

Lakehead

UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM

TO: Karen Roche, Secretary of Senate
FROM: David Tranter, Chair
Senate Academic Committee
RE: Report of the Senate Academic Committee (SAC)
DATE: April 13, 2009

Please accept my report as Chair in respect of the regular meeting held on Monday, May 11, 2009

3.1 Completion of the Undergraduate Program Review Department Of Physics – May 2009

The Associate Vice-President (Academic) presented a summary of the report prepared following completion of the Undergraduate Program Review of the Department of Physics. The summary (distributed with the meeting package) addressed the review process, details of the procedures followed during the preparation of the review materials, selection of the reviewers, and the site visit activities. An overview of the strengths and weaknesses identified by the reviewers and the response to these by the Department were included. A follow-up meeting with the Dean and the Department Chairs (past and current) was conducted in order to review the actions taken based on the recommendations arising from the review.

Since the response to the reviewers' report, the Department of Physics has addressed a number of curricular and programmatic changes. Finally, the ongoing concerns and areas for future focus were highlighted. The detailed report has been approved and filed with the Department Chair, the Dean of the Faculty of Science and Environmental Studies, and the Vice-President (Academic) and Provost.

5.1 Guidelines for Certificates

The Committee reviewed the proposal from the SCEDLC regarding modifications to the guidelines for certificate programs. It was noted that the revisions provided clarification to the guidelines which were previously approved. The Committee approved the revised wording as presented.

5.2 (i) Addition of Majors to HBASc

The Committee reviewed the proposal from the Faculty of Interdisciplinary Studies, Orillia campus regarding the addition of full majors in the disciplines of Anthropology, English and Geography and concurrent honours degree (HBASc, Bed) programs in the

same majors. Reports were provided on behalf of members present with respect to discussions having taken place within both the Senate Undergraduate Studies Committee and Senate Budget Committee.

The proposal to be considered relates to variations on existing programs at the university, with some modifications to delivery. The Committee moved to support the proposal.

Due to the timing of the meeting, it was felt that the process for review was out of the normal course of consultation with the SAC and that it should first review any such proposal to ensure it is considered in the context of the university's Strategic and Academic Planning.

Respectfully submitted,
D. Tranter, Chair