School of Business Council
Meeting - Wednesday, April 1, 2015
4:00 – 6:00 p.m.
Kule Theatre, Robbins Health Learning Centre
MINUTES

1.0 Call to Order
• The meeting was called to order at 4:07 pm. Quorum was met.

2.0 Approval of Agenda/ Consent Agenda

MOTION: SOBC-01-04-01-2015
• Moved by Raina Rudko and seconded by Tom Carter that the School of Business Council approve the Agenda/Consent Agenda that was presented.

• The Chair proposed moving item 7.0 Dean’s Report to item 3.0 on the Agenda.

MOTION: SOBC-02-04-01-2015
• A motion to amend the Agenda by moving item 7.0 Dean’s Report to item 3.0 on the Agenda was moved by Randy Jenne and seconded by Tom Carter. This motion was carried.
• The Main Motion as amended was then carried.

3.0 Dean’s Report

3.1 Strategic Planning Update
• The Dean gave an update on the development of the Strategic Plan. She thanked faculty and staff for their engagement and hard work which began with the development of the Mission and Vision over two years ago.
• The Dean shared a PowerPoint with the timeline to date:
  - Mission/Vision Steering Committee established – March 2013
  - Consultation with students at Business Conference - March 2013
  - School of Business Vision Workshop – October 2013
  - Interviews faculty/staff, business and thought leaders – March-October 2013
  - Consultation with Business Advisory Council – November 2013
  - Vision/Mission Document released - March 2014
  - Pre-Summit – January 2015
  - Summit – January 2015
  - Student Consultation – February 2015

3.2 Role of Faculty at School Council & Academic Governance Council (AGC)
• The Dean stressed to faculty the importance of taking the opportunity to engage in discussions with colleagues on matters that come to School Council - before they are brought forward to university-level approval bodies like Academic Planning and
Priorities Committee, AGC and the Board of Governors. Faculty participation is also encouraged at AGC and its Committees.

4.0 Committee Reports/Items

4.1 Business Programs & Curriculum Committee (M. Gulawani, Com. Chair)

4.1.1 B.Com. Honours Proposal:

MOTION: SOBC-03-04-01-2015

- Moved by Norene James and seconded by Lyle Benson that the School of Business Council approve and recommend to the Dean the Bachelor of Commerce Honours Designation proposal for Marketing, International Business and Management and four associated new Master Course Syllabi, effective Fall 2016.
- Makarand noted that this proposal was developed taking into consideration MacEwan’s strategic directions included in the “Integrated Strategic Plan Implementation: Academic Program Development 2014-2019.” The plan refers to the addition of “Honours designations within major areas of study”; these designations “represent an enhanced educational experience for outstanding students.”
- The motion was carried. (*The matter would then go to APPC and AGC*)

4.1.2 New Course Proposals:

MOTION: SOBC-04-04-01-2015

- Moved by Teresa Costouros and seconded by Lyle Benson that the School of Business Council approve and recommend to the Dean the changes to Programs of Study, as recommended by the Business Programs and Curriculum Committee.

- The following new courses were recommended:
  - INTB 413, International Entrepreneurship
  - ACCT 493, Integrated Case Studies
  - ACCT 366, Government and Not-for-Profit Accounting

- The three B.Com courses will be senior electives or options for B.Com. Accounting, Accounting Applied Degree and International Business students.

- The motion was carried. (*This matter would then go to APPC and AGC.*)

4.2 Executive Committee

4.2.1 Process for Setting Academic Priorities (Michael Roberts)

MOTION: SOBC-05-04-01-2015
Moved by Jon Capus and seconded by Mark Arnison that the School of Business Council approve the process for identifying key academic priorities for the School of Business, as presented.

On behalf of Executive Committee, Michael Roberts presented a process to identify key academic priorities. The Executive Committee proposed holding a one day summit/workshop to which all faculty would be invited to provide input on the academic priorities. At the summit, faculty would discuss current academic initiatives and provide recommendations about future academic priorities.

Mike Henry recommended delaying the summit to early September which would give faculty more time to prepare. Travis Huckell proposed changing the motion by removing “as presented.”

MOTION: SOBC-06-04-01-2015

Moved by Evandro Bocatto and seconded by Jon Capus to remove “as presented” to the main motion to read as follows: That the School of Business Council approve the process for identifying key academic priorities. This motion to amend was carried.

The Main Motion as amended was then carried.

5.0 Information Item: Legal Studies in Business (Lorrie Adams, Legal Assistant and Library and Information Technology Chair)

Lorrie Adams discussed a new strategy to revise the program of study to convert the Legal Assistant program into a Paralegal program that would include Bachelor of Commerce courses. This would allow students to continue or to return and seamlessly complete their business degree.

Points discussed included:
- Legal Studies in Business would use many of the same courses.
- Resource requirements are in place.
- Students responded favourably to a questionnaire.
- The next step would be to request permission to develop the idea further with a Letter of Intent (LOI) to the Board of Governors.
- Once the Board gives the go-ahead, the proposal would be developed with more in-depth discussions and consultations.
- Lorrie suggested posting a draft of the LOI for faculty to give input and comments. (The LOI would go to the Board of Governors on May 28.)

6.0 Presentations

6.1 Fall Reading Week Proposal (Rebecca Taylor, then VP Academic and Cam McCoy, then President of SAMU)

Rebecca and Cam discussed the proposal to implement a Reading Week in the Fall.

Students would have time to catch up with their studies, de-stress from academic activities and reconnect with family, helping to address mental health issues.

A survey of students showed that 78% were in agreement with the proposal.

The survey also found that students would prefer to start earlier and end later if a Fall Reading Week was implemented.

56% of Universities have fall breaks; this would make MacEwan more competitive.
• Possible dates could align with the Thanksgiving or Remembrance Day.
• Faculty response was mainly positive, with many favouring alignment with Remembrance Day.

7.0 Announcements

• Mike Henry informed School Council that the School of Business will be hosting the 2016 Administrative Sciences Association of Canada (ASAC) Conference on campus and at the Shaw Conference Centre. ASAC is a professional society of those interested in the scholarship, teaching and practice of management. The Conference is co-chaired by Murli Muralidharan, Noufou Ouedraogo and Mike Henry. Faculty are asked to send their themes to Noufou.
• Michael Roberts, a member of AGC Research Council informed faculty that the School of Business received a fair amount of funding from the Research Council this year. Michael reminded faculty that the more applications that are sent in, the more funding we will receive. Michael encouraged faculty to submit applications as soon as possible.
• Raina told faculty that later that evening in the Paul Byrne Hall, a number of entrepreneurs would be meeting with students to network.
• Gordon Luyck noted that the Mission Possible celebration would be the next week. Funding raised by Mission Possible projects supported the participation of the Enactus Club in competitions. Enactus won medals at the Regional Competition in Calgary.
• Mike Henry advised Council that a group of students from Leo Wong’s BUSN 201 course are working with Habit for Humanity. Anyone doing renovations can ask Leo or Mike to put them in touch with a student who can arrange for a 25% off coupon to be used at the Habit for Humanity Re-Store.
• On behalf of Kim Warkentine, AGC Secretary, who had to leave early, the Chair noted that AGC is still looking for nominees for their Committees. For more information, check the AGC website.

8.0 New Business  N/A

9.0 Question Period/Open Discussion

• Patti Callghan indicated that she would like to see the faculty showcase re-instated.
• The Dean responded that planning is in progress. Further details would be shared as they became available.

10.0 Future Agenda Items

11.0 Adjournment – 5:50 p.m.

Minutes taken by Darlene Tymchuk