

**MOUNT ALLISON
MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE
19 January 2011, 3:30 p.m. Tweedie Hall,**

Present: R. Campbell, P. Berry, B. Fleming, J. Ollerhead, C. Parker, J. vanderLeest, M. Boehringer, T. Craig, K. Ghandi, R. Hudson, A. Irwin, J. Rogers, C. Brett, S. Claxton-Oldfield, J. Devine, R. Edwards, Z. Finkel, D. Fleming, A. Grant, R. Ireland, P. Kelly Spurles, R. Majithia, J.C. Martinez, A. Nurse, P. Sianchuk, E. Steuter, D. Torrance, E. Wells, B. Ellis, E. Fraser, K. Geiger, A. Khattar, M. Kinney, N. Walker, R. Bryne, S. Gregg-Wallace, T. Hynes, G. Jollymore, D. Stewart.

Regrets: M. Imbeault, D Greenwood, B. Gnassi, K. Bamford, D. Thomas, E. Naylor, C. Quint, B. Smith E. Herteis.

01.01.11 Approval of the Agenda

Motion (Brett/Craig): that Senate adopt the Agenda as circulated.

Motion CARRIED

02.01.11 Approval of Senate Minutes of 18 November 2010

Motion (Brett/Craig): that Senate adopt the Minutes of 8 December 2010.

There was a suggestion for editorial improvements and with the

Motion CARRIED.

03.01.11 Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising that was not dealt with elsewhere in the agenda.

04.01.11 Report from the Chair

The Chair opened with his reflection on the context that the University finds itself in with the Province and the recent developments that may have implications for its operations. He had hoped for more stable funding than the yearly spring announcements that have been the norm. He reported that the university presidents had had a meeting with the Premier in which they were updated on some government plans. R. Campbell predicted there would not be huge changes for the university sector in the coming year, as the government grapples with its immediate fiscal pressures. Though there will inevitably be cuts in the broad provincial sector, he expected that this coming year may be business as usual for the process of soliciting and receiving university grants from the government.

He therefore speculated that many significant changes in the University's budget this upcoming year will neither be necessary nor possible.

The Presidents continue to make the University's case to the government. Though there is still no decision on the continuation of the tuition freeze, he expects it to be lifted this year. The expected Memorandum of Agreement the Presidents' Council is trying to reach with the provincial government is not one that will be attained this coming year and will not likely be reached without some quid pro quos. The President then asked if there were any questions.

S. Gregg-Wallace inquired if the President had the opportunity to advocate for the students on tuition regulation, and he asked for the University's position should the freeze be lifted. President Campbell noted that Mount Allison is a high cost university, and the government grant as a proportion of our budget is much smaller than our sister institutions. Therefore, tuition comprises a higher proportion of Mount Allison's budget than other universities. However, it is yet to be seen what the government position is nor yet to be decided where the brunt of these changes will fall.

05.01.11 Report from the Committee on University Planning

The President is chairing the Planning Committee during the Provost's leave. As a result of that leave, all the Vice Presidents' budget submissions were made before the Christmas break. The committee has therefore already had a chance to begin to examine these requests. The working assumptions for the construction of the budget and its discussions is (a) no increase in the government grant and (b) a 3% tuition increase. He emphasized that no decision has yet been made on the latter. Currently budgeted expenditures exceed budgeted revenues by several hundreds of thousands and the Vice-Presidents' submissions comprised over \$1 million in requests. The budget document would not be final in the absence of knowledge of the government grant and tuition.

06.01.11 Report on Senior Administration Changes

The President introduced this topic with a brief recent history of events in the senior administration. He regretted the losses to other universities of the Dean of Social Science and (now) the Provost, it was a good sign when our senior administrators are recruited as it reflects well on the health and competence of our University. The President, Deans and VP Student Affairs are all filling in during the Provost's leave. S. McClatchie is returning for two months in early April for two months before he takes up his new position as Principal of Huron College. The President determined to appoint an interim Vice President Academic for the upcoming year, with a full and proper search to be soon launched for a permanent replacement to begin in July 2012. A memo will be sent out on Monday calling for the formation of a search committee. R. Campbell then announced that Berkeley Fleming will step into the interim position.

Following this announcement, there was a show of approval of the decision and congratulations and best wishes for B. Fleming.

The President concluded by announcing a search for a permanent Dean of Social Science would soon be launched and possible searches next year for the other two dean positions and the University Librarian. He encouraged participation in these search committees.

07.01.11 Report from the Graduate Studies Committee

In the absence of the chair of the committee, J. Ollerhead directed senators to the written report and offered to answer any questions.

R. Campbell commented on the proposed provincial graduate school. The status of this graduate school is uncertain given the new provincial government, for while there is nothing in their action plan that either lends or does not lend support, the financial health of the government renders uncertainty into the financing of this activity.

08.01.11 2012-2013 Calendar of Events

C. Parker explained that since the 2012-2013 Provisional Calendar of Events was not approved in December, approval is being sought now. Senate approval was only required for the dates in the report appearing in bold.

Motion (vanderLeest/Parker): that Senate approve the Provisional Calendar of Events 2012 – 2013.

Motion CARRIED.

09.01.11 Other Business

N. Walker rose to express concern over the current state of negotiations and he reminded Senators of the Policy on Academic Disruptions that was approved at the Senate meeting of 22 February, 2000.

10.01.11

There being no further business adjournment came at 4:16.

Respectfully Submitted

Paul Berry
Secretary of Senate