



York University
Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies
9th Meeting of Faculty Council

NOTICE OF MEETING

Thursday, June 17, 2010
3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Senate Chamber

Agenda

1. Call to Order and Approval of the Agenda
2. Acting Chair of Council's Remarks
3. Minutes of the **June 10, 2010** Meeting.....1
4. **Committee of the Whole**
 - **Strategic Plan for the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies, 2010 - 2020: Making Choices for our Future (Draft)**
(http://www.yorku.ca/laps/pdf/LAPS_Strategic_Plan_draft_2010_06_02.pdf)
 - **Strategic Plan for the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies Appendices**
(http://www.yorku.ca/laps/pdf/LAPS_Strategic_Plan_Appendices_draft_2010_06_02.pdf)
5. Other Business for Which Due Notice Has Been Given
6. Other Business

The last meeting of the 2009 - 2010 Liberal Arts & Professional Studies Faculty Council will take place on Thursday, June 24, 2010 from 11:00am – 1:00pm in the Senate Chamber, N940 Ross. Lunch will be provided at 11:00am.

All are welcome and encouraged to attend!



**York University
Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies
LA&PS Faculty Council**

Senate Chamber
Minutes of the 8th Meeting of Council
June 10, 2010
#100610

Attendance: S. Abdulla, M. Adriaen, C. Ashton, P. Avery, I. Badr, J. Beare, M. Beare, M. Belcourt, J. Bell, M. Blumberg, S. Bohn, B. Bradbury, M. Buccheri, M.H. Budworth, V. Caparello, G. Comninel, L. Cozzi, N. Couto, B. Crow, P. Cumming, L. De La Cour, M. Dick, M. Ducharme, J. Edmondson, C. Ehrlich, I. Ferrara, D. Freake, W. Hayden, M. Jacobs, N. Jazairi, S. Kwon, D. Leyton-Brown, S. Lino, L. Lo, V. Lobo, D. Lumsden, E. Lunstrum, A. MacLennan, J. Magee, C. Marjollet, K. McPherson, J. Mensah, K. Michasiw, B. Miller, R. Myers, J. Parkinson, M. Porporato, R. Power, A. Raja, L. Ripley, C. Sanchez-Rodriguez, L. Sanders, S. Scott, S. Sevigny, R. Sheese, J. Sheptycki, A. Shulman, J. Simeon, M. Singer, D. Skinner, J.B. Smith, J. Spencer, I. Spletstoesser, G. Spraakman, P. Taylor, S. Tweyman, R. Wellen, K. White, D. Winland, D. Woody, S. Zecevic

Guests: E. Avery, C. Deschamps, C. Edgecombe, A. Gordon, F. Greene, T. Hudson, K. Li, D. Pomerleau, K. Skinner

1. Call to order and approval of agenda

The Chair of Council called the meeting to order.

It was moved, seconded, and carried that the agenda be approved.

2. Chair of Council's Remarks

The Chair remarked on this being his last Council for the year and that the Vice-Chair will be chairing the remainder of the meetings in June.

The Chair noted that at this meeting of Council the Faculty's Strategic Plan will be introduced. He pointed out that the Plan itself is not the final stage of the process, and that the final stage will happen over the upcoming months if the Plan is adopted on June 24, 2010.

The Chair noted since there was no request to move the consent items to the regular agenda, they have been approved.

3. Minutes of the May 13, 2010 meeting

It was moved, seconded, and carried that the minutes of the May 13, 2010 meeting of Council be approved.

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

At the last meeting of the Faculty Council questions regarding the *Accessibility for Ontarians With Disabilities Act (AODA)* were raised. The questions were forwarded to the University Secretary for a response. A response was received by the Council on the questions raised and noted that there is a Senate policy governing Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities, which is posted at: [http://www.yorku.ca/univsec/policies/document.php?document=t=68](http://www.yorku.ca/univsec/policies/document.php?document=68)

5. Inquiries

The Chair discussed that at last meeting of Council a procedural inquiry was made regarding if there were any University provisions to allow Councillors to vote electronically if there were not in attendance at a Council meeting. The inquiry was forwarded to the University Secretariat. Although provision is made for other forms of balloting (e-vote is used for elections, sometime a paper ballot during a meeting), Senate is pretty insistent that votes should be conducted at the end of a debate, and that members have a right to hear arguments, but also a duty to attend, and participate and vote.

6. Communications

There were none.

7. Report of the Dean

Dean Singer thanked Council for the attending the June meetings and noted that this reflects the commitment of the Faculty to the planning exercise

Members of Council were made apprised of the Faculty's undergraduate student enrolments. Enrolments within the Faculty are at a very healthy state, we are 250 FTE ahead of last year. He also noted that we have received a greater number of first choice applications and have maintained a higher retention rate over last year.

Dean Singer encouraged faculty to attend the York Convocation next week. The Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies will have five convocations. Dean Singer discussed the importance of the convocation in a

student's university career and meaningfulness of the event for the parents.

An update was given regarding the staffing situation.

8. Report of the Chair of the Council Masters

S. Tweyman discussed that the residences have seen a decline in the number of students who are requesting space. The Masters and the Vice-President Academic Learning Initiatives will be looking at ways to make the residences more appealing for students. He noted that an example of an effective Residence is Winter's College where students who are drawn to the College have a lot in common. One thought is to create thematic floors in the residence for students to study and share in their experiences. He noted that some of the Residences do not have their own Residence Life Coordinators.

An updated to Council on the guest suites situation at York was given. He noted that there has been discussion about possible solutions:

- Students may stay at the Schulich Executive Centre Suites
- The University is looking at creating a hostel
- To take the current guest suites and upgrade them
- Students could go off campus for lodging

The Masters' are in favour of upgrading the current suites on campus. There will be more discussion on this in the future.

S. Tweyman noted that Chairpersonship on the College Masters rotates and that Master Mauro Buccheri will be the new Chair of the Council Masters. He thanked Dean Singer, Associate Dean Lambert-Drache and Associate Dean Michasiw for their support over the last year.

9. Report of the Faculty Representative on Senate

Senator Porporato provided Council with the report from the May 23, 2010 meeting of Senate. She noted that at this meeting there was a presentation about student engagement by four of our students, that there were approvals of 60 new tenure stream hires for the University, that there will be opportunities for partnerships in the future with other organizations, and that a presentation was made on the learning commons in the Scott Library.

Senator Porporato encouraged faculty to attend Convocation next week.

The Senate Synopsis is available at:

<http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/senate/synopses/2009-2010/10%2005%2027%20FINAL%20FOR%20DISTRIBUTION.pdf>

10. Question Period

A question was raised regarding the average cost of the residences each year. It was noted that the residences are competitive with Tribute Homes; however a meal plan is required for students who live on residence.

A follow up question was asked regarding the taskforce to tackle the residence issues. This is still on the preliminary phase and once a more formal approach is discussed that students will be included.

11. Reports of the Standing Committees of Council

11.1 Executive Committee

Council received as an item for information an update on the amendments to the Rules and Procedures of Council. It was noted that the elections to Council and its committees have also been postponed because it has been deemed necessary to review and perhaps amend the new Faculty's electoral procedures particularly in reference to the number of committee positions that may be held by any one member of Council.

11.2 Committee on Tenure and Promotions

Council received as an item for information the year-end summary of committee activities.

11.3 Committee on Curriculum, Curricular Policy and Standards

The items were approved by consent.

11.4 Academic Policy and Planning Committee

Council received as an item for information and discussion the draft of the "Strategic Plan for the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies, 2010 – 2020: Making Choices For Our Future"

It was moved, seconded, and carried that the meeting proceed to the Committee of the Whole.

12. Committee on the Whole

Council moved into a Committee of the Whole for an open discussion on the Strategic Plan for the Faculty of Liberal

Arts & Professional Studies, 2010 – 2020: Making Choices For Our Future”

Dean Singer introduced and remarked on the draft of the Strategic Plan for the Faculty. He noted that there are two documents; the main document and the appendices. The main document represents the second stage of the process if adopted; the final stage will be a series of implementation documents that will be presented to Council for information in the Fall.

Council members discussed that the Plan was a very interesting read, especially that of the appendices of the 25 academic units.

Concerns regarding the economic climate and the implication for the Plan and its implementation were raised. Members recommended that priorities should be established, as the Plan is not specific enough about what is important. It was noted that it is not easy to have a laser focus and it may be a dangerous approach to be overly focused within the Plan.

Additional questions and concerns were raised regarding safety on campus during the day, the development of a transitional year program, the issue of space as a item within the plan (as it does not fall under the prerogative of Senate), and re-opening the issue of general education.

It was noted that the Plan does not have to be limited to the legalistic views, as there are a number of things that Senate has commented upon including resources and space.

Members raised concerns regarding how negative in some instances the Plan speaks about the Faculty, and as this will be a public document. What will the public perception of the

Faculty be? It was recommended that the Plan may want to highlight working towards a change in collegiality without itemizing the deficit concerns. It was noted that the draft Plan is posted on the main Faculty website already.

It was recommended that the principle 2.1 be changed to read: first and upper year courses, as students request references from their faculty members who have taught them in the third year.

It was also recommended that principle 21.1 include Canadian content in addition to the global content.

Members noted that often students are unaware of the status of a faculty member being contract or full-time, and can not distinguish between the two. This develops a gap between the part-time and full-time faculty.

It was recommended that the plan focus on three areas:

1. Reiterate what we do well
2. Discuss what we can do better
3. Speak to what we do not do at all.

It was also noted that principle 7.2 speak to creating an awareness of the three categories across the Units as we already have tenure and promotion standards.

13. Unfinished Business

There was none.

14. Other Business for Which Due Notice Has Been Given

There was no other business for which due notice was given.

15. Other business

There was no other business.

16. Adjournment

It was moved, seconded, and carried that the meeting of the Faculty Council be adjourned.

C. Ehrlich, Chair of Council

L. Cozzi, Secretary of Council