

# TRU SENATE AWARDS & HONOURS COMMITTEE

Place: OM 1662

Date: Wednesday, November 6, 2013

## MINUTES

Present: Marjorie Budnikas (Chair), Gordon Down, Stephen Eaglestone, Jack Miller, Mitul Daulat Ramani, Christopher Seguin (non-voting), Martha White.

Absent: Christine Anderson , Wayne Hendry (non-voting)

1) The meeting was called to order at 9:04 AM. The agenda was adopted with the addition of 3.d. Professor Emeritus update. (SE/JM)

2) The minutes of May 16, 2013 (JM/SE) were adopted as distributed.

3) Old Business

a) Membership

Marjorie welcomed Mitul as a new student member on the committee, and advised that the Steering Cee is working to replace the vacant faculty and dean member positions.

b) Policy Discussion: Withdrawn motion from May 16<sup>th</sup>

The committee concluded that no new motion was required, and that graduating students should make every effort to ensure that all graduation requirements are complete by the end of the Winter term (April). Situations with Study Abroad, practicums, etc. generally do not impact medal adjudication as the courses involved are not graded and do not impact the GPA. Gordon advised that where any course and especially a final thesis course was still in-progress for a medal finalist, the Awards Office would communicate the urgency of the situation to the appropriate Dean to ensure any delays were not related to the faculty member. *The committee unanimously recognized that where a student has delayed in completing their thesis course, or they have chosen to take a full-term field school course in their final semester which constituted a required component of their degree, they may in so doing remove themselves from medal consideration.*

4) New Business

a) The committee was fully satisfied that the nominee met all of the medal requirements.

**Motion:** To approve and recommend to the Chair of Senate for final approval the awarding of the 2013 Lieutenant Governor's Silver medal to Sandra Cantin. Approved. (SE/MR)

b) The committee carefully considered whether the requirements for TRU medals should be expanded from baccalaureate degrees to undergraduate degrees in order to create a

medal for the Faculty of Law. The committee asked for the Faculty's view, and Marjorie said that Law advised the Gold Medal awarded by the Law Society to the top graduate from each Law program in the country was fully sufficient, and could be awarded at the Law convocation ceremony. As it did not appear a TRU Medal in Law would accomplish anything further, and as such a medal is not desired by the Faculty of Law, the committee unanimously agreed that no further action be taken.

c) Review of the Lieutenant Governor's Silver Medal process

After reviewing the current adjudication timeline and its inherent problems (namely that both the nominators and nominees are already graduated when nominations open), the committee considered the merits of initiating the nomination process during the credential year while the certificate students are still at TRU, and deciding on a medalist prior to and subject to graduation.

**Motion:** That the Awards Office review and re-work the adjudication timeline such that the medal could be awarded at the June convocation, and if workable, that Marjorie as Chair send a letter to the Chair of Senate asking that Policy ED 9-1, Reg. I.4. be amended on a one-year trial basis to read "Medals will be awarded at the June Convocation."  
(MW/JM)

Jack Miller advised that he may be unable to Chair this year's ad hoc Professor Emeritus/Emerita committee. It was recognized that the committee is normally composed of (at least) one faculty member, one dean, and one student, and this may mean the faculty member and dean are yet to be found. However, the ad hoc committee members do not need to be members of Awards & Honours, and Jack would be available to provide orientation.

5) The meeting was adjourned at 10:12 AM. (JM)