

Attendance: J. Kalra (Chair). See Appendix A for listing of members in attendance.

A tribute to Professor James Brooke, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, was presented by Professor Jacek Szmigielski, professor in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics. A moment of silence was observed.

The chair called the meeting to order at 2:45 p.m., observing that quorum had been attained.

1. Adoption of the agenda

B. BRENNNA/ZELLO: To adopt the agenda as circulated.

CARRIED

2. Opening remarks

Dr. Kalra, chair of Council, provided opening remarks. The university secretary welcomed the new representative from the Edwards School of Business, Prof. Suresh Kalagnanam and the chair welcomed the two new student members, Jennifer Barrett, Agriculture and Bioresources, and Katrina Barth, Western College of Veterinary Medicine. The chair noted the usual procedures for debate and discussion, and the items to be addressed at Council.

3. Minutes of the meeting of November 20, 2014

The university secretary advised of a requested correction on page 8 of the November 20, 2014 meeting minutes to revise in item 8.2 *Report from the GSA* to add "and faculty" to the third last line so it reads, "number of emails of support from students and faculty regarding the defamatory comments...".

FINDLAY/D. BRENNNA: That the Council minutes of November 20, 2014 be approved with the one correction as noted.

CARRIED

4. Business from the minutes

The chair advised that a response to the questions raised by the D'Eon/Solose motion passed at the November 20, 2014 Council meeting would be provided by the vice-president finance and resources at the February 2015 Council meeting.

5. Report of the President

President Gordon Barnhart noted he was moved by the tribute to Prof. Brooke as he knew him before joining the university.

The president spoke to his report. He advised that he was continuing to ensure a strong and collaborative leadership team; enhance accountability and transparency; and give care and attention to both internal and external stakeholders. Regarding external stakeholders he noted that he had recently attended a number of alumni events as part of his tour in Regina, Weyburn and La Ronge; and also in Edmonton, Calgary and Ottawa. In particular he noted his visit to the U of S nursing campus in Regina, which he found quite amazing and that this had been the first time the

university president had visited Weyburn since 2002 (but he was surprised that he was unable to visit anyone at the high school in Weyburn although he requested a visit and also dropped by the school).

The president reported on his trip to China. He hosted alumni events in both Hong Kong and China, attended by many recent graduates of the U of S some of whom travelled hours to Beijing at their own expense specifically for the event. He also conducted productive meetings with the University of Hong Kong and Beijing Normal University; signed a formal memorandum of understanding with Shantou University; and strengthened the relationship with our current flagship partner, the Beijing Institute of Technology. The president also met with a number of potential donors which he was hopeful would result in some sizeable donations. The president noted that he travelled to China on economy class and that his wife joined him at her own expense in an attempt to keep their travel costs to a minimum.

The president noted the Saskatchewan Government's announcement of their international education strategy: encouraging students to study abroad; increasing international students coming to Saskatchewan; and growing more international working relationships with global research partners.

The president provided an update on the Aboriginal achievement week noting that it was scheduled for February 2-6, 2015 with a "leadership" theme. He also provided an update on the Gordon Oakes Red Bear Student Centre advising that it was expected to be complete in April 2015 and a soft opening was tentatively planned for April/May with the official opening occurring in September 2015.

The president noted that one of the commitments made in September was in relation to Aboriginal engagement and he advised that two related conversation cafes were held engaging close to 200 students, faculty and staff in discussing possible actions in key areas. He noted that Heather Magotiaux, vice-president advancement and community engagement, was currently away with ill health and hoped to further this priority in the new year.

The president spoke about the Confucius Institute on campus advising that they have had approximately 120 students take non-credit classes since January 2013. Students take free Chinese language training. The president noted that we need to encourage students to study more Mandarin and also to work with universities in China to offer more classes in English to allow more of our students to study abroad. He explained that professors at the Confucius Institute were not part of the U of S academic faculty component so we had no say over who was hired, but we do have some influence over what is taught and the study of Mandarin.

The president noted that his wish for the University Council was to move to having students sitting in the front row as this was more than symbolic and he gave his assurance to Council that he wanted to work as hard as possible with Council to make the university the best we can from an academic point of view. He was hopeful that Council would accept his new year's resolution to all work for the same goal and for the students of the university.

The president then asked for questions. A Council member suggested that partnerships with Chinese partners should be on the university website because transparency was important. He noted that China has recently moved to have closed-circuit television cameras in their university classrooms and he recommended that the U of S prepare for enhanced vigilance of partnership agreements and the values of this university. The president replied that he did not see any reason why the partnership agreements could not be on the website and he believed that the Confucius Institute agreement no longer had to be kept confidential, and if he was correct then the agreement would be put on the university's website. Regarding closed circuit cameras he noted that if the

Confucius Institute's classes were taught here on campus he did not believe cameras should be used in those classrooms.

A Council member noted that she was happy to hear that the university acknowledges the importance of China as a partner and the importance of languages. She commented that Mandarin was now taught in the Department of Religion and Culture although only four courses a year because they were using sessional lecturers. She commented that she had heard that courses being taught by the Confucius Institute had to be taken up by the university after the initial four or five years which was good for students on one hand, but also created a dilemma as the department did not have enough money to offer credited courses in Mandarin and in the culture. The president thanked the professor for her comments and support of the importance of Mandarin and he noted that her comments would be raised with Provost Barber.

A Council member noted that there were concerns about the Confucius Institute honoring academic freedom and advancing China's soft powers internationally, as well as other concerns which was why many other universities had not welcomed these institutes on their campuses. He asked how the international activities committee was coming on the review of these decisions regarding repressive regimes. The president advised that he was not aware of the international activities committee's activities. Regarding academic freedom, he noted that the Confucius Institutes were in Canada to teach the language and some Chinese culture and did not violate what the university believed in. He advised that he has not experienced or seen that the Confucius Institute was trying to foist on the U of S the propaganda of the views of central China.

6. Report of the Provost

Patti McDougall, vice-provost teaching and learning, spoke to the provost's report on behalf of Provost Barber as he was ill. She noted that the provost highlighted a number of activities in his report beginning with the eight priority activities and continuing with activities in colleges and the Office of the Vice-President Research.

A Council member noted the survey referenced in the provost's report connected to the service design and delivery project suggesting that the survey was ominous, onerous and gratuitous and given the recent events of the university another iteration of a culture of surveillance. He suggested that there was a consultancy paradox where the university was relying more on external expertise than by growing the internal capacity to make the determinations on our own and suggested that Scott Madden, the consultant for this project appeared not to have experience in university work. He asked how much the university had paid Scott Madden for this project and whether senior administration realized that people felt threatened by this activity especially given the last 18 months. Greg Fowler, vice-president finance and resources, responded noting that his office had been working with the staff on the inventory and been assuring staff that this was not about job loss but more about doing our job better to serve the university and its mandate. He committed to provide information on the cost of Scott Madden. He also noted that this project would result in a proposal for the deans to look at and that administration had a lot of involvement from functional leads and our staff.

Jim Pulfer, Senate representative to Council, advised that there had been a net saving of about \$7M by having faculty retire from the university, and that it sounded like it would go toward the pension fund. He encouraged the provost use the savings to hire bright new staff members to assist graduate students to learn. Vice-Provost McDougall responded noting that on page 2 of the provost's report it speaks to \$4.67M in funding going to colleges following the retirement incentive this spring which will be a reinvestment into faculty positions in colleges.

A non-Council member noted the U of S priorities of action included inter-professional health education and inter-disciplinary health research. She noted there were over 400 students participating in SWITCH, approximately 380 from the U of S but the university did not have an MOU with SWITCH even though this organization was key to our global health program through the College of Medicine and an award winning program. She noted that SWITCH had funding challenges and would be meeting with senior administration about further funding. Vice-provost McDougall responded to this question advising that they suggested to SWITCH in fall that the university have a MOU with them as in the past they had not been interested in such an approach. They have evolved and decided to move forward to an integrated partnership. In addition to Medicine there are many students in Arts and Science and other colleges involved with this program. The university will formalize its relationship with them and are discussing formal financial support and other support and advice to help SWITCH stabilize their funding. She noted that many students were volunteers and some were participating through formal programs.

A Council member asked about the service design and delivery survey and asked why faculty members were not a part of the survey. Vice-provost McDougall advised that the survey was not about satisfaction or quality but rather an inventory designed to ask staff what they did across seven key areas. Now with the results there was an inventory of information to understand how we deliver services to the university and where that takes place. This will allow us to determine if we are delivering our services in the best way and where to improve.

Dean Kish Wasan, College of Pharmacy and Nutrition, advised that the college would be signing a partnership agreement with SWITCH and will have pharmacists working with SWITCH and our students, and hopefully nutritionists as well. Dean Wasan noted that Minister Duncan was supportive of this interaction.

A non-Council member noted that a member of SWITCH had to go to each college and seek funding and if the university wanted to engage academically with SWITCH this could be done and she called for an action plan. Vice-provost McDougall advised that part of the MOU with SWITCH will be about principles and about how to have better processes. Dean Preston Smith, College of Medicine, also responded emphasizing the importance of SWITCH and the value placed on this program and advised that the College of Medicine would take a leading role in supporting SWITCH both in kind and with financial resources to ensure they continue to do their good work.

6.1 College of Medicine update

Vice-provost Martin Phillipson and Dean Preston Smith provided an update on the College of Medicine.

Vice-provost Phillipson reported that after *The Way Forward* went through Council, it received strong endorsements from both the medical association and accreditation body. A key factor of the plan was to bring forward leadership and Vice-provost Phillipson reported that Dean Smith was providing stable, collaborative and humble leadership to stabilize and build-up the college. Over the past 12 months the college had also: been building capacity by hiring a chief operating officer and recruiting vice-deans, associate deans and department heads; had hired a full-time accreditation specialist and full time project manager working on distributed medical education projects; was working with Financial Services to ensure the budget was clear and effective; and had received strong support from the Provincial ministries, although there continued to be strong challenges and the college was working on an academic funding plan with the Province as a crucial component. Vice-provost Phillipson reported that student performance in the last two sets of national exams had improved; the new curriculum had been introduced; and the college was making good progress. He also noted that he would be going on administrative leave.

Dean Smith reported on the work being conducted to realign the faculty complement, re-conceptualize research and re-structure governance structures. He advised that they would be relentless but flexible in implementing *The Way Forward*, and that the most important job he had was to take care of people through the process of change. He was interpreting *The Way Forward* as a need to increase the faculty complement in the College of Medicine. The college had faculty in clinical and basic sciences and a few other full-time faculty in education and other fields. There was currently the right number of basic science faculty; however, regarding clinical faculty the college will be moving to a model of clinical faculty engagement that allows the college to value education, research and clinical work equally.

Dean Smith reported that the college had engaged consultants to develop a physician resource plan and the consultants had done an environmental scan of doctors in the province. It was determined that between university and community-based faculty, there was approximately 60 FTE of academic time being spent by clinicians in Saskatoon. As a comparison, in Halifax there are 150 FTE with approximately the same size of medical school, similar size residency program, and more research but a similar number of scientists. Comparably, there are 450 clinicians in Calgary and they devote 33% of their time to academic work equaling approximately 150 FTE. We have relationships with 1200 doctors but the level of engagement across the 1200 was a lot less than in other provinces. Therefore, we need to go to a new plan. We are the only medical school that has ever been on probation twice in Canada; and we have fewer doctors highly engaged with the College of Medicine, as compared to other provinces.

The dean advised that he had been working hard to re-conceptualize research in the College of Medicine. Currently they are conducting a full time search for a permanent role for a vice-dean of research and working to move to a team science model of research. The U of S has better resources than the University of Manitoba, Queens University and Dalhousie University, and an enormous opportunity in our research. The college was working on an application for a strategy for integrated research and a potential \$30M of federal money for additional patient focused research.

The dean reported that he had stabilized the leadership in undergraduate education at the college and hired a new chief operating officer. There was no longer a vice-dean of faculty engagement as he had taken that role on himself and in this role had been getting to know many faculty. The dean reported that he had been to six of the health regions and intended to visit all within his first year. He spoke highly of the assistant dean of quality, Dr. Athena Connell, so it was possible and probable that the accreditors will say the college is doing a good job but we will remain on probation until they come back for another visit. This was his experience at Dalhousie.

Regarding the School of Physical Therapy, the dean reported that it would have its regularly scheduled accreditation in February and the school was ready. As well, the college's post-graduate program would go for its regular 6-year cycle review in 2015.

The dean reported that they will be meeting with the Provincial government about a new engagement strategy for compensation of community-based doctors.

In conclusion, the dean advised that the college had great students and residents, and great research was being conducted. He found the college was looking for stability but ready for change and it had a considerable amount of energy. He believed that the College of Medicine would be the best of the small medical colleges within 5 years.

Desirée Steele, USSU vice-president academic, asked as a representative of the students affected within the college, for Dean Smith to provide an update to Council on the meetings held with students in late November. Dean Smith advised that there were two meetings with the student body in the fall and a number of meetings with the student executive. He was away and missed the November meeting but believed there were discussions about tuition. He reported that he had asked to meet with the student executive to engage further with the student body in the coming year.

A Council member noted that he was a health researcher but not in the College of Medicine and reported that there had been good research done by individuals outside of the College of Medicine. He encouraged the dean and other administrators present to consider ways to address health research done by those outside of the College of Medicine and in social sciences and humanities as they were feeling somewhat ignored. He advised that health research on campus would be better off if there was a conversation across campus on how health research was being undertaken. The dean noted that as a family doctor he was used to meeting with others and had a good meeting with a group of neurosciences from across several colleges and the theme of the conversation was how to reach out and collaborate and move forward. He also advised that he spoke with the dean of Arts and Science about the medical humanities. He noted that at Dalhousie where he worked previously, they had one of the strongest medical humanities groups in the country and he would like to move this forward at the University of Saskatchewan as well.

In closing Dean Smith thanked Vice-provost Phillipson for his work with the College of Medicine noting that the college had appreciated the collaborative and consultative nature in which he took on the challenge of moving the college forward. This comment was met with applause.

7. Student Societies

7.1 Report from the USSU

Desirée Steel, vice-president academic affairs of the University of Saskatchewan Students' Union (USSU) presented the report to Council. She noted that her written report was contained in the meeting materials. She advised that USSU's AGM was held on November 20th where a variety of motions were introduced. She was excited to engage some of the hard to reach constituencies with new committees and was hoping to use the information learned from them to move forward, especially their international committee. She noted that Council's international activities committee did not have a lot to do with international students at the university and the USSU would be looking to bring forward some concerns in this area.

Ms. Steele provided comments on open text books advising that faculty can now receive remuneration for reviews of open text books in the BC campus collection and she was hopeful that this was a step to make the university and faculty more agreeable to open text books. She encouraged Council to follow the link provided in the written materials and the free workshop on open text books.

Regarding the update provided by the dean of the College of Medicine, Ms. Steele noted that she was pleased to hear what was happening. She encouraged Dean Smith to engage with students and continue to be strategic in doing this as it would be easy to overlook students. She noted that the team working on the restructuring was in the best position to keep students informed. She encouraged all of Council to keep in mind that students also like to know what is going on and to keep students in mind when planning and communicating their plans.

Regarding consultation in the area of tuition, Ms. Steele noted that it was positive to see the report that went to the Board regarding the consultation that had occurred and was encouraged by this. She thanked Council for the furtherance of learning and discovery with students on campus.

7.2 Report from the GSA

Izabela Vlahu, president of the Graduate Students' Association (GSA), presented the report to Council. She noted that her written report was contained in the materials.

Regarding tuition fee increases and the related consultations, she noted that she had not heard of any engagement through the GSA or the academic program that she was involved in. She advised that the GSA reached out to the dean of Arts and Science and had a good discussion and that a summary of these outcomes were included in her report. She encouraged that when there was an announcement of consultation with students that it be made clear what this meant as sometimes it included consulting with student leaders only, which was okay as long as the membership was aware of what was being done.

Ms. Vlahu reported that the GSA was happy to have initiated a partnership with the USSU on supplying the UPass and the GSA students were happier and there was less confusion. Regarding the GSA week in March 2015, Ms. Vlahu noted that this year will be the third annual gala and there will be a conference organized by the vice-president academic of the GSA. She also advised that there will be a three-minute thesis competition and encouraged those Council members supervising Ph.D. students to work with their students and attend the competition.

8. Academic Programs Committee

Prof. Roy Dobson, chair of the academic programs committee presented the committee items.

8.1 Request for decision: Certificate of Proficiency in Classical and Medieval Latin

Prof. Dobson clarified why this proficiency certificate was coming to Council for approval, noting that in 2012 Council approved a certificate template and therefore the associated programs come to Council for information only; but this program was coming for approval because it has been past practice to bring any certificates to Council in new areas of study. Prof. Dobson advised that in the future, certificate programs will come to Council for approval if they are either not in the College of Arts and Science or if they are significant in terms of financial resources.

Prof. Dobson advised that this certificate in proficiency in Classical and Medieval Latin was intended to provide students not majoring in languages to have a proficiency in Latin. A Senate member noted that when he reviewed the materials he thought this was a good idea but was surprised that there was no associated budget. Prof. Dobson replied that this was because the courses were already being offered and there would just be additional students coming to the classes. David Parkinson, vice-dean of the College of Arts and Science, advised that this program would give students the opportunity to identify the group of courses as an accreditation.

DOBSON/PARKINSON: That Council approve the Certificate in Proficiency in Classical and Medieval Latin, effective September 2015.

CARRIED

8.2 Report for information: 2015/16 Academic Calendar

Prof. Dobson noted that this report was provided to Council for information and called for any questions. A council member asked why the fall midterm break was in November which allowed only three weeks before the end of term. He suggested that having it earlier would accommodate midterm exams better and would allow students to regroup better after coming back. He also noted that in the drama program there were two productions produced per term and having the break in November limited the value of teaching in these productions and he encouraged administration to move the fall midterm break to earlier in the year.

Registrar Russ Isinger responded noting that he would talk to colleges about this. The two models that universities with fall midterm breaks follow was to have the break around the October holiday or the November holiday to utilize the statutory holiday. The main reason for the U of S having its break in November was based on a survey of students and two-thirds indicated they would prefer the break in November. There was also a feeling that the nature of student work tended to pile up near the end of the term and as this break was to relieve some stress and address some mental health concerns, it was felt that students would be better served by a November break. The registrar noted that in developing the calendar there were ongoing discussions with academic associate deans every year and he would raise it with them.

A Council member asked whether there could be at least one day between classes ending and exams beginning and if this was not possible then have the Tuesday/Thursday classes be the ones to start the exams. The registrar advised that 2014 was a hard calendar year and it was known that this would be one of the tradeoffs. For the number of exams and space available, a certain amount of time was required and the preference in the surveys conducted was not to write exams all the way up to December 23rd. He advised that they were trying to do what had been suggested within the limits of their system and in future calendar years they hoped to be able to address this.

9. Governance committee

Professor Louise Racine, chair of the governance committee, presented the committee items to Council.

9.1 Request for Decision: Election of Faculty Members to Council, Council Bylaws, Part One, s. II

Prof. Racine advised that the recommended amendment was to align Council bylaws with *The University of Saskatchewan Act, 1995*.

RACINE/DOBSON: That Council approve the following amendments to Council Bylaws:

1. The replacement of the statement in Part One, II, 12: "Should vacancies on Council occur between the time of the election and the date of the first Council meeting in the fall, such vacancies will continue to be filled by those unelected candidates on the voting list who received the greatest number of votes." with the statement,

"Candidates on the voting list who receive the greatest number of votes are elected to Council effective July 1. Should candidates so elected decline or

otherwise be unable to accept a position on Council, such positions shall continue to be filled by those unelected candidates that received the greatest number of votes.”

2. The inclusion of a new statement immediately thereafter, which reads: “A vacancy on Council for a college representative under Section 53(2) (b) or (c), a librarian under Section 53(2) (d) or (e) or a faculty member under Section 53(2) (i) shall be filled by an election held within 90 days of the vacancy, if the vacancy occurs within 27 months of that member being elected. A vacancy arising after that time shall be filled at the next annual election.”

CARRIED

A Council member asked whether this meant that people who did not receive much support could be elected. Prof. Dobson advised that the elected member would be the next candidate on the list who received the next highest number of votes in the election. The university secretary advised that currently this was how the Council elections work as there was no minimum number of votes required to be elected.

A Council member asked who elects faculty representatives, to which the university secretary advised that faculty representatives were elected by the faculty members of their college and the term “faculty” was defined in *The University of Saskatchewan Act, 1995*.

9.2 Request for decision: International Activities Committee Terms of Reference, Council Bylaws, Part Two, s. IV

A Council member commended the governance committee for the addition of clause 4 of the international activities committee’s terms of reference noting that this provided an explicit level of oversight to allow proposed international partnerships to be taken to the international activities committee and receive scrutiny.

RACINE/DOBSON: That Council approve the amendments to the terms of reference of the International Activities Committee of Council as shown in the attachment.

CARRIED

9.3 Request for decision: College of Law Faculty Council Membership, Council Bylaws, Part Three, s. V

Prof. Racine noted that all of faculty members in the College of Law supported the proposed amendment. A Council member asked who would appoint the graduate student to the faculty council and suggested that this individual be appointed by the GSA. The dean of the Edwards School of Business noted that it was quite common in professional colleges to have their own student association and it would be highly unusual to go to the graduate student association. Prof. Racine advised that the graduate students would offer their names and that she would not support this becoming centralized but rather supported the graduate students in the College of Law choosing their own representative.

RACINE/DOBSON: That Council approve the amendment to the membership of the College of Law Faculty Council to include one student from a graduate degree program in law.

CARRIED

10. Planning and Priorities Committee

Prof. Lisa Kalynchuk, chair of the planning and priorities committee, presented the committee items.

10.1 Request for decision: Name Change of Department of Religion and Culture to the Department of Linguistics and Religious Studies

Dr. Kalynchuk noted that the rationale for this change was that the members of the Department of Linguistics recently moved into the department and this name change better reflected the faculty members and the activities of the department. She also noted that those on the religious studies side were not comfortable with the name "Religion and Culture" and therefore this name change had received full support from the department.

A Council member noted that the name change sounded like an odd pairing of two things. Dr. Kalynchuk advised that this department had a number of changes in the past few years including a name change and that the department had four meetings to discuss this name change and they believe it reflected their activities. As the constituents of the department were happy with the name the committee thought it was appropriate. Vice-dean David Parkinson advised that such name combinations were not unusual and that religious studies and linguistics got along quite well together and he expected that to continue well into the future. The president of the GSA noted that during the consultation it was reported that the students were also happy with this decision.

KALYNCHUK/DE BOER: That Council approve the change of name of the Department of Religion and Culture to the Department of Linguistics and Religious Studies, effective May 1, 2015, and that Council's Bylaws be amended to reflect the new name of the department.

CARRIED

10.2 Request for information: Council committee consideration of institutional priorities

Dr. Kalynchuk noted she felt it was important for Council to begin to engage with senior leadership around the eight priorities that were identified in September. Therefore she invited the chairs of the Council committees to join the planning and priorities committee to review the status of work on these priorities. She reported that there was a robust discussion from which she extracted three general themes.

The first theme was low enrolment programs and concerns about supporting low enrolment programs in the future and how to do this best and how to identify which programs provided enough value to continue and which did not. Dr. Kalynchuk noted that Council already had a low enrolment policy and that the planning and priorities committee would revisit this policy to see if there were guidelines that could be put in place and if so that would be done with Council chairs and Council. The second theme that emerged was how to prioritize areas of strategic importance as it was important for Council to talk about how we balance resources and the danger of strategic areas shifting over time. She also noted that a concern was how the university could invest in strategic priorities without starving other areas of activity that were important to the academic mission of the university. The third theme was around shared services and support for faculty members' teaching and research. Dr. Kalynchuk identified that this priority provided an opportunity for senior leadership to work with faculty to provide the kinds of support that faculty needed to achieve their teaching and research mandate. A suggestion from the planning and priorities committee to Vice-president Greg Fowler was that this was a good opportunity for better alignment around the

types of supports faculty felt they needed and Dr. Kalynchuk advised that Vice-president Fowler had indicated he was open to these discussions.

A Council member noted that given the sensitivity of these questions and level of apprehension some people had, he recommended that in the first paragraph of the report for information that the term “critical scrutiny” of these priorities be used rather than the “advancement” of the priorities. He also suggested that the report be revised to refer to when does it make “academic” sense to continue to offer low enrolment programs. Another Council member suggested that in the third point regarding shared services that it refer to “research, scholarly and artistic works” rather than just “research”.

A Council member spoke to a concern regarding low enrolment programs and suggested that one measure of their worth could be if they are so competitive that top students go into the program. He also noted that there were certain things we were better at than others and that did not seem to figure into what had been identified as a priority area. His example was that things were being done quite well in the College of Engineering yet this did not seem to be a priority area and last year the ranking of the engineering program went down after many years of high rankings. He also noted that giving strategic importance to certain parts of the university was pervasive and no committee had decided on the quality or profile of the people in these areas. Regarding shared services, two things he had identified as not occurring were protecting faculty research time and providing marking support. Dr. Kalynchuk replied that many of the issues he raised did come up in discussion at the planning and priorities committee and she had asked all Council committee chairs to have their committees consider the eight institutional priorities for further discussion and the planning and priorities committee would also have further discussions regarding the priority areas. Specifically regarding low enrolment, Dr. Kalynchuk advised that there were programs that were small but important and there were a number of compelling reasons to support these programs. The planning and priorities committee intends to identify principles on this and hopefully deans and unit leaders would use these principles when making decisions in the future.

11. Nominations committee

Prof. Ed Krol, chair of the nominations committee, presented the reports to Council.

11.1 Request for decision: Nominations to the renewals and tenure appeal panel

Prof. Krol advised that the renewals and tenure appeal panel was a new standing committee and the nominations committee attempted to achieve a balance of male and female members, junior and senior members, and representation across disciplines. The committee had also staggered the members’ initial terms to ensure turnover of committee membership on an annual basis.

A Council member asked what process was followed to which Prof. Krol advised that the nominations committee met and used the GAA membership list to identify appropriate individuals to achieve the balance across the university that he noted. He commented that they did not approach certain individuals who were already on some other committees but they did try to cast the net as broadly as possible.

The chair called for nominations from the floor and there were none.

KROL/D. BRENNNA: That Council approve the nominations to the renewals and tenure appeal committee, as shown in the attached membership list, effective immediately.

CARRIED

11.2 Request for decision: Nomination to the university review committee

A non-Council member asked what process the committee followed in making this nomination. Prof. Krol advised that it was a similar process as described for the previous committee as they looked at who was available and who had been on the committee previously. They also tended towards full professors to minimize the number of people who had to leave the room during the meetings and they attempted to cast the net as broadly as possible.

The chair called for nominations from the floor and Jacek Szmigielski was nominated by Council member Izabela Vlahu.

The university secretary advised that having received a nomination from the floor, according to the Council Bylaws, the required election needed to be completed within the next two weeks. Given that there was some urgency in having this committee fully populated and that it was shortly before the Christmas holidays, she would attempt to start the election on Friday, December 19th if possible or Monday, December 22nd at the latest and it would close on December 24th.

Jim Germida, vice-provost, faculty relations, informed Council that the university review committee consisted of 10 members and quorum was seven. He noted that recently the committee had been unable to provide prompt actions as it had difficulty obtaining quorum and that was why there was some urgency in filling this position.

11.3 Request for decision: Nomination to the planning and priorities committee

The chair called for nominations from the floor and none were received.

KROL/D. BRENNNA: That Council approve the appointment of Beth Bilson, acting dean, College of Law to the planning and priorities committee effective immediately until June 30, 2016.

CARRIED

11.4 Request for decision: Nomination to the search committee for Dean of Law

The chair called for nominations from the floor and none were received.

KROL/D. BRENNNA: That Council approve the appointment of Michelle Prytula to the search committee for the Dean, College of Law.

CARRIED

11.5 Request for decision: Nomination to the search committee, Dean of Edwards School of Business

The chair called for nominations from the floor and none were received.

KROL/D. BRENNNA: That Council approve the appointment of Douglas Surtees to the search committee for the Dean, Edwards School of Business.

CARRIED

11.6 Request for decision: Nominations for the promotions appeal panel

A Council member noted one correction to the written report provided advising that Jo-Anne Dillon is in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology not the Department of Biology.

The chair called for nominations from the floor and none were received.

KROL/D. BRENNNA: That Council approve the nomination of Jeremy Rayner to the promotions appeal panel for a term until June 30, 2017; and

That Council approve the nomination of Richard Long to the promotions appeal panel for a term until June 30, 2015.

CARRIED

12. Other business

There was no other business noted.

13. Question period

There were no questions.

14. Adjournment

PARKINSON/DE BOER: That the meeting be adjourned at 4:56 p.m.

CARRIED