

KWANTLEN'S EVOLUTION: UNIVERSITY COLLEGE TO POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY

Senate Representation for All Faculty Members

At the September 8, 2008 Senate meeting, time was set aside before the official meeting for faculty members to express concerns and feedback regarding the proposed Senate Transition package. Key points raised by faculty members in attendance included the following:

- The University Amendment Act enables the Senate and Board to establish additional 'faculties' to accommodate Kwantlen's context.
- Librarians, counsellors, co-op and learning centre faculty at Kwantlen serve an integral role in supporting student success, and have varying degrees of teaching responsibility.

Their representation at the senate table would bring an invaluable, student-support perspective to the numerous academic issues that the Senate has the power and duty to consider.

Following discussion and debate by Senate, two motions were drafted for consideration at the September 15, 2008 meeting of the Senate.

SEPTEMBER 15, 2008 MEETING OF THE SENATE

The Senate met to review a revised Senate Transition package of resolutions and by-laws. It was decided that the package would be disseminated to all stakeholders for consultation prior to the October 6, 2008 meeting of the Senate. At that meeting, the Senate will consider and vote on the 14 resolutions within the package.

Resolutions of particular interest to KFA members include:

Membership and Representation

Resolution # 1 affirms that the following are members of the Academic Faculty and, accordingly, should have representation on Senate: Centre for Academic Growth faculty, Co-operative Education faculty, Counsellors Learning Centre faculty, Librarians, Program Review Facilitators, Student Life and Development faculty, Services for Students with Disabilities faculty.

Resolution # 2 "supports, in principle, the creation of an additional Faculty for the above group, and requests that the President bring to Senate a recommendation in this regard no later than December 31, 2008."

Non-Regular Faculty

Resolution # 9 limits voting rights for non-regular faculty members because the proposed Election Rules don't allow Non-Regular Type 1 faculty—those faculty with appointments less than 50%—to vote for either the two faculty Board representatives or the two faculty representatives for their respective academic grouping.

Our Non-Regular Type 1 colleagues have been entitled to vote for both Board and Education Council representatives for over a decade. Many of them have worked at Kwantlen for years. The KFA finds it ironic that students who attend Kwantlen and take only one class would be entitled to vote for student representatives on both Senate and Board, but the faculty member teaching that same course may not be able to exercise that same right. We support part-time students having the right to vote and we want the same rights for our non-regular faculty.

KFA SPECIAL BULLETIN

CONCERNED?

The Senate will be voting on the Transition package on Monday, October 6, 2008. We encourage you to contact faculty Senators (the membership list can be found at <https://plaza.kwantlen.ca/sites/edcouncil.nsf/pages/Members2008-09>) to express your views.

