

Minutes of the meeting of the **Academic Policy Committee** held on Thursday 30th October 2014, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m., room 302, James Administration Building

Present: A.C. Masi (Chair), A. Asghar, C. Ayukawa, D. Benrimoh, R. Chromik, O. Dyens, J. Galbraith, L. Gallardo, T. Hébert, L. Khoury, M. Kreiswirth, S. McDougall, X. St-Denis, E. Sarigöllü, M. Scott, P. Smith, C. Stewart-Kanigan, S. Stroud, S. Thibert, C. Urbain, T. Western, L. White, L. Winer, J. Degans (*Secretary to APC*)

Regrets: I. Henderson, S. Huebner, B. Nicolau, J. Potter, S. Stroud, S. Thibert

1. Agenda

The agenda was approved.

2. Minutes of meeting of 9th October 2014

The minutes were approved.

3. Business arising

- i. Report on the Senate meeting of 22nd of October 2014
There were no items for approvals. Senate had no comments on items approved by APC in its name.
- ii. Nomenclature of academic entities
APC approved the proposed guidelines with a caveat stipulating that, should a unit meet the requirements for more than one definition, it will be invited to indicate its preference.
The guidelines on Definitions of Academic Entities are not retroactive; the idea is that they will be used in future by APC and Senate when a new academic entity is created or a name change is requested. The guidelines will be sent to Senate for approval.

4. New business

- i. Subcommittees on Courses and Teaching Programs
The committee suggested to the SCTP Chair that it would be useful to keep a comparative list of courses deleted vs. courses created, to help ensure that a balance is maintained. It was also suggested that, when possible, units proposing to create new programs should consider retiring programs that are not currently in use, with the guarantee that these could be re-instated easily if needs be. APC concurred with these suggestions.
- ii. Faculty of Science - New designation – B.Sc.; Global
There was extensive discussion of this proposal. APC decided to return the proposal to the Faculty of Science, asking for the following:
 - consultation with Enrolment Services on the best way to report the Global designation on the students' transcripts
 - specify if English and French courses will be included as possible language courses
 - consider the possibility of expanding the course listing from language to language, culture and literature, in an effort to widen the scope of possibilities, given the restricted access to language courses by students in the Faculty of Science
 - re-evaluate the number of credits that should be completed by students who do not undertake any activities abroad

The committee asked the Faculty of Science to clarify the significance of the Global designation, as it is not clear whether it is meant to be a widely accessible mention or a high distinction recognizing significant efforts and time commitment.

iii. APC's terms of reference

The committee agreed that revisions to APC's terms of reference are unnecessary and would not enhance participation of Senate. However, the committee suggested that the following actions may help to better engage Senate in APC's work:

- prioritize the discussion of the APC report, which could be moved up on the Senate agenda.
- focus points or questions could also be added to the agenda to guide discussion
- review the format of the APC report to Senate, to better reflect discussion taking place during APC meetings and highlight items requiring Senate's attention
- seek guidance from Senate to ensure that APC's work is aligned with its mandate. APC could collect data and refer broad questions to Senate on a given topic. This would help APC reflect on its work.

5. Other

The meeting adjourned at 5 p.m.