously passed over on the agenda were considered.

- e) Vice-President (Academic)
Appointment of Chair of the

Research Ethics Board
(078-34-REB)

It was moved by T. Herman and seconded by D. Symons *that Senate approve the re-appointment of Dr. Stephen Maitzen to the Research Ethics Board in the capacity as Chair for the period 1 July 2008 - 30 June 2011.*

The Chair called for further nominations three times and hearing none, declared nomination cease.

MOTION WAS CARRIED.

a) Admissions & Academic
Standing Committee
(Policy) - Memoranda-of-
Understanding between
ACU and the APCCC
(078-17-AAS)

It was moved by T. Herman and seconded by C. Hoult *that the motion on Memoranda-of-Understanding between ACU and the APCCC as presented at the previous meeting of the Senate be removed from the table.*

MOTION WAS CARRIED.

It was moved by T. Herman and seconded by G. Ness *that the Memoranda-of-Understanding between the Atlantic Canadian Universities and the Atlantic Provinces Community Colleges Consortium for the encouragement of transfer agreements as attached to today's agenda be approved by the Senate.*

T. Herman noted that this document had to be approved, in principle, by all institutions involved. He said that this is a general memorandum to be signed and there is quite a bit of latitude within the arrangements between individual universities and the ability of individual universities to determine specific transfer agreements. When details as affecting AU are established, they would come to the Senate for further approval. No final signing date has been set.

MOTION WAS CARRIED.

4)a) Honorary Degree
Committee - Nominations
Report

There was no objection to addressing a nominations report from the Senate Honorary Degree Committee as distributed at this meeting (**APPENDIX B**) (Senators' copies only). The Chair noted that this report had come to Senate for the candidates named therein to be approved by vote. A 50% majority of votes cast is needed for the approval of each candidate. He clarified that the effect of an approval is to place candidates' names in a "pool" from which the President's Office would draw in the coming years.

C. Hoult of this committee spoke briefly on this report.

It was moved by P. Hobson and seconded by D. Piper *that the two motions, contained in this report, be tabled until the Chair of the Senate Honorary Degrees Committee was available to answer questions regarding these nominations.*

MOTION WAS DEFEATED.

D. Piper spoke on regulations, presented last year, which included the stipulation that one must retire from AU to qualify for Professor Emeritus status. The Chair confirmed that this particular policy recommendation was rejected by Senate last January, and that any nominations affected by this regulation was referred back to the committee for re-consideration.

In reply to a question from the floor, the Chair said that the Senate is within its jurisdiction to set such policy for its committees.

Vote was conducted by secret ballot and results counted by the Deputy-Chair and Secretary of the Senate.

Honorary Degree

Nominations **(078-36-HOD)** Vote by Senators accepted all nominations for Honorary Degrees as contained in the Honorary Degree Report handed out at this meeting.

Professor Emeritus

Nominations **(078-37-HOD)** Vote by Senators accepted all nominations for Professor Emeritus as contained in the Honorary Degree Report handed out at this meeting.

2)b) From the Vice-President
(Academic)

T. Herman commented that the winter term was off to a fine start despite last term's disrupted schedule. He expressed appreciation to staff for handling the considerable, additional burdens and demands on their time, particularly with committee work. The student recruitment issue remains front and center on the agenda. He expressed appreciation for the faculty working group which was pursuing a number of projects related to AA 2.0. As well, the Senate *ad hoc* Committee to Review the Acadia Advantage Program will shortly be invited, along with the Deans and members of Senior Administration, to a workshop organized by S. Major and C. Place in the Learning Commons. This workshop will develop initiatives around AA 2.0 that integrate the technology with pedagogy.

He reported that the Senate Program Review Committee would present a report on the Psychology Department at the February meeting of the Senate.

T. Herman noted that the search committee for the Associated VP Research & Graduate Studies would launch a search this week. As well, a search committee was being formed to search for a Director of Continuing and Distance Education.

P. Corkum stated that there was much concern among faculty regarding how the AA 2.0 will be implemented. There is a worry that it will not work, and that students would be in great turmoil with the leasing proposal. T. Herman assured Senators that the purpose of the planned workshop was to allow discussion on and voice concerns about the AA 2.0 transition. He said the sensitivities of the transition were recognized but we were committed to the transition.

R. Sparkman spoke on the lack of coordination and planning for change in the laptop program and of the concern in the School of Business around non-standard software and the need for "on the spot" technology support for students during class.

In reply to a question from the floor, T. Herman said the time line is set and included evaluation of the bids, test driving the models, and a decision should be made by early March.

4)b) Registrar - Enrolment of
Winter 2008 Term

In reply to a question from the floor, R. Jotcham reported that the Winter 08 enrolment stats as of this date indicated full time undergraduate at 2,785, part time undergraduate at 117, full time graduate at 129, and part time graduate at 236. This is less than 10% lower than anticipated.

6) Adjournment

D. Symons moved this meeting be adjourned. It was 5:00 p.m.

D. Murphy, Recording Secretary

Dec. 10, 2007

Mr. George Lohnes
Secretary
Acadia University Board of Governors

Dear Mr. Lohnes,

I am writing to you on behalf of Senate for guidance on a matter which came before us in our meeting today.

On April 9, 2007, the President proposed to Senate that Acadia University consider returning to its former practice of conferring endowed chairs upon its faculty members. The Board Policy C.010 regarding Named Chairs describes a number of chairs whose supporting endowments have diminished considerably in recent years, and which have not been filled for some time.

The President moved that the Faculty Development Committee of Senate consider the existing policy on Named Chairs and make suggestions on how the practice of conferring them could be reactivated. I attach the relevant portion of the minutes of the April 9, 2007 meeting of Senate (Appendix 1).

A report was brought before Senate today from that committee. I have attached the report (Appendix 2). Please note that it is as yet unapproved by Senate. The following appears under section 2 (iii) of the report: "Successful applicants must show evidence of a superior research record." An amendment to this line was considered: "Successful applicants must show evidence of excellence in teaching and research." The debate over this amendment ultimately led to the tabling of the whole report.

The problem is that Senate is unsure of what sort of actions it can take in setting terms for conferring these chairs, given that terms were doubtless already set in place by those who endowed the chairs in the first place. In spite of the assistance of the University Archivist, the Faculty Development Committee has not been able to find the original documentation by which the chairs were created. Nor have the minutes of the Board apparently preserved the information that is needed on this point.

These are the Chairs under discussion, as listed in a communication to me from the President's office on April 30, 2007:

The Helen Beals Chair in Art
The John W. Barss Professorship in Classics

The John W. and George H. Wallace Professorship in Economics
The William English Morse Chair
The Associated Alumni Professorship in History
The Mark Curry Chair of History
The W.G. Clark Chair of Philosophy
The C.B. Lumsden Chair in Religious Studies
The Dr. Frank and Cora M. Wheelock Chair
The Charles F. Myers Chair of Biology and Zoology
The George H. Wallace Professorship in Chemistry
The John Jodrey Chair of Computer Science
The Ivan Curry Professorship of Engineering
The Ivan Curry Professorship of Physics
The Austin Bancroft Professorship of Geology
The Edwin David King Professorship of Geology
The White Memorial Professorship of Mathematics
The Roy A. Jodrey Chair of Physics
The Sheldon Fountain Chair of Business Administration
The Fred C. Manning Professorship in Business Administration
The Clifford K. Shand Professorship of Physical Education.

There is also a chair apparently established by the Associated Alumni in Religious Studies; this is listed in the communication from the President's Office, but not under any name. Another chair, The Carl J. Saunders Professorship of Geology, is listed as having been revoked by the Board in 1968. Note that we have explicitly left the Alan Foulis Chair of Engineering out of our deliberations.

Senate needs direction on what specific terms exist for the use of individual funds attaching to the chairs. If in any case this information is unknown, Senate needs direction on the specific procedure that is required to define those terms.

On behalf of Senate I am requesting that the Board provide this information so that we may complete our deliberations on this important matter, and thereby proceed with the President's initiative to re-activate the research chairs.

An additional piece of information was also requested by members of Senate. We were told in the meeting today that the annual earnings on the endowments for these chairs are currently applied to the endowments themselves, and are not re-directed for use elsewhere. I wonder if you would be kind enough to confirm that this is so.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED

Ian Wilks
Chair, Acadia University Senate

Encl.

Appendix 1: Excerpt from Senate Minutes April 9, 2007

Further to notice of motion at the last meeting and as attached to today's agenda, it was moved by G. Dinter-Gottlieb and seconded by G. Iwama *that Whereas the Board Policy C.010 regarding Named Chairs has not been reviewed in 15 years, but the funding source for named Chairs still exist; and*

Whereas the mission of the Faculty Development Committee is to contribute to the success and development of Acadia University Faculty in the areas of teaching, research, and overall professional development;

It is resolved that the Faculty Development Committee review said policy and make recommendations on the advisability of the following:

- a. That only Chairs which accrue more than \$4,000 per year be awarded thus enabling disbursements of \$1,000 to each of the following; the Department or School to support scholarly endeavours, the salary of the holder to the Chair, return to the principle of the investment in accordance with Board policy, for support of the research of the Chair.*
- b. Applicants for the Chairs must submit a research plan and should be Full Professors with distinction in their field.*
- c. Academic Deans will adjudicate the applications.*
- d. The length of term shall be for a period of three years. A named chair may be occupied by the same individual for two terms.*
- e. Recommendations for appointment must be received by January 15 and the President will take the final appointments to the May meeting of the Board of Governors for approval. The Chairs will be presented at Fall Convocation.*

G. Dinter-Gottlieb spoke to this motion. She said that for a number of years the Acadia Chairs have not been awarded because the endowments made to these Chairs was so small that there was virtually nothing to award. She felt very strongly that the name "chair" should have some weight and reward to it. She also felt a named chair should have some scholarly attributes behind it. With the VP(A), a proposal and motion has been prepared as attached to today's agenda. A list of the available chairs that meet the proposed criteria, as well as those that do not, is available to the committee.

In reply to a question from the floor, G. Dinter-Gottlieb felt that adjudication should be done across the faculties for the various chairs as they are University-wide appointments.

J. Eustace suggested a friendly amendment that was accepted as follows:

- c. The adjudication committees, which will include the Academic Deans, shall be determined by the Senate Faculty Development Committee.*

In reply to a question from the floor, G. Dinter-Gottlieb believed that once faculty reached full professor status there was not much to offer. A chair could be a perk/incentive for a full professor for a three-year term. A friendly amendment to remove this stipulation was not accepted.

She clarified that item d. referred to two consecutive terms of three years each. A friendly amendment was accepted to change the title of this motion to:

Externally Endowed Named Chairs at Acadia University.

G. Dinter-Gottlieb confirmed that chairs; such as the Foulis Chair with substantial payout, are exempt from this proposal. If the committee feels others should be exempt, it should be brought back to the Senate. Brief discussion was held on the status of the Manning and Isenor Chairs. G. Iwama noted that currently, under these criteria, there is one Chair for Professional Studies, two Chairs in Arts, and four Chairs in Science.

A friendly amendment was added as follows:

f. The Foulis Chair will be exempt from the above.

It was confirmed that any newly formed chair would not be bound by this proposal.

G. Dinter-Gottlieb said that consideration was given to combining the small chairs and providing one major chair to each faculty; however, this would not be politically correct. When the smaller endowments reach the required \$4,000 mark as outlined in this proposal, they will be awarded. Currently the number of chairs (and those which do not reach the threshold) per faculty, are as follows: 32 (10) Arts; 4 (6) Science; and 1 (3) Professional Studies. G. Iwama noted that some chairs were established as early as 1914.

MOTION WAS CARRIED AS AMENDED.

Appendix 2: Report of the Faculty Development Committee, Dec. 10, 2007

The Faculty Development Committee has reviewed the policy regarding Externally Endowed Named Chairs, and recommends the following motion:

1. (a) Only Chairs which accrue more than \$4,000 per year shall be awarded, thus enabling disbursements of \$1,000 annually to each of the following:

- i. to the Department or School to support scholarly endeavours,*
- ii. to the salary of the holder to the Chair,*
- iii. to the principle of the endowment in accordance with Board policy,*
- iv. to support the research of the Chair holder.*

(b) For those endowments which pay out more than \$4000 annually, the balance of funds will be divided equally each year between the four recipients named above.

(c) When a Chair is not filled, or when the annual payout does not reach the \$4000 threshold, the annual earnings will be returned to the principle and reinvested.

(d) The usual accounting procedures for reimbursement of expenses will be followed. The holder of the Chair may carry the funds forward during their term, but any research funds not spent one year after the end of their term will be returned to principle and reinvested.

2. (i) Applicants may be from any tenured or tenure-track rank and should submit the following to the Department Head: a current c.v.; a brief description of their research program; a description of how they would use the funds if awarded.

(ii) The application(s) to each Department will be reviewed at a Departmental Faculty meeting. If there is agreement to recommend an applicant, a letter of recommendation from the Department will be attached to the application and forwarded to the Endowed Chairs Committee by January 15 for review. Departments may only recommend one applicant for each Chair.

(iii) The Endowed Chairs Committee will consist of the Academic Deans and members of the Senate Faculty Development Committee. It will review applications forwarded to it on the recommendation of Departments. Successful applicants must show evidence of a superior research record.

3. (i) It is expected that the Chair holder will publicize the Chair through public lectures, conference presentation, or other means.

(ii) The length of term shall be for a period of three years, beginning on July 1. Following the usual application process, a Chair may be occupied by the same individual for consecutive terms.

4. The Endowed Chairs Committee must forward recommendations for appointment to the Vice-President Academic by February 15 and the President will take the final appointments to the May meeting of the Board of Governors for approval. The Chairs will be presented at Fall Convocation.

5. The Foulis Chair shall be exempt from the above.