



MEMORANDUM

To: Barbara H. Eccles, Secretary of Senate
From: Craig MacKinnon - Chair, Senate Organization Committee
Senate Meeting Date: 13 February 2017
Subject: Senate Organization Committee Report

1. The Senate Organization Committee (SOC) met on 13 January 2017.

The Committee discussed the Senate referral to consider Librarians' Council's request that a Professional Librarian be added as a member of Senate. *This request requires a change in Senate bylaws*, therefore a Notice of Motion will need to be brought to the 13 February meeting.

MOVED to recommend to Senate that paragraph 9 and Appendix A of the Senate Bylaws be amended to include in the Senate composition a professional university librarian elected by the professional university librarians for a 3 year term.

2. The Senate Organization Committee (SOC) met on 1 February 2017.

- (a) Dr. Batia Stolar (Associate VP Research and Graduate Studies) and Dr. Connie Russell (Chair of SRC) joined the meeting to discuss proposed changes in the Senate Research Committee Terms of Reference. Following discussion, Dr. Russell will take the modifications back to SRC.

- (b) The committee discussed changes to the bylaws regarding sabbaticals and leaves of absence. As currently written, any leave results in automatic removal from all Senate Committees. Modifications are suggested (see attached) to make the policy more flexible, especially for short leaves, or for leaves where a committee member wishes to continue to participate (e.g. by teleconference from a remote location). Further modifications (see attached) have been suggested regarding how sabbaticals and leaves of absence for Faculty Senators, the COU Academic Colleague and the faculty Senator elected to the Board of Governors are handled. *This request requires a change in Senate bylaws*, therefore a Notice of Motion will need to be brought to the 13 February meeting.

MOVED to recommend that Senate approves the proposed Senate Bylaw amendments as circulated and amended during the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,
Craig MacKinnon, Chair