

Senate Question Period  
February 12, 2013

**Question posed by Senator Fachinger:**

Did Senate approve the new Queen's National Scholars program that was announced in the e-Queen's Bulletin today (emailed Feb. 5, 2013)

“The goal of the new Queen's National Scholars program is to bring senior assistant and junior associate professors to Queen's.”

**This question was referred to the Provost who is a co-chair of the QNS Advisory Committee.**

The recently redefined Queen's National Scholar (QNS) Program did not require approval from Senate. Although the program originated in Senate, matters regarding employment are now contained within the Collective Agreement.

When the QNS program was established in February of 1985, it was on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Appointment, Promotion, Tenure and Leave (SCAPTL) with the provision that “all appointments of Queen's National Scholars be under the Regulations Governing Appointment, Renewal of Appointment, Tenure and Termination for Academic Staff as approved by the Senate and the Board of Trustees in 1979”. Under the program, as then approved, allocations of academic positions were the responsibility of the Principal and the proposals were to be decided upon by the Principal in consultation with an advisory committee and based on criteria found in the report from SCAPTL.

At the time of the creation of the QNS, Senate was operating under the “Functions of the Senate” document, which was last amended before the original QNS program was approved in 1982. At that time one of the functions of Senate was “to establish the procedures to be followed in the appointment of members of the academic staff, vice-principals, deans and heads of departments and procedures concerning the conditions under which, in the case of academic staff, promotions shall be given, tenure, granted, appointments terminated and sabbatical or other leave granted.”

This version of the document was later revised to reflect changes in the University's hiring processes as a result of the establishment of the Collective Agreement between Queen's University and the Queen's University Faculty Association. In 2011, the new “Purpose and Functions” document was approved by both Senate and the Board of Trustees.