

ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE (APC)
Minutes of Meeting

Date: Friday, April 15, 2011

Time: 9:00am-11:00am

Room: 203 Toldo

Committee Members: Dr. Lorna deWitt, Dr. Amy Fitzgerald, Mr. Anthony Meloche, Dr. Jagdish Pathak (chair), Dr. Katherine Quinsey, Dr. Kara Smith, Dr. Bruce Tucker, Mr. Stephen Willetts, Prof. Larry Wilson, Dr. Alan Wright.

Absent: Dr. Majid Ahmadi, Mr. Ahmed Abou Gharam, Ms. Joan Dalton (regrets), Dr. Diane Kao, Ms. Kim Orr, Dr. Victoria Paraschak (regrets), Ms. Ayesha Raza (regrets), Dr. Cyril Rodrigues, (regrets).

In Attendance: Ms. Sandra Aversa, Mr. Mark Charlton, Ms. Renée Wintermute and Ms. Alison Zilli (University Secretariat)

Formal Business

1 Approval of Agenda

MOTION: That the agenda be approved.

Wright/Meloche
CARRIED

2 Reports/New Business

2.1 University Budget – Tuition Fees 2011/2012

It was NOTED that:

- A presentation of the proposed tuition fees was provided by Ms. Sandra Aversa, Chief Planning Officer and Mr. Mark Charlton, Executive Director, Finance. Members were reminded that the Ministry announced its tuition framework in March 2010 for 2010-2011 and 2011-2012.
- In accordance with this framework, the University is recommending a 4.5% increase for most 1st year domestic undergraduate programs, a 4% increase for 2nd, 3rd and 4th year students continuing in all programs and, no more than a 5% overall increase per year in domestic undergraduate and graduate programs for 2011-2012.
- There will be an 8% increase for 1st year domestic graduate and selected professional undergraduate programs (Business, Computer Science Engineering, and Law). It is also being proposed that there be a 4.5% increase for first 1st year domestic Masters and PhD programs, including the MBA and 4% increase for continuing years.
- The University is recommending varying increases for 1st year International undergraduate programs, international fees will increase by 5% in the Arts and Computer Science, by 1.9% in Education, Engineering and Nursing, by 8% for Law, no increase for Business, and by 4% increase for 2nd, 3rd and 4th year international students continuing in program. In terms of International graduate tuition fees, there will be a 4.5% increase for all 1st year international graduate programs and a 4% increase for continuing years.
- Members were reminded that the Board approved tuition policy states that the revenue generated from an international student should be equivalent to that generated from a domestic student (tuition fee plus government grant) while considering the competitive market conditions.
- The tuition fees for cost-recovery programs offered through the Centre for Executive and Professional Education vary depending on the program. There will be increase in tuition fees for the Master of Engineering and Master of Management programs with English Academic Preparation program.
- The Compulsory Ancillary Fees have all changed in varying ways. Some highlights include the following: CPI indexed fees (1.8%), UWSA (4.5 % increase in drug and dental); GSS (1.7% decrease in benefit plan); OPUS (10% increase in benefit plan); Recreation Fee increases; International Health Fee (13.5% increase in fee).
- Other fee changes include the Law Career development officer (Full-Time - \$80 and Part Time \$40); music instruction fee (increase 18% and 14.5% on half hour and full hour sessions); cost

recovery increases (Transportation fee – VABE, Visual Arts materials costs, and a \$33 - \$40 increase in distance education fee).

Comments/Feedback

- In response to a question raised, members were informed that it is projected that all Ontario Universities will be raising their domestic tuition fees to the maximum allowable, in accordance with the fee increase regulations set by the government. To not apply the maximum allowable increases when presented with the opportunity can result in a gap in fees between our University and others, with variances noted historically. (*i.e.*, Law is still trying to bridge this gap.) Given that the international tuition fees are deregulated, these increases will vary from institution to institution.
- In response to a question raised, it was noted that if the University were to reach the corridor floor (*i.e.*, 400 additional students) then growth monies would be available for students enrolled over and above the 400.
- In response to a question raised regarding why there has been a significant decrease in the Provincial Education Grant, it was noted that this is because the Education Envelope was provided to Universities at a time in the late 1990s when there was a high demand for teachers, which is no longer the case. However, Windsor is still in recruitment mode for Education students as funding is provided for up to 600 spaces.
- In response to a question raised as to whether the University has done any enrolment comparisons with St. Clair College in order to determine if there is a growing trend for students to enrol in College as a result of flexibility of courses offerings and/or specialized program areas, it was noted that this has not been closely monitored. However, the University is currently in the process of looking at expanding online offerings and broadening credit transfer policies in order to increase student accessibility and access to programming. It was further noted that there has been a noticeable increase in students coming from college or transferring into university after taking a year off between high school and university.
- In response to a question raised about whether there was noticeable growth this year in any particular program area, it was noted that Nursing and Social Work are receiving a great deal of applications this year, but interest in program areas varies annually.
- A committee member noted that at this time it may be more financially viable for the University to focus on creating Master programs rather than doctoral as there are only funded spaces currently available at the Masters level.
- In response to question raised regarding what factors are taken into consideration when making these enrolment projections, it was noted that for undergraduate programs projections are based on a three-year enrolment trend with higher weighting on the last year whereas graduate projections are made based on trending in each of the programs which is done in consultation with the appropriate Deans.
- In response to a question raised as to whether consideration has been given to looking at transfer credit initiatives (*i.e.*, advanced placement) as a viable pathway for collecting fees from students, it was noted that this has not yet been reviewed. However, it could be included for review as part of the overall review of credit transfers.
- In response to a question raised, it was noted that the music instruction fee is for non-BMus students who are interested in taking music lessons through the School of Music.
- In response to a question raised, it was noted that the Compulsory Ancillary Fee Board (created in accordance with Ministry requirements) is comprised of staff, administrators and students, with the majority of the members being students.
- Overall, APC endorses the proposed tuition fees, as presented to it on April 15, 2011.

Additional Business

3 Question period/Other business

Nothing to report.

4 Adjournment

MOTION: That the meeting be adjourned.

Willetts/Wright
CARRIED