

ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE (APC) Notes of Meeting

APC120412N

Date: Thursday, April 12, 2012

Time: 2:35pm-3:19pm **Room:** 203 Toldo

Committee Members: Ms. Sandra Aversa Dr. Amy Fitzgerald, Dr. Ed King, Dr. Katherine Quinsey (chair), Dr. Cyril Rodrigues, Dr. Geri Salinitri, Prof. Larry Wilson, Dr. Shuzhen Zhao, Mr. Omar Zghal.

Absent: Dr. Marcello Guarini, Dr. Lorna deWitt, Dr. Derek Northwood (regrets), Ms. Kim Orr. Dr. Victoria Paraschak (regrets), Dr. Martha Reavley, Mr. Tareq Muhammad Supon, Dr. Bruce Tucker (regrets), Dr. Alan Wright (regrets).

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

As quorum was not reached, the following is an unofficial summary of the non-quorate meeting.

Formal Business

1 Approval of Agenda

The agenda was not formally approved at this time.

2 Approval of Minutes of the meeting of March 8, 2012

The minutes of the meeting of March 8, 2012 were not formally adopted at this time.

3 Business arising from the minutes

Nothing to report.

4 Outstanding Business

Nothing to report.

<u>Items for Information</u>

5 Reports/New Business

5.1 Tuition Fees - 2012/2013

(See document APC120412-5.1 for more details.)

It was NOTED that:

- A presentation of the proposed tuition fees was provided by Mr. Mark Charlton, Executive Director, Finance. Members were reminded that the Ministry extended the current tuition fee framework for fiscal year 2012-2013.
- Members were reminded that the goal is to devise a tuition fee schedule that would maximize the University's ability to produce a balanced budget for 2012-2013 within the rules, regulations and principles set out by the government and in the Board-approved tuition policy, while ensuring that the University remains competitive.
- Recommendation for domestic undergraduate fees: a 4.5% increase for most 1st year programs, a 4% increase for 2nd, 3rd and 4th year students continuing in all programs and an 8% overall increase for first year domestic professional programs which includes Business, Computer Science, Engineering and Law. The University is recommending a 4.5% increase for first year Masters and PhD programs which includes the MBA and 4% for continuing years.
- Recommendation for International undergraduate fees: a 5% increase for all first year programs. The exceptions are Business, which will increase by 1.9%; Computer Science which will increase by 5.1% and Law, which will increase by 8%.
- Recommendation for International graduate fees: a 4.5% increase for first year students.
- There will be a 4% increase for all undergraduate and graduate students in continuing years.

Academic Policy Committee Comments/Questions

- Members were informed that it is projected that all Ontario Universities will be raising their domestic tuition fees in accordance with the fee increase regulations set by the government. To not apply the allowable increases when presented with the opportunity can result in a gap in fees between our University and others, with variances noted historically, and an inability to catch-up later. (i.e., Law is still trying to bridge this gap.)
- Members were reminded 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. All ancillary fees have been approved by the Ancillary Fee Board.
- APC appreciates the efforts to strike a balance between ensuring competitiveness, affordability, and producing a balanced budget for 2012/13. Overall, APC endorses the proposed tuition fees, as presented to it on April 12, 2012.

5.2 Aboriginal Education Centre 7th Annual Report

(See document APC120412-5.2 for more details.)

It was NOTED that:

- The Aboriginal Education Centre which was created in 1992 receives funding from the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities - Aboriginal Education Office.
- In 2009, funding was consolidated under a three-year multi-year agreement, including the Access to Opportunities funds. This funding agreement has been extended for an additional fourth year (until March 2013).
- The mandate of the Centre is to ensure that services and programs meet the needs of Aboriginal students in a culturally supportive atmosphere and to provide assistance with research projects, and cultural activities that support researchers, faculty, and departments on campus.
- Staffing at the Aboriginal Education Centre includes a director, an aboriginal outreach coordinator and one to three work study student employees that are hired each year.
- The Aboriginal Education Centre has representation on the COU-Reference Group on Aboriginal Education which provides an avenue to discuss issues of common interest and policy development across the Ontario university sector.
- MTCU has provided the University of Windsor with funding to administer the Aboriginal PSET Bursary which has been allocated to 19 students for 2011-2012.
- The Beginning Times Teaching program within the Faculty of Education is the only academic initiative used to promote and supports Aboriginal contributions to knowledge and postsecondary learning.
- A Memorandum of Understanding with the Walpole Island First Nation has reached the final agreement stage.
- The document was received for information.

Item for Approval

5.3 APC Subcommittee Report on New Grading Scale

(See document APC120412-5.3 for more details.)

It was NOTED that:

- Appendix B has been added to the document in order to illustrate what transcripts will look like for a student that graduated pre-Fall 2013, a student under both grading systems, and for a student starting in Fall 2013.
- As noted at the last meeting, given that first-year can often be difficult, students in first-year with averages between 50-54.9% will be given the opportunity to have their academic record reviewed by an Academic Standing Committee which will determine whether they may continue on probation or be required to withdraw.
- Members were reminded that the following changes are being recommended for letter grade descriptors: A+ (90-100); A (85-89.9); A- (80-84.9). There are no changes proposed for B+ to D letter grade descriptors and the University will no longer be using an F-.
- The document will be circulated for e-vote.

Additional Business

6 Question period/Other business Nothing to report.

7 Adjournment The meeting was adjourned at 3:19pm