

ACADEMIC COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

Wednesday, May 21, 2008, 12:00 noon, room A-310

Present: M. Abiri, , E. Awad, V. Broege, I. Der Aprahamian, H. Erdogan, D. Gallagher, C. Hall, R. Herrera, S. Hervouet-Zeiber, P. Labrinos, J. McMahon, P. McCoy, A. Mundiynamkal, M. Patera, S. Pettifer, G. Quinn, C. Rossignoli, M. Sossoyan, N. Wargny

Non-members: C. Hanrahan, D. Hetherington, J. Macdonald, A. Perout

1. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved by consensus with the addition of *Amendment to Academic Council's Recommendation to the Mandate Review Committee on By-law No. 2 as 2 a).*

2. Main Business

a) Amendment to Academic Council's Recommendation to the Mandate Review Committee

S. Pettifer reported that following J. McMahon's comment at the last meeting regarding the role of internal Board members, P. Labrinos had reviewed the College's Act and concluded that recommendation #5 should be amended according to the Act . The committee met and would like to propose that the following statement be added to the recommendation as a friendly amendment:

"However, in accordance with Section 12 of the General and Vocational Colleges Act, the internal Board member must withdraw from a meeting while the matter of remuneration is discussed or voted on."

It was moved by C. Rossignoli and seconded by N. Wargny to add this addition to recommendation #5 of *Academic Council's Ad Hoc Committee's Recommendations re By-law No. 2).*

In favour - 18
Opposed - 0
Abstention - 1

b) AEC in Audio Recording Technology Program Revision

S. Pettifer invited Jim Munro, Coordinator of Marketing and Training, Continuing Education, to speak to this item. J. Munro distributed a summary of the revisions made to the program and briefly went through them. He also gave general information about the program and answered questions from the members.

It was moved by P. McCoy and seconded by R. Herrera that Academic Council approve the AEC in Audio Recording Technology Program Revision and recommend it to the Board of Directors for approval.

Approved unanimously.

J. Munro will send the members an electronic version of the document with minor spelling and formatting corrections.

The Chair thanked J. Munro for his presentation.

c) Strategic Plan

_____ A. Perout gave a brief update on the topic. She informed Council that it needed to review only the priorities and the first column - goals and strategies - as these will be presented to the Board for approval at its June meeting. The rest of the document - indicators, targets and responsibilities - will be dealt with in the fall. A. Perout reminded the members that it is important to keep in mind that the Plan is college-wide, therefore general and not specific in terms of actions.

A. Perout gave a PowerPoint presentation on the changes made to the document as a follow-up to the suggestions made at the last meeting. She then answered a few questions and confirmed, among others, that the students had been invited to the process, that information regarding the process had been publicized on the web site, in *Intercom* and *Vanier This Week* and that all relevant documents and reports were posted on the Strategic Plan web page. Following some concern with this last point, A. Perout will ensure that all documents are posted.

S. Pettifer thanked A. Perout for a very clear presentation. Before opening the floor to discussion and further suggestions for changes, she stressed to keep in mind that this was a work in progress, that it was a vision plan, to be kept at a general level and hence, that the discussion should focus on substantive changes. The plan will be revised on a yearly basis. The Coordinating Committee is planning workshops in August to work on indicators.

Following a suggestion from S. Pettifer regarding these workshops, the following motion was put forward:

It was moved by M. Abiri and seconded by M. Sossoyan that members of the sub-committees as well as any other interested parties be invited to the workshops to work in groups on the objectives of the Plan.

Approved unanimously.

After accepting one more change on p. 9 of the document, it was agreed to go through a systematic review of the priorities and goals as of p. 10 of the document. D. Hetherington in particular presented suggested modifications to the document on behalf of the Science Program Committee. The addition of a point 2.3 to the effect to “*refine admission policies and procedures so that all students are admitted to a program for which they are suitably prepared*” was ruled out of order by the Chair since it had already been dealt within the consultation process which had taken place. J. McMahon stated that it was not the College’s intention to accept students deemed to fail into the Science program. He further confirmed that this issue will be addressed in the revision of the By-law on Admissions.

H. Erdogan presented another suggested modification from the Science program - to replace the current 3.2 with “Develop and provide programs that prepare students well for a career or further studies”. After some discussion, Council took a vote on keeping 3.2 as it currently reads. H. Erdogan stated he would abstain. The results of the vote were 12 in favour, 0 opposed and 3 abstentions.

The need to address the concerns of the Science program related to accepting students at risk was clearly stated. J. McMahon reiterated that it will be addressed.

Council also voted on a motion presented by N. Wargny and seconded by S. Hervouet-Zeiber to add the following as #3.4:

“In a transparent and objective manner, Vanier will strive to establish new and innovative educational partnerships.

1. *Strengthen links with other colleges.*
2. *Establish new links and strengthen links with other educational institutions (e.g. high schools and universities) while following the “interordre” Ministry guidelines.”*

J. Macdonald noted that a similar statement was in the report from the Sub-committee on Teaching and Learning Practices and Academic Success.

The motion was approved unanimously.

After discussing and agreeing to several suggestions for changes throughout the document, Council approved unanimously the following two motions:

It was moved by S. Hervouet-Zeiber and seconded by D. Gallagher to thank the Vice-chairperson, S. Pettifer, for her excellent work.

It was moved by S. Hervouet-Zeiber and seconded by M. Sossoyan to endorse the Strategic Plan as amended.

A. Perout will incorporate the changes to the document and send the latter to W. Kalina who will forward it to all members before it is sent to the Board members.

J. McMahon warmly thanked the Council members, W. Kalina and the Vice-chairperson in particular for their professionalism that ensures the successful functioning of Council.

3. Varia
None.

4. Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Wanda Kalina