

MEMORANDUM

TO: Karen Roche, University Secretary

FROM: Todd Randall, Chair, Senate Budget Committee

RE: Report of the Senate Budget Committee for the April 13th, 2012 Senate Meeting

DATE: April 4th, 2012

The Senate Budget Committee met twice (March 16th and 30th) since its last report to Senate. Most of the items considered at these two meetings pertained either to proposed new courses and one new certificate program. Some key questions (of the respective units) are raised during SBC's evaluations of these kinds of proposed Calendar changes including: 1) the prospective enrollment in the new course / new program; and 2) the need for additional resources (e.g. teaching staff, materials, library, etc) to offer the new course. This report presents a summary of the status of items recommended for approval or tabled by the SBC. Questions concerning items in this report can be directed to the SBC Chair via email (randall@lakeheadu.ca) or telephone (ext. 8381).

Items pertaining to the November 11th, 2011 Senate Meeting

1. Faculty of Science and Environmental Studies

(a) Addition of new course Biology 3XXX Animal Physiology

At our request (back in January) SUSC re-visited this item at one of their March meetings. Their re-assessment and our conversations with the Dean of the FSES have clarified concerns previously raised by SBC such that the proposed change no longer poses any budgetary implications. The Senate Budget Committee recommends that Senate approve this calendar change, as there were no additional resources requested by the academic unit to offer the new course "BIOL 3xxx Animal Physiology".

Items pertaining to the December 7th, 2011 Senate Meeting

2. Faculty of Business Administration

(a) Certificate in Business Information Technology Management

The Committee met with Mr. Bob Isotalo to clarify prospective enrollment and costs to offer this new program. He reported that the Faculty of Business Administration could accommodate the anticipated enrollment within existing course offerings (i.e., no new course sections required). The SBC also felt that there was some potential to market this certificate both broadly within the University and externally, partnering with Continuing Education & Distributed Learning. The Senate Budget Committee recommends that Senate approve this calendar change, as there were no additional resources requested by the academic unit to offer the new certificate program in Business Information Technology Management.

Items pertaining to the January 20th, 2012 Senate Meeting

3. Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities

(a) Add New 5th Year Half Course, Soc 5XXX Social Issues in the Canadian North

The Senate Budget Committee recommends that Senate approve this calendar change, as there were no additional resources requested by the academic unit to offer the new course SOC 5xxx Social Issues in the Canadian North.

(b) Change course titles of History 2335 and History 2336

This was initially an 8-part proposed Calendar change. Parts 3 to 6 and 8 were not considered by SBC as they had been withdrawn earlier by the Department of History prior to review by SUSC. Thus SBC considered parts 1, 2 and 7 relating to course title changes and a proposal for a new course (Hist 4xxx). The Senate Budget Committee recommends that Senate approve this calendar change, pertaining to course title changes in HIST 2335 and 2336, title and description changes in HIST 3101 and the addition of a new course (HIST 4xxx, Race Relations in Modern Britain), as there were no additional resources requested by the academic unit to offer this new course.

(c) Critical Studies in Feminist Art History

The Senate Budget Committee recommends that Senate approve this calendar change, as there were no additional resources requested by the academic unit to offer the new course Visual Arts 328x Critical Studies in Feminist Art History.

4. Faculty of Natural Resources Management

(a) New Summer Transition Course for HBScF and HBEM

The Senate Budget Committee recommends that Senate approve this calendar change, as there were no additional resources requested by the academic unit to offer the new course.

Items for Information

5. 2012-13 Operating Budget Guidelines

At its most recent meeting (March 30th), members of SBC asked a number of questions to the VP Finance (M Pawlowski) concerning the Operating Budget Guidelines for 2012-13. It was a very informative session and members of the Committee appreciated the thoroughness and directness in his responses.

Based on current projections, the University will still need to cut expenses by approximately 3% to balance the budget for 2012-13. SBC was told that these cuts would come from administration, academic and research units but would not necessarily be across the board cuts as we have seen in previous years. Forecasts for the Law School (revenue versus expenses) are still best estimates but the proposed budget out to 2014/15 forecasts a deficit of approximately \$500,000 based on a modelled intake of 55 students per year. The Orillia campus, as of this proposed budget, is taking over all financing costs for its buildings (i.e., Principal and Interest costs). The Orillia campus continues to be a net revenue generator for Lakehead University even taking on its P&I costs.

Based on comments heard at our meeting, the University does face some real financial challenges for 2012-13 and for several years beyond. SBC will have an opportunity to review the proposed University budget for 2012-13 at its meetings in early May, prior to its presentation by Mr Pawlowski to the May Senate meeting.



Dr Todd Randall, SBC Chair