



University of Toronto

FACULTY OF APPLIED SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING
OFFICE OF THE DEAN

Minutes of the Faculty Council

Wednesday November 29, 2006

12:10 - 2:00 p.m.

Michael E. Charles Council Chamber, Galbraith Building

Present: B.J. Adams (Speaker), D.G. Allen, C.H. Amon (Dean), T. Benler, M. Benati, E.C. Bentz, M.E. Charles, M. Chen, Y.L. Cheng, W. Cluett, A. Cumming, G.J. Evans, B.A. Francis, R.D. Hooton, S. Hum, W. Janischewskyj, B.W. Karney, F.R. Kschischang, E. Kuhn, R.H. Kwong, J. Langins, J. MacNeil, R. Mahadevan, B. McCabe, S. McCahan, B. McCann, M.M. McGrath, J. Nogami, A. Ozolins, J.C. Paradi, D.D. Perovic, D. Pettigrew, K.D. Pressnail, A. Pural, J.S. Rose, K. Senthilnathan, C. Silveria, A.N. Sinclair, E. Sone, A. Stelmacovich, C. Variawa, J. Wang, S. Walker, R. Weinstock, C. Yip

Guests: K. Brand, M. McKone, A. Ozolins

Speaker's Announcements

The speaker announced a change in the order of the agenda and reported the following new senior academic appointments:

Professor David Zingg, Chair, Institute of Aerospace Studies (UTIAS)
Professor Yu-Ling Chen, Acting Chair, Department of Chemical Engineering and Applied Chemistry
Professor Bryan Karney, Chair, Division of Environmental Engineering
Professor Susan McCahan, First year Chair
Professor Brenda McCabe, Vice-Dean, Graduate Studies

The Departmental chairs then introduced their newly appointed faculty members and new student members were invited to introduce themselves.

1. Report of the Dean

The Dean thanked Barry Adams for serving in the very important capacity of Faculty Speaker this year.

She then reported on the following priorities.

1. Report of the Dean (cont'd)**(a) Task Force to Review the Faculty Constitution and Operations of Faculty Council**

The Committee has met twice and the Dean understands the discussions to date have been quite lively.

One of the main objectives will be a move toward a representational Council, which will greatly reduce the membership and increase the levels of participation and opportunities for engagement. The Dean had invited Kim Pressnail and Gabe D'Eleuterio, the Co-Chairs, to provide the Council with a progress report on their draft recommendations at the Council's next meeting in February.

The Dean then expressed her gratitude to the following task force members for their work on this very important issue:

Professor Don Cormack
Professor Gabe D'Eleuterio (Co-Chair)
Ms Claire Kennedy
Mr. David Lee
Ms Barbara McCann
Professor Emeritus Joe Paradi
Professor Kim Pressnail (Co-Chair)
Mr. Steve Stoyan
Professor Kevin Truong

(b) Canadian Engineering Accreditation Board (CEAB) Visit

The Dean thanked everyone who had participated in the gathering and recording of data and the site visit itself. In particular, she acknowledged the great deal of time and coordination that Greg Evans had put into the preparations of the accreditation materials.

The Dean continued that she was extremely proud of the team spirit of the Faculty, particularly as was evidenced by the large crowd that turned up for the initial report, which had included among its comments the following:

the programs are of excellent quality and are delivered by highly qualified and dedicated faculty. The Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering benefits from strong innovative academic leadership at all levels and has the confidence and respect of the University administration and you are highly regarded by the administration

In addition, she had heard a great deal of praise for the student spirit and quality, and of the Faculty's counseling services.

1. Report of the Dean (cont'd)**(b) Canadian Engineering Accreditation Board (CEAB) Visit**

She was cautiously optimistic that the Faculty's two programs that were under notice will receive accreditation when the report is issued in June.

The Dean cautioned that the Faculty also has some challenges ahead and she will continue working with the visiting team while they prepare the report in agreeing to the weightings used in the calculation of Accreditation Units and in growing the number of faculty members registered as PEngs, which has been signaled as a main concern for all the programs.

At this time, the Faculty was taking steps to improve the number of registered PEngs in the next months, to tune a few courses and requirements to meet all the criteria for accreditation and to extend the Fall semester to 13 weeks of class.

(c) Academic Initiatives Fund – Allocation Process for this Year

The Dean reported that the Faculty had a number of very worthy proposals for submission this year. At her request, Javad was leading a team that will review these against the criteria and provide feedback to the proposal leaders prior to their submission on December 14. She was hopeful that the Faculty will fair well in this round of allocations.

(d) Search for Vice-Dean, Research

The Dean expressed her gratitude to Professor Javad Mostaghimi, whose term as Vice-Dean Research was ending on December 31, 2006.

An advisory committee has been struck to provide the Dean with advice on Professor Mostaghimi's replacement. In the coming weeks she will be inviting members of the faculty to address the committee on the emerging issues that will face this portfolio.

(e) New Budget Model

The Dean reported on the University's adoption of a new budget model, which provides for more authority and greater accountability to the divisions. The Faculty Budget Committee is hard at work – meeting weekly – to determine a fair and accurate way to roll out the model to our various Departments and Institutes.

1. Report of the Dean (cont'd)**(e) New Budget Model** (cont'd)

The Dean was grateful to the following Committee members:

Professor Will Cluett
Professor Ross Ethier
Professor Greg Evans
Ms Catherine Gagne
Professor Jonathan Ross

(f) Graduate Student Expansion

The Dean noted that the Government of Ontario has provided opportunities and incentives to Universities to increase their graduate student enrolments. Under the leadership of Professor Brenda McCabe, Vice-Dean, Graduate Studies, the Faculty was in the process of revising its M Eng program to ensure a stronger curriculum which includes engineering management courses. Incentives would be provided to Departments to increase their enrolment of Ph.D. M.Eng. and M.A. students.

(g) Undergraduate Student Enrolment

The Dean reported that she will strike a working group to evaluate and make recommendations on undergraduate student recruitment and admissions. The group will look at applications numbers, selectivity, yield rates and student performance.

(g) Task Force on Dean's Advisory Board

The Dean reported that, at her invitation, Mr. Paul Cadario has agreed to chair a task force to review the mission and constituency of the Dean's Advisory Board.

(h) Engineering Alumni Association (EAA)

The Dean noted that the EAA would also be revising their activities. Three new geographic regions had been added to the EAA's mandate: BC, Ottawa, and Hong Kong. They were considering assistance in post-admission student recruitment, and a meeting had been held the previous day on this issue.

In conclusion, the Dean thanked Professor Yu-Ling Cheng for her service as Acting Chair this year.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

On motion duly moved and seconded, the minutes of the meeting held on May 31, 2006 were approved.

3. Reports of Special Committees

(i) Report #3201 - Report of the Faculty Ombuds Committee

Professor Paradi presented the report for information.

(ii) Report #3198 - Curriculum Committee

Professor Kschischang introduced the report and presented the highlights of the proposed curricula changes for 2007-2008.

On motion duly moved and second,

Report #3198 of the Curriculum Committee was approved.

The Dean drew members' attention to the new schedule for classes, which will address one of the concerns raised in the CEAB accreditation visit.

(iii) Report #3200 - Examinations Committee

Professor McCahan introduced the report, which called for a change to the promotion/transfer regulations for first-year Engineering Science students, thereby putting them in line with students enrolled in the Track One program.

On motion duly moved and second,

Report #3200 of the Examinations Committee was approved.

(iv) Report #3199 – Committee on Admissions Summary of Activities – 2005-2006

Professor Yip, presented the report for information.

5. Date of the Next Meeting

The Speaker reminded members that the date of the Faculty Council's next meeting was Monday, February 26, 2007 at 12:10 p.m.