



MEMORANDUM

Date: 3 September 2015

To: Ms. Barbara Eccles, Secretary of Senate

From: Dr. Douglas Ivison, Chair, Senate Academic Committee

Subject: SAC 2014-15 Annual Report

The Senate Academic Committee met 11 times during the academic year 2014-15. It was chaired by Dr. Douglas Ivison, and Dr. Wayne Melville served as Vice-Chair. The Committee was supported by the Office of the Provost and Vice-President (Academic), specifically Cathy Ridley, Executive Assistant to the Provost and Vice-President (Academic). The following is a summary of the major tasks undertaken by SAC and its subcommittees during 2014-15:

- Reviewed and recommended approval of a substantial number of major modification and new program proposals;
- Conducted review and ongoing revision of the Institutional Quality Assurance Process (IQAP);
- Coordinated the classification of most courses across the university as Type A, B, C, and/or D;
- Began implementation of the Indigenous Content Requirement, including reviewing and recommending approval of the process for assessing courses that can fulfill the Indigenous Content Requirement (Type E courses) and reviewing and recommending approval of the first set of Type E courses;
- Revised the Mission Statement of the Writing Centre, and discussed the challenge of meeting the need for writing support for international students, particularly those in graduate programs;
- Reviewed the Writing Initiative Pilot Project in the Faculty of Business Administration;
- Reviewed and recommended approval of a proposal for revised University Definitions, which was sent back to SAC for further consultation and review (ongoing);
- Reviewed a proposal for the introduction of a Fall study break (discussion ongoing)
- Reviewed and approved the process for reviewing the implementation of the 2012-2017 Academic Plan, and approved the composition of the committee struck to review and refresh the Academic Plan.