

TRANSITION FROM EDUCATION COUNCIL TO SENATE

On August 26, 2008, Kwantlen's Senate Creation Committee submitted an extensive package to Education Council for review. This package details Kwantlen's transition and implementation plans for Kwantlen to move from the current Education Council structure towards a Senate structure.

The details and highlights of the plan are posted on Kwantlen's website, and can be reviewed on the following link: <http://www.kwantlen.ca/senate.html>

There are numerous complex issues that are being considered at the September 8, 2008 meeting of Education Council, and the KFA urges faculty members to be informed on these issues.

There are two items of particular concern.

LACK OF REPRESENTATION AND VOTING RIGHTS FOR ALL FACULTY MEMBERS

According to our KFA Constitution and Collective Agreement, every faculty member at Kwantlen is a full voting member in all matters. For the last 13 years, all faculty members at Kwantlen have been entitled to vote for positions on Education Council and the Board. The proposed Senate Transition structure seeks to change this.

Librarians, Counsellors, Learning Centre, and Co-Op Faculty Members

The Senate Creation Committee has designated eight faculty groupings. However, it is proposed that Kwantlen's librarians, counselors, learning centre and co-op faculty, ***who are all faculty members***, be grouped with the Professional Support Staff comprising BCGEU members and excluded personnel. In addition, the proposed rules for election indicate: "The voters list shall be comprised [sic] of all faculty members with appointments within educational administrative divisions of the University constituted by the board as a faculty." Because the Librarians, Counsellors, Learning Centre, and CoOp faculty members will not be members of a "faculty" they will presumably be left off the voters' list.

Non-Regular Faculty

As you are aware, we have both regular and non-regular faculty members working at Kwantlen. The Senate Creation Committee has proposed that "All faculty members with an existing appointment consistent with the term of office will be eligible to vote in their faculty." Because the "term of office" is three years this means that only regular faculty members will be entitled to vote for Senate seats, and non-regular faculty members will be disenfranchised.

Concerned?

Education Council will be voting on these proposals on Monday, September 8, 2008. We encourage you to contact your Education Council representative (the membership list can be found at <https://plaza.kwantlen.ca/sites/edcouncil.nsf/pages/Members2008-09>) to express your views and/or to attend the Education Council meeting on September 8th at 4:15 pm in G2110 on the Surrey Campus.

SPECIAL BULLETIN

