Special Meeting of Senate Minutes

December 4, 2015 CS-104

D. Keefe called the meeting to order and welcomed all those in attendance. The Canadian Coast Guard College representative, Louis Guimond, was thanked for his contributions to Senate and best wishes were extended for his retirement.

1. Pre-budget Report & Integrated Plan

The Chair of the Planning & Review Committee presented an overview of the process and time line for the development of the report as circulated earlier in the week. Each of the recommendations was detailed as they relate to each other and it was noted that the third recommendation was removed from the final report as it was defeated during the November 20th meeting of Senate.

D. Keefe then provided background information on the Integrated Academic & Academic Support Unit Plan also circulated earlier in the week. The document was described as building on unit reports by the academic support units and the schools and college level plans. The report integrates the unit level planning within the CBU Strategy 2014-2019 and establishes priorities for the 2016/17 academic year.

2. Discussion

Variables for the projected numbers in specific courses and programs were developed with a time series analysis of enrollment drivers. These drivers include the decline in local high schools, the deaprture of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia scholarship program students, the continued growth in the MBA, assumed growth in the BET, and the BSCN and the non-Cape Breton domestic numbers remaining stable.

The plan was described as a neither a short or long term plan, rather a medium plan that will determine if a strategic long term plan with the described objectives are obtainable.

In reply to the question of recruiting Saudi Arabian students outside the KSA scholarship program, K. Brown replied that students outside this program typically study in the professional doctorate or graduate programs.

On the question of program assessment, D. Keefe replied that the document circulated it is intended to be at the degree or credential level. Comments were offered that many of the Departments and Schools are diligently working to strengthen their programs but that a more coordinated effort is necessary. D. Keefe responded this coordinated effort could be realize through recommendation one of the pre-budget report and that Deans have been tasked to ensure efforts are being coordinated to maximize these efforts. An external review would likely provide a view that would assist in the short and long term plans.

Adjournment

With no further questions or comments for the meeting was adjourned at 3:40 pm.

Laura Syms, Secretary