

Academic Council
Minutes
Friday, April 28, 2006, 1:00 p.m., Room A-300

Present: P. Bouwman, G. Bulgarea, E. Durling, H. Erdogan, D. Gallagher, R. Herrera, S. Hervouet-Zeiber, J. Masterson, P. McCoy, J. Naggar, J. Paquette, J. Plante, P. Ross, M. Starenky, I. Stavrianos, A. Yamamoto.

Regrets: A. Assaf, C. Hanrahan, D. Villemaire.

Non-members : G. Archer, G. Héroux, Judy Macdonald, A. Perout, D. Tessier

1. Approval of the Agenda

Approved by consensus.

2. Approval of the Minutes

Minutes of March 17, 2006: Approved with these minor revisions:

Item 3, the heading ‘**Others**’ be replaced by ‘**Draft Agreement with Saudi Arabia**’.

Item 3, Insert the heading ‘**Others**’ before the paragraph beginning S. Hervouet-Zeiber thanked the Ped Day.... at the top of page 3.

Minutes of March 31, 2006: Approved by consensus.

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

a. Attendance Guidelines

A. Perout presented the compromise suggested and accepted by the Modern Languages and French Departments. They recommend a maximum of 60% awarded to students missing more than 9 hours of class (7 absences). A final draft will be presented at the last Academic Council of the year.

b. Date of Next Meeting

Tentatively set for the afternoon of May 24, 2006. P. Ross will confirm with members.

4. Reports, Announcements and Correspondence

a. Board of Directors

P. Ross reported on the main business of the meeting of the Board, April 18, 2006.

- Saudi Arabia Project
- Academic Dean Nomination
- Enrollment Projections
- Graduates
- Membership Committee

b. Joint Coordinators

P. Bouwman reported on the main business of the meeting of the Joint Coordinators meeting, April 19, 2006.

- The Director General, G. Héroux spoke to the members
- B. Chandler reported that the Board of Directors approved the Policy on Standing and Advancement
- P. Ross provided an update on admissions
- P. Ross spoke to the issue of Cégep@distance and answered questions from members
- P. Ross distributed and spoke to the 2006-2007 Allocation summary
- P. McCoy reported on the mid-term assessment call back
- The French Department expressed concern for item 1 in the Policy on Examination Retention
- P. Ross answered questions in reference to the IB Program, its allocation and review date
- Academic Council and Faculty Reports were presented

c. Admissions Process Update

D. Tessier reported that the first round of applications is complete. Of the 2,744 acceptances issued, 75% have confirmed their intention to study at Vanier next fall. In round two approximately 50% of the 1,060 applicants were from new applicants. The rest of the applicants, were evenly

distributed among students either refused entry into their program of choice because they weren't qualified, or from students who were refused in the first round because either their marks were too weak, or they had failed the English Admissions Test.

The second round applications were received April 26. The deadline for evaluating files, subject testing and issuing acceptance letters is May 4.

In the second round there were **735** Pre-University and **325** applications to Technology programs for a **total 1,060** applications.

The deadline for students to apply for round three is Thursday, May 25th.

D. Tessier reported that Meira Terk has resigned and is now working at McGill.

d. Report of the Standing Committee on Formative Assessment

Based on the results of the survey on Formative Assessment conducted between February and April of 2005 in all 28 departments from all three faculties, E. Durling presented the following motion, seconded by J. Masterson, to Academic Council:

- Whereas all departments participate in Formative Assessment of their members;

Whereas new teachers may have particular difficulties interpreting their Formative Assessment results and modifying certain methods or techniques;

Whereas the objective of Formative Assessment is ideally to provide teachers with as many tools as possible to improve their teaching;

Academic Council moves that past and future recipients of the Teaching Excellence Award be encouraged to become involved in Formative Assessment by being available to new teachers for the purpose of meeting them in groups or individually through organized or informal activities. Resources would be made available to any interested Teaching Excellence Award recipients and confidentiality would be respected in their discussions with teachers who bring questions and concerns.

After discussion it was voted and decided unanimously to table the motion to the next meeting.

- Suggestions were discussed in relation to possible future Formative Assessment Committee projects. Among them were the following:
 - i. A meeting with those responsible for Formative Assessment in their departments to get their input on the process.
 - ii. An effort to get feedback from students or their representatives.
 - iii. A brainstorming session by the Committee to produce a document examining the theory and practice of Formative Assessment and its relevance here at Vanier.

5. Main Business

a. Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

G. Héroux gave an historical and geographic overview of the project. He spoke about the process of democratization of the DRC and Canada's involvement in the process. He also spoke about the Vanier Community's wish to be involved in International projects.

J. Macdonald spoke about the project specifically in terms of structure, funding, insurance and safety, Vanier's role and participation in the project and also described the application process. Accepted projects will be announced in August.

The issue of a college Policy regarding international projects was raised. The policy is being worked on and is on target to be presented in June 2006 before the selected projects are announced.

After a lengthy discussion, R. Herrera moved, A Yamamoto seconded that:

Academic Council endorse this project and recommend to the Board of Directors the approval of the Congo Mission.

P. Bouwman, seconded by H. Erdogan, moved a friendly amendment to reword the motion to read:

The Academic Council endorses the proposed Democratic Republic of Congo Project in principle.

After further discussion E. Durling moved, seconded by J. Masterson

To table the Motion.

The vote results were 6 for / 6 against / 3 abstentions.

The Chair, voted to break the tie.

The final vote was 7 for / 6 against / 3 abstentions.

The Motion carried.

b. 2006-2007 Program Evaluations

P. Ross reported that the French language report “Lancement de l’opération de l’évaluation de l’application de la PIEA” has been received. The ministry is working on an English version to be distributed at a later date.

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Donaldson