

**Minutes of the  
FQS Faculty as a Whole Meeting  
Friday, September 25, 2009  
Eagle Quest Golf Course**

**Attendance:** 78 members of the Faculty were present, with representatives from each of the five departments, more than the minimum number (25) required to form a quorum.

**1. Opening of the Meeting**

- The Dean opened the meeting with a brief introduction to the process that has taken place to get the Faculty to the point of today's meeting. He noted that we had a higher percentage of participation in the voting on the Bylaws process than any other Faculty at Kwantlen.
- The Dean stated that the Bylaws and name change for the Faculty are currently with the Senate Governance Committee for approval.
- Newly elected members of the Faculty Council were asked to stand and be recognized. There are still a few members to be elected.

**2. Formal Introduction of the Bylaws Document**

- A panel consisting of members of the Faculty Council Development Committee (FCDC) was introduced and this portion of the meeting was chaired by Joel Murray, as the Chair of that committee.
- The first meeting of the Faculty Council will take place on Friday October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00 am in Surrey G2110.
- Joel stated that this document, originally presented to the Faculty through meetings at the three campuses, has been revised as the Senate Governance Committee has come back to the FQS Admin with several required changes to the Bylaws, hence the new version that is before the Faculty today. Some examples of the revisions that have been done were highlighted by Joel and are included with the Bylaws as an insert. Fundamentally, the Bylaws are what were previously presented. The document was not reviewed point-by-point, but questions were requested from the floor.
- As required in the University Act, the FQS Faculty as a Whole (FW) shall meet at least twice per year. The Faculty Council (FC) will meet at least six times per year.

**3. Bylaw Questions from the Floor**

- *Can you explain what the "Instructional Member at Large" is and how that will position be elected?* – This position originated from the fact that some departments are not mandated to have many elected representatives.
- *Are FC Meetings open to all?* – Yes, as with Senate meetings.
- *Can the Bylaws be changed?* – These Bylaws are not set in stone. They can change when FC gets moving. Even, for example, the membership. This is built into the Bylaws, as they are ever changing documents. These Bylaws are the starting point. Any changes must be voted on by the FW as well which builds in a good deal of checks and balances.
- *Will minutes be available?* – The minutes and agendas will be openly accessible. Notice of meetings shall be provided to Faculty at least seven days prior to the meeting. A skeleton agenda for the first FC meeting was provided at this time.
- *Is Faculty restructuring an example of an item for the FW or for FC?* – Most likely this would be dealt with by both bodies. Standing Committees also have a role in all the events that will face the Faculty (i.e., Academic Planning & Priority, etc.). With respect to change, also see Bylaw 1C (Powers and Duties of the Faculty). If a new Faculty is to be created, however, this is the responsibility of the Board of Governors (BoG), and only at the recommendation of Senate. Senate will be creating a taskforce looking at learning services and if there was to be a restructuring that would affect the Faculty as a recommendation of the taskforce this would still have to go through Senate and the BoG. Newton is a representative of the BoG on Senate, not of FQS, therefore you need to rely our three Senators to be spokespeople at Senate (Joel Murray, Geoff Dean and Douglas Baker). There are upcoming Senate approved discussion groups on the changing role of the institution and a variety of topics such as teaching vs. research. What we are inviting

today is opportunities for everyone to participate in the larger questions about structure and functions. Douglas invites us to take these opportunities seriously and exercise our institutional citizenship.

- *Does FC have authority to allow our Faculty to do creative experiments when it comes to how we operate?*  
– Joel stated that we do see this being provided for in the Bylaws, and we will get there, the question only being when as we are all learning. It's a long road, but this is what we see as the vision throughout the University.
- *What are the roles of the different bodies?* – FC reports to the FW and Senate, Senate reports to the President and the BoG. The BoG is the decision making body for fiduciary, financial, and other non-curricular decisions. Senate's responsibilities are curricular. There are also some responsibilities which are shared between the BoG and Senate. Standing Committees report back to the larger groups they are part of (i.e., to Senate or Faculty Council) with recommendations. On paper this is referred to as a bi-cameral governance system. Right now, with Senate being newly created, the BoG and Senate are working out that relationship. Many universities don't use their Faculty Councils effectively, often because people don't participate, they think it unimportant. There are some very strong statements in our Bylaws about the responsibility of FC (i.e., Bylaw 24), which show the importance of our FC. In part Faculty Councils are ineffective because standing committees report to Senate. We must see the FC as the conduit of information to the Senate if our FC is to be powerful.
- One further comment, rather than question, was that there recently has been as statement that there will be no new money for the next three years in our budgets. We will need to work as a group and this is the first time we will operate wholly as a group and this is the true work of the FC.

**4. Call for Nominations for Instructional Member at Large**

- Nominations are now being received by Trina Ojo for the Instructional Member at Large. These should be received by October 8<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm.

**5. Adjourned:**

Motion for adjournment made by Joel Murray, seconded Newton Wainman, carried.  
Adjourned at 10:55 am.