Minutes

Meeting held on:
Tuesday, December 18 2007
at 1:30pm
in 100 Fletcher Argue Building

Present: Richard Sigurdson (Dean of Arts and Chair), Barry Ferguson (Associate Dean), Janice Ristock (Associate Dean); Anthropology: Susan Frohlick; Asian Studies: William Lee; Classics: James Chlup, David Howorth, Mark Lawall; Economics: Laura Brown, Robert Chernomas, Janice Compton, Hikmet Gunay, Irwin Lipnowski, Wayne Simpson, Elizabeth Troutt; English: Diana Byrdon, Warren Cariou, Glenn Clark, Michelle Faubert, Margaret Groome, Robert O'Kell, Judith Owens, David Watt, Arlene Young; French, Spanish and Italian: Enrique Fernandez, Andrew Osborne; German and Slavic Studies: Elena Baraban, Stephan Jaeger; History: Tina Chen, Roisin Cossar, Gerald Friesen, Jean Friesen, Mark Gabbert, Henry Heller, Esyllt Jones, Michael Kinnear, Len Kuffert, Jorge Nallim, Tom Nesmith, Greg Smith; Icelandic: Helga Hilmisdottir; Labour Studies: David Camfield, Julie Guard; Linguistics: Terry Janzen; Philosophy: Don McCarthy; Political Studies: Kiera Ladner, Steven Lecece, George MacLean, Margaret Ogrodnick; Psychology: Jessica Cameron, Cam-Loi Huynh, Tammy Ivanco, Harvey Keselman, Jonathan Marotta, Marian Morry, Jim Nickels, Katherine Starzyk, Roger Wilson; Religion: Brenda Cantelo, Ken MacKendrick; Sociology: Sonia Bookman, Steve Brickey, Elizabeth Comack, Frank Cormier, Rick Linden, Susan Prentice, Lori Wilkinson; Women’s Studies: Liz Millward; Support Staff Representatives: Janet Sealey (Dean’s Office); Student Representatives: Jen Dengate (St. John’s College), Harley Shepherd (St. John’s College), Lise Durand (Recording Secretary).

Regrets: Economics: George Chuchman; English: Robert Finnegan, Mark Libin; French, Spanish and Italian: Dominique Laporte, María Inés Martínez; Linguistics: Moshe Nahir; Native Studies: Renate Eigenbrod; Political Studies: Rod Yellon; Psychology: Melanie Glenwright, Jason Leboe; Sociology: Christopher Fries, Wayne Taylor; Denis Bracken (Rector, St. Paul’s College); Support Staff Representatives: Mary Kuzmeniuk (Psychology), Gerry Strom (Dean’s Office).

(1) ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOTION (J. Guard/E. Baraban): that the agenda be adopted with the following change:

Addition of an item to be first on the agenda: Presentation by Dr. Robert Kerr, Vice-President (Academic) and Provost, regarding Navitas.

CARRIED
NAVITAS (NEW ITEM ADDED)

Dr. Robert Kerr indicated that the University has established a contract with Navitas Limited. The following guidelines have been established:

1. the delivery of courses will be limited to courses where Extended Education has an approved curriculum
2. the University of Manitoba will approve the instructors
3. the University of Manitoba will be on site and monitor the delivery of courses

Dr. Kerr explained that over 35% of international students are failing out by the end of their first year and, of those who were not required by the University to take English language training, 50% are failing by the end of their first year. This program will attempt to improve the success rate of international students and allow them to successfully transition into the University. For the most part, 80-90% of students in Navitas programs are successfully transitioning into University.

Navitas, Dr. Kerr added, had initially approach the University to form an affiliated college. The Legal Counsel’s Office indicated that under the University Act, an affiliated college would allow their representative to hold a seat in Senate, and therefore Navitas International College of Manitoba is not a college under the Colleges Act of Manitoba; it is a name under the Corporations Act of Manitoba. Essentially, the University focused on a service agreement where Navitas can use some space and facilities on campus and, in turn, the University will receive part of their tuition income. Courses would be paralleled to those we offer in Extended Education. It is hoped that the students participating in the program would eventually qualify for admission to the University and successfully complete degrees.

In reply to questions and comments, Dr. Kerr indicated that:

- at this stage it is not known where the company will be physically located, but it is expected that they will require office space and one or two classrooms at most.
- if students are successful in moving through the University system, they would receive University of Manitoba degrees.
- it is hoped that 20 to 50 students may be involved in the program at first. There is no cap on the number of students that can participate, but at Simon Fraser, they now have over 200 students participating. It is hoped that the program will grow and will be a significant part of stabilizing the University’s intake of and perhaps diversify the group of international students.
- the courses are both pre-University and University 1 courses.
- Access programs are very expensive and the University simply cannot afford to work with small groups of students working with a lot of supports. This type of program requires a lot of resources to make it work.
- it is not expected that Navitas will affect our admission standards because the University sets the English language standard requirements and all students must meet these requirements in order to be admitted into the University.
- discussions were held with the University’s Legal Counsel and following existing policies, this contract did not require the ascent of Senate or the Board of Governors. Details will be provided to the Board of Governors as needed.
- the instructors will be employees of Navitas and therefore don’t fall under the Collective Agreements in place at the University. The confidentiality in the matter
was not related to employee relations, but rather because there were negotiations going on with other Universities in Canada as well.
- the monitoring of academic standards should be done by the academic community and not administrators, Dr. Kerr indicated that he, himself, part of the academic community and that monitoring will involve people from Senate and department members who teach the courses involved.
- the Province of Manitoba took back ownership of the use of “Manitoba” and therefore the use of the word no longer requires Board of Governors or Senate approval.

**MOTION (M. Gabbert/E. Comack):** that this Council calls on the administration to submit to Senate for its consideration the proposal to establish a Navitas college, providing full documentation, including the agreement signed between Navitas and the University of Manitoba, so that Senate may make its recommendations and determinations as provided by the University Act; and that this motion be forwarded immediately to the University Secretary and the President of the University.

*CARRIED with one abstention*

Dean Sigurdson indicated that the contract is set to start in September 2008.

In response to a request to call for more discussion on the matter, Dean Sigurdson suggested that a discussion be held after the discussion at Senate. The Dean indicated that Arts Faculty Council does not have a right to ask to see a contract that would fall under managerial responsibilities, but the Council can ask specific questions about the academic matters involved.

**MOTION (J. Guard/M. Morry):** that the Arts Senators report to Arts Faculty Council as much information as possible about Navitas in order to hold an informed discussion at Arts Faculty Council.

*CARRIED nem con.*

(2) **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

(a) **Events and Key Dates**

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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, December 18, 2007</td>
<td><strong>Arts End of Term Party</strong></td>
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<td>3:30pm</td>
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<td>600 Fletcher Argue Building</td>
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<td>Wednesday, December 19, 2007</td>
<td><strong>Linguistics Headship Public Presentation</strong></td>
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Following the presentation, the Search Committee will accept confidential letters regarding the candidate until 2:30pm that day. Please send comments to Lise Durand at lise_durand@umanitoba.ca
Thursday, January 10, 2008

**Sessional Instructors Orientation**
5:30pm to 8:30pm
Cross Common Room, 108 St. John’s
- Register online on the UTS website.

Friday, February 1, 2008

**Deadline for Arts Endowment Fund Applications**
4:30pm
- Send applications to Lise Durand. No late applications will be considered.

**Update on University College**

The Dean indicated that, in his capacity as Acting Provost, he has set a date for University College Council (January 16, 2008). At that meeting, University College Council will consider the proposal for University College which includes:
- The College would revert to its original reporting line: the Faculty of Arts
- The College would build on its strengths and designate a fund for interdisciplinary research
- It is hoped that after the end of June, control over the program at University College would revert to a Director of the College
- University College is now home to the President’s Scholars (students with 95% or higher averages when entering the University)
- Physical space is being established at the College for the Centre for Creative Writing and Oral Culture.

The Dean noted that he will report to Arts Faculty Council at the next meeting.

In reply to a question, the Dean indicated that the proposed changes to University College will have to be approved by Senate.

(3) **QUESTION PERIOD**

There were no questions for Question Period.

(4) **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 31, 2007**

**MOTION (J. Nickels/L. Brown):** that the minutes be approved with the following change:

On page 4, following the Dean’s response to the ESR recommendations:
“…including women. Data will have to be collected, analyzed and tracked.

Considerable discussion ensued.

In reply to a question about the status of the future of University College…”

*CARRIED*
(5) **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There was no business arising from the minutes of the meeting of October 31, 2007.

(6) **REPORT OF THE ARTS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: MEETINGS OF OCTOBER 10, 2007 AND NOVEMBER 14, 2007**

The Dean indicated that the report was circulated for information.

The Dean mentioned that he has made his budget submission for the upcoming year. He indicated that the first priority for the Faculty is funding for the large number of Sessional Instructors. In addition, the Staffing Plan includes a request for an overall increase of faculty members. The Dean indicated that he has also requested funding for 2 FTE advising staff for the Arts General Office and for a Research Facilitator (cost-shared with the Vice-President, Research). Funds for capital projects in Isbister Building and for computer equipment were also requested.

Janice Ristock indicated that the Research Facilitator would help faculty members identify sources of funding for research, help with arranging reviews of external grants, and help raise the profile of research in Arts.

(7) **REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES**

(a) **Arts Library Committee**

(i) Report from Meetings of 2006-07

Henry Heller, Chair of the Library Committee, made a short report to Arts Faculty Council.

**MOTION (H. Heller):** that the Arts Library Committee report of the 2006-07 meetings be approved as circulated.

*CARRIED*

(ii) Revised By-Laws

**MOTION (H. Heller):** that the revised By-Laws be approved as circulated.

*CARRIED*

(b) **Arts Equity, Diversity and Human Rights Committee**

Janice Ristock, Chair of the Employment Systems Review Committee (ESR), noted that one recommendation of the ESR Committee was to expand the mandate and change the name of the Arts Human Rights Committee. The Arts Human Rights Committee should track the recommendations from the ESR report and ensure that they are implemented in the Faculty of Arts. The ESR Committee wanted to move beyond the Federal Contractors Program and include non-
designated groups and equity issues that face faculty, support staff and students in general.

(i) Revised Terms of Reference

**MOTION (S. Prentice/L. Brown):** that the Terms of Reference be adopted as circulated on a provisional basis and be reviewed by the Arts Equity, Diversity and Human Rights Committee and returned to Arts Faculty Council for final approval by the second meeting of Arts Faculty Council next term.

*CARRIED*

(ii) Membership

**MOTION (J. Ristock/T. Chen):** that the membership of the Arts Equity, Diversity and Human Rights Committee be approved as circulated.

*CARRIED*

(iii) Nominations and Elections of Members

The following faculty members were nominated from the floor to serve on the Arts Equity, Diversity and Human Rights Committee:

- Marian Morry (Psychology), for a term beginning immediately and ending June 30, 2008.
- Warren Cariou (English), for a term beginning immediately and ending June 30, 2008 (leave replacement for Ben Baader).

As all members were appointed by acclamation, there was no need for a vote.

(8) **NEW BUSINESS**

(a) **Dates for the Arts Executive Committee and Arts Faculty Council Meetings for the Second Term 2007-2008**

The Dean indicated that these dates were approved by the Arts Executive Committee and circulated to Arts Faculty Council for information.

(b) **Professor Emeritus Nomination**

Wayne Simpson, Head of Economics, spoke to the nomination. A vote by secret ballot was held and the nomination was approved to be forwarded to the Chancellor’s Committee.

(9) **ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

The Arts Faculty Council empowered the Dean to:
• Write a letter on behalf of the Arts Faculty Council to congratulate Akosua Matthews (B.A. honours, 2006) on her Rhodes Scholarship.
• Welcome Dr. David Barnard to the University of Manitoba as President-Elect.

(10) ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:10pm.