



**Minutes of University Council
2:30 p.m., Thursday, June 15, 2006
St. Thomas More College Auditorium**

Attendance: See Appendix A.

Chair Joe Angel noted at 2:40 that a quorum was not present and sought agreement to proceed informally.

1. Opening Remarks

Condolences were expressed on behalf of Council to colleagues and family of Professor "KW" Kirkaldy-Willis, Professor Emeritus of Surgery (Orthopaedics) from 1965-81. The tribute was delivered by Dr. Ken Yong-Hing, Professor of Surgery in the Division of Orthopedic Surgery, Department of Surgery. Professor Kirkaldy-Willis passed away on May 7, 2006.

Condolences were also expressed on behalf of Council to colleagues and family of Dr. S. Parvez Wakil, Professor in the Department of Sociology. He retired in June of 2003. Dr. Allan Anderson, Professor from the Department of Sociology, delivered his tribute. Professor Parvez Wakil passed away on April 24, 2006.

Following a moment of silence, the business of Council resumed, quorum having been met.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

ECHEVERRIA/MERRIAM: That the agenda be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

3. Minutes of the meeting of May 18, 2006

KUSHWAHA/ECHEVERRIA: That the minutes of the meeting of May 18, 2006 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

None.

5. Report of the President

The President thanked President George Smith of St. Thomas More College for the generous offer of the use of the STM auditorium.

In addition to his written report, the President commented on the fact that Spring Convocation, which presents a tremendously important public relations opportunity for the University, went very well. For the first time we added a fifth ceremony, to ensure that all graduands and their guests could be accommodated in the auditorium. The President expressed thanks to the University Secretary's Office and to the Academic Services group in SESD for their hard work in ensuring the success of this event.

The President also drew the attention of Council to the fact that the Alumni Association celebrates its 90th anniversary this very day and evening; celebrations include a special Amati concert for alumni and guests in Convocation Hall at 6 p.m. this evening.

6. Report of the Provost

Professor Atkinson called attention to the fact that the institution is gearing up for another planning cycle which will begin May 2008. The Integrated Planning Office will be beginning to solicit advice and to consult about the process of planning for the 08-12 cycle. He drew Council members' attention to the fact that he has provided a more detailed report and update on the Student Information System (SiRIUS) implementation for consideration in his written report. While many of the modules are now fully implemented and are working well, the project is not yet finished and there is still work to be done before it's a fully functioning system.

The Provost then moved to a PowerPoint presentation outlining the commitments and transfers made to date from the Academic Priorities Fund, and the availability of funds from this account. He noted that the process has taken longer than anticipated, but that the timing of decisions about permanent allocations has enabled the institution to make some one-time allocations. The fund, while still less than 1% of the operating budget of the U of S, has enabled the University to move forward on some critical academic priorities, such as undergraduate and graduate scholarships (which will be funded in the next planning cycle by income from Preston Crossing), Aboriginal programming, recruitment and retention initiatives, startup and matching funds for colleges and departments for new faculty, and interprofessional health sciences. Detailed information about allocations is available on the Integrated Planning website.

A Council member asked whether the resourcing for the Learning Centre will be coming from the \$500,000 available in the APF; the Provost responded that there will certainly be some allocation from the APF for that purpose.

7. Student Society Reports

7.1 Report of the USSU

Brad Flavell, Vice President, Academic Affairs reported for the USSU. He reported that he has recently returned from a Canadian Federation of Students conference in Ottawa, a visit to Montreal to evaluate the current medical and dental plan, which will be up for renewal next year, and a trip to Toronto for a Professional Development conference.

Renovations are beginning in Place Riel: this will be one of the USSU's major initiatives this year, with the first stage being completed over the summer. He plans to spend the rest of the summer working on student advocacy initiatives, gearing up for Orientation Week activities, and filling staff positions.

7.2 Report of the Graduate Students' Association

Cameron Goodfellow, GSA President, reported that he also attended CFS conference in Ottawa as well as the National Graduate Students' caucus. The focus of the caucus was specifically on areas on commercialization of research and implementation of whistleblower policies for graduate students. He reported that the GSA has hired a new office administrator, Susan Clark. The GSA is planning orientation for graduate students on either Sept 1 or Sept 8.

8. Academic Programs Committee

Professor Jim Merriam presented the report as Chair of the Committee.

8.1 Approval of Policies for Examinations

Professor Merriam introduced this item and spoke briefly to the reasons for the recommendation.

MERRIAM/ADARAMOLA : Beginning with the 2006 fall term, that Colleges may permit a student to obtain credit for a course even if the final examination is not written. A requirement to write the final examination or to complete specified coursework in order to pass the course should be stipulated by the instructor in the course outline; AND,

That the grade comment of INC (Incomplete) no longer be used when a student has passed a course with coursework outstanding.

CARRIED

8.2 Report for Information

The following items were received for information:

Change in credit unit requirement for the Master of Public Health:

The number of credit units required in the new MPH program has been increased from 39 to 42 credit units.

Change in program name to Biological Psychiatry

The name of a graduate program in the Department of Psychiatry has been changed from "Psychiatry" to "Biological Psychiatry."

Annual Report of the Committee

9. Bylaws Committee

Barry Ziola presented the report as Chair.

9.1 Appointments to Nominations Committee for 2006/07

A revised handout was circulated at the door.

ZIOLA/MacLEAN: That Council approve the appointment of Bev Pain, Curriculum Studies as Chair of the Nominations Committee for 2006/2007; and

That Council approve the appointment of Don Hamilton, Veterinary Biomedical Sciences, and Lawrence Martz, College of Arts and Science, to the Nominations Committee for three year terms, July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2009.

CARRIED

9.2 (formerly 13.2)

Dr. Ziola called the attention of Council to a letter, circulated at the door, that has been prepared by the Bylaws Committee in response to a letter in the May 19 edition of *On Campus News*, with respect to the way that Council elections are conducted and the release of information about successful candidates.

Following some discussion, it was agreed that Council should continue its practice of not releasing the number of votes for each candidate, but that individual candidates should be told, if they enquire, how many votes they received themselves, and the number of votes that was required in order for a candidate to be elected.

10. Coordinating Committee: Appointment to the Task Force on Changing Structures

Professor Angel presented the report as Chair of the Coordinating Committee.

ANGEL/ZIOLA: That Council approve the appointment of Bob Gander, College of Engineering, to the Task Force on Changing Structures.

CARRIED

11. Instructional Development Committee: Policies for Student Evaluation of Instruction

Bob Tyler presented the report as Chair of the Committee and gave some background on the development of the document and the consultations that have taken place. He explained the rationale behind the recommendations presented in the document.

A member of Council asked whether the evaluations would be public information (pp. 69-71) and pointed out an apparent contradiction between statements on p. 71 and p. 52 in this regard. The member urged that access to the evaluations be restricted. Professor Tyler clarified that Council's current policy is that such evaluations are not automatically public, and Council is not being asked to change this policy at this time; each department would continue to follow its current practice, though there may be a recommendation coming forward at a later date to consider making the evaluations public in general.

Another member raised an objection to the fact that Council is being asked to vote on the recommendations contained in the report at the same meeting that the report is tabled, arguing that there should be an opportunity following tabling of the report for Council members to discuss the substance of the report and its recommendations with colleagues. It was noted, for example, that there are resource implications to conduct student evaluations in all classes and this has not been addressed. More information is needed about how/whether this first motion could be implemented and how long it would take.

CHEESMAN/MacLEAN: That decision on the motions presented in the agenda package with respect to student evaluation of courses be deferred until the next Council meeting.

CARRIED

Members of Council agreed to continue discussion of the documents.

Discussion included suggestions for consultation with the Faculty Association and with sessional lecturers and questions about the status of this instrument relative to instruments already validated and in use by departments, resource requirements for implementation, timing of implementation, validity of the instrument for low enrolment classes, handling of multi-instructor courses, feasibility of a pilot of the procedure, and about whether the intent of the process is formative or summative.

Professor Angel invited members of Council to contact Professor Tyler with further comments and questions prior to the next Council meeting.

12. Joint Committee on Chairs and Professorships:

12.1 Research Chair in Substance Abuse

ATKINSON/RICHARDSON: That Council approve the establishment of the Saskatchewan Healthy Living Services—Research Chair in Substance Abuse.

CARRIED

12.2 Annual Report of the Committee

Received for information

13. Nominations Committee

13.1 Appointments to International Committee

ZELLO/GRAY: That Council approve the change of date of the appointment of Ajay Dalai on the International Activities Committee from January 1, 2007 to July 1, 2006 until June 20, 2009.

CARRIED

13.2 See Item 9.2

14. Planning Committee

Professor Beth Bilson presented the report as Chair of the Planning Committee.

14.1 Task Force on Changing Structures: Discussion Paper on Schools

RIGBY/ANSDELL: That Council approve the “Task Force on Changing Structures: Discussion Paper on Schools” as the policy framework for the establishment of Schools at the University of Saskatchewan.

CARRIED

14.2 Change of Name for the College of Agriculture

RIGBY/ANSDELL: That Council approve the change of name for the College of Agriculture to College of Agriculture and Bioresources.

CARRIED.

14.3 Annual Report of the Planning Committee and Report from the SubCommittee on Centres

The annual report was received for information.

Professor Bilson invited Council members to get in touch if they see errors or omissions in the list of Centres provided in the report on Centres. She corrected an error in the Planning Committee report list of Planning Committee members: the names of Professors Misra, Cheesman, and Ansdell were left off the Planning Committee list of members; Professor Bilson expressed regret for the omission.

15 Academic Support Committee

15.1 Annual Report

Professor Dirk Morrison presented the report for information as Chair of the Committee.

16 Budget Committee

16.1 Annual Report of the Committee

Professor Phyllis Shand presented the report in the absence of the Chair; it was received for information.

17 Research, Scholarly and Artistic Work Committee

17.1 Annual Report of the Committee

Professor Brian Rossnagel presented the report in the absence of the Chair; it was received for information.

18 Other Business:

Professor Barry Ziola, Chair of the Bylaws Committee, drew Council members' attention to the fact that a second call for nominations for the position of Chair of Council has gone out and will close tomorrow. He noted that the Council Bylaws are silent on the matter of process in the event that no nominations are received, and indicated that the Bylaws Committee would be considering this at its next meeting.

It was noted that this is Chair Joe Angel's last meeting; Council members applauded his service to Council and its committees over the years.

19. Question Period

There were no questions.

20. Adjournment and next meeting

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m. Next meeting is 2:30 p.m., Thursday, September 21, in the **Neatby-Timlin Lecture Theatre (Arts 241)**