



TO: Karen Roche, Secretary of Senate

FROM: Dr. Doug Ivison  
Chair, Senate Academic Committee

DATE: September 4, 2014

**SUBJECT: Senate Academic Committee Report– September 15, 2014**

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The Senate Academic Committee (SAC) met on September 3, 2014.

**1. SAC Quality Assurance Sub-Committee**

The Senate Academic Quality Assurance Committee reviewed the Major Modification: Proposal Brief for the Electrical Engineering Program (Integrated Degree with Georgian College) proposal and the rationale for the program modification and reported to SAC. SAC passed a motion approving the Major Modification proposal and recommends to Senate that it be forwarded to the appropriate committees.

**2. Senate Academic Committee Sub-Committees**

SAC reviewed and appointed members to its Sub-Committees, which will review their terms of reference and report back to the next meeting of SAC.

**3. Year-End Report for Senate Academic Committee (2013-2014)**

SAC reviewed the 2013-2014 Year-End Report as submitted by Dr. A.P. Dean, Interim Vice-President (Research, Economic Development & Innovation), and past Chair of SAC. The Report was accepted and is attached to this Report to Senate.

**4. Senate Academic Committee Projects for 2014-2015**

Committee members discussed potential initiatives for the coming year. Reports on these initiatives will be included in future SAC reports to Senate.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Doug Ivison  
Senate Academic Committee Chair

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Attachment

**MEMORANDUM**

Date: September 2, 2014

To: Mrs. Karen Roche, University Secretary, University Secretariat

From: Andrew P. Dean, Vice-President, Research, Economic Development & Innovation (Interim)

Subject: **Year-end report for SAC (2013-2014) and action items for 2014-2015**

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The Senate Academic Committee met 12 times during the academic year 2013-14. It was chaired by Dr. Andrew P. Dean with vice-chair Dr. Doug Iverson. The Committee was supported by the offices of the Faculty of Science and Environmental Studies and the office of the Provost and Vice President (Academic). The committee completed the following:

- Approved the requirement that all students starting in 2016 will have to complete at least one course with at least 50% aboriginal content as a graduation requirement
- Approved the major modification to the B.Ed program to change from a one year degree to a two year degree.
- Removed the classification of courses as Group I or Group II and replaced with a system that would have all courses be one of four types (NSERC, SSHRC, CIHR or Aboriginal content)
- Removal of the specification in the academic calendar that a *course is not offered this year* to simply relying on what is listed in the timetable. Also established an ad-hoc committee affectionately known as the "nudge committee" that would look at ways to encourage all departments to periodically review the course content in the calendar.
- Completed a writing initiative survey
- Completed a total revision to the Academic Appeal Policy
- Created a sub-committee to look at the flow of work and timelines between the SAC and its sub-committees

To be done this year

- Implement the requirement of requiring a course with aboriginal content
- Implement the change from the Group I and Group II courses
- Implement the writing initiative pilot program
- Review outstanding academic policies (currently at least 8 that have not been reviewed for at least 5 years)
- Establish procedures for how regulations flow between SAC regulations committee and the FGS regulation committee.

Cc: *Dr. Doug Iverson (SAC Chair 2014-15)*