

REPORT OF THE OPERATIONS/AGENDA COMMITTEE [Exhibit I]

S.08-102 **Senate Membership: Faculty Constituency**

It was moved by T. Carmichael, seconded by J. Weese,

That Phil Doyle (Communications Sciences and Disorders), elected representative on Senate for the Faculty of Health Sciences constituency, be granted a leave of absence from Senate and,

That Susan Ray (School of Nursing) be elected to serve as his alternate (term from July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009).

CARRIED

S.08-103 **Senate Meeting Dates 2010**

S.08-105 **Autumn Convocation 2008 - Order of Ceremony**

Senate received for information the Order of Ceremony for Autumn Convocation 2008 as follows:

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23 - 3:30 P.M.

Faculty of Graduate Studies*
Faculty of Education
Faculty of Engineering
Faculty of Health Sciences
Faculty of Law
Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry
Don Wright Faculty of Music
Richard Ivey School of Business

* = students in programs hosted by the Don Wright Faculty of Music, Faculties of Education, Engineering, Health Sciences, and Law, the Richard Ivey School of Business and the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24 - 10:00 A.M.

Faculty of Graduate Studies*
Faculty of Arts and Humanities
Faculty of Science
Faculty of Science and the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry (BMSc)
Brescia University College
Huron University College
King's University College

* = students in programs hosted by the Faculties of Arts and Humanities, and Science

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24 - 3:30 P.M. INSTALLATION OF NEW CHANCELLOR

Faculty of Graduate Studies*
Faculty of Information and Media Studies
Faculty of Social Science

* = students in programs hosted by the Faculties of Information and Media Studies and Social Science

S.08-106 **Senate Election Schedule for September/October 2008**

Senate received for information the Senate Election Schedule for September/October 2008, detailed in Exhibit I, item 5. Since Senate terms are in transition so that they start in July, rather than November, the terms for the representatives elected in the Fall will run from November 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009.

S.08-107 **Senate Election Schedule for January/February 2009**

Senate received for information the Senate Election Scheduled for January/February 2009, detailed in Exhibit I, item 6. The terms for Faculty and Administrative Staff will run from July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2010, and for Graduate and Undergraduate Students the terms will run from July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009.

S.08-108 **Notice of Motion - Divestment from Darfur** [S.08-99]

The Operations/Agenda Committee agreed to place the notice of motion on the agenda for the May Senate meeting. Background documentation is attached as Exhibit I, Annex 1. Discussion of the matter will follow the reports of the standing committees.

REPORT OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC POLICY AND AWARDS
[Exhibit II]

S.08-109 **PhD Program in Family Medicine**

It was moved by M. Milde, seconded by S. Sims,

That Senate approve that a new PhD program in Family Medicine, detailed in Exhibit II, item 1, be established in September 2008.

CARRIED

S.08-110 **UWO Diploma in Public Administration Program at Xiamen University**

It was moved by M. Milde, seconded by R. Wood,

That Western's Diploma in Public Administration Program be offered at Xiamen University in the Fujian Province of the People's Republic of China under the terms outlined in Exhibit II, item 2, effective September 1, 2008.

CARRIED

S.08-111 **Faculty of Arts and Humanities: Withdrawal of the Major in Mediterranean Studies**

It was moved by M. Milde, seconded by K. Okruhlik,

That admission to the Major in Mediterranean Studies be discontinued by the Faculty of Arts and Humanities for September 2008; that students in the module be required to complete their course requirements by May 1, 2011; and, that the module be withdrawn, effective July 1, 2011, or prior to that time if there are no students registered.

CARRIED

S.08-112 **Faculty of Arts and Humanities: Policy on Direct Admission to the Bachelor of Fine Arts**

It was moved by M. Milde, seconded by K. Okruhlik,

That the admission requirements for the Bachelor of Fine Arts, Honors Specialization in Studio Arts, be revised as set out in Exhibit II, item 4, effective July 1, 2008.

With Senate's agreement, the phrase "within a 100 kilometer radius of London" was deleted from the first sentence in "Portfolio Interviews" contained in the Background information. The revised sentence will read: "Rather than submitting an electronic portfolio on February 1, students could request an optional portfolio interview be scheduled in early February."

The question was called and CARRIED

S.08-113 **Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness - Undergraduate Students**

Editorial revisions to the item "Accommodation by Instructor for work worth less than 10% of the overall grade in a course" had been distributed to Senators via email prior to the meeting.

Chancellor be charged with the task of presenting the opinion of the Senate to the Board of Governors at the next meeting where a discussion regarding Darfur and investment is to be held.

CARRIED

Speaking in support of STAND's mission regarding divestment from Darfur, Mr. Van Gaalen noted that the proposal had significant student support - over 1,000 students had signed a petition for divestment. He remarked that the situation in Darfur is intolerable, that the human rights violations cannot be justified by anyone, that many governments and universities have dealt with motions to divest, that the movement has significant student support and that STAND is a successful organization globally, nationally and locally. In his view, it was not appropriate to look at this from the perspective of a fear of setting a precedent. Rather, he was concerned about the type of precedent that would be set if the University did not support divestment. What would that say about the University? Would we accept these kind of atrocities if they were happening in Europe? If not, why would we accept them happening in Africa?

Professor Coulter pointed out that Canadian universities have a long history of deciding not to become involved at important points in history. She cited as an example the situation in the 1930's when Jewish academic scholars were not able to obtain refuge at Canadian universities - Canada accepted only six such applicants. Universities make political decisions every day in everything they do. In this case, the students have afforded the University an opportunity to take a strong ethical and moral position - at little risk, since the University has no funds invested in offending companies at the moment. She stated that not taking a stand on every issue was not a justification for not taking a stand on this issue. The situation in Darfur is dire and she would like to see her university take a stand.

Professor Dyer-Witheford noted that he too supported the proposal, both for its intrinsic merits and for the universal impact such a decision would have on the ability to have discussion of other issues of concern. Once this motion passed, the University could no longer take the position that it did not have the moral authority to raise questions and engage in discussions about corporate responsibility for other disasters around the world. He thought this proposal should be approved, and approved mindfully.

It was moved by K. Okruhlik, seconded by G. Zeni,

That the Senate provide advice to the Board of Governors, through the President & Vice-Chancellor, that the Board issue a public statement announcing its commitment to remaining un-invested in any company on the Sudan Divestment Task Force's "Highest Offender" list.

While not disagreeing with the sentiments raised about the horrors occurring in Darfur nor with the idea that a stand needed to be taken, Dr. Hewitt questioned whether divestment is the strategy that works best, or indeed at all, and whether it caused hurt to victims in the country who might benefit by investment. He asked if there were other means that could be considered in order to take a stand and to put The University of Western Ontario on record with respect to the crimes against humanity occurring in Darfur.

On a motion duly moved and seconded, speaking privileges were accorded to Ms. Jennifer Epp, Co-VP Divestment, STAND Western. Ms. Epp stated there is evidence that divestment pressures are effective. Decisions to divest by reputable institutions draws media attention. That media attention has caused a number of companies to change their business practices in order to get off the "Highest Offenders" list. There may be many other things that universities could do to have an impact. This is just one thing that they can do.

Ms. Kulczycki noted that there was no argument that the situation in Darfur was anything but outrageous. The issue is determining the most effective way of responding to the situation in the Sudan. STAND's suggestion to divest from the worst offenders is not simple to put into operation. There are real difficulties in managing pooled investments and adding restrictions will make the investment managers' jobs more difficult. In some cases, the University does not have access to what

S.08-119 **REPORT OF THE ACADEMIC COLLEAGUE** [Exhibit V]

The Report of the Academic Colleague on the 285th meeting of the Council of Ontario Universities, detailed in Exhibit VI, was received for information.

S.08-120 **ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMUNICATIONS** [Exhibit VI]

Announcements & Communications detailed in Exhibit VI, were received for information.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

P. Davenport
Chair

I. Birrell
Secretary

President's Report to Senate

- G-13 Meeting with Minister Jim Prentice

Ontario University of Western

New Research Park Development

- 60,000 square feet, \$20 Million investment, 120 new jobs – “Green Building”
- Advanced polymer research – LANXESS, Inc. multinational chemical leader -21 countries annual sales \$9.7 billion in 2007.
- Complements LANXESS butyl rubber plant in Samia.
- Surface Science Western – analytical labs with over 200 industry clients
- Completion Fall 2009

Ontario University of Western

Arthur Labatt Family School of Nursing

- Announcement Monday, May 12
- \$10 Million gift to Western
- Scholarships, Endowed Chair, Nursing Education and Research Fund, Facilities Renewal
- Follows \$5 million gift to Faculty of Health Sciences in 2005, naming of Arthur and Sonia Labatt Health Sciences Building
- Arthur Labatt: Western’s Chancellor 2004-2008

Graduate Student Teaching Awards

- Ceremony Tuesday, May 13, Great Hall
- Honouring Western's best graduate student teachers.
- Awards created by SOGS, TA Union, and Faculty of Graduate Studies to celebrate future scholars and teachers
- Presented by Margie Davenport, (SOGS, VP Academic) and Ruchi Bhalla (GTA Union President) with Acting Dean Alan Weedon.