



Faculty Board Report to Senate Date of Senate Meeting: Dec. 2, 2013

Faculty: Law

Date of Meeting(s): 733rd [September 20, 2013]; 734th [“October 18, 2013]

Discussion:

- **2013 LSSSE Survey Result:** The Dean presented an executive summary of the 2013 LSSSE Survey Results as they pertained to Queen’s Law. Queen’s was one of ten Canadian law schools which participated. Over 28,000 law students responded to the survey from 98 law schools across Canada, the U. S. and 2 law schools in Australia. The Queen’s participation rate was 63% - higher than the participation rate at the other Canadian law schools (54%) and higher than the rate at all LSSSE law schools participating (46%). This high participation rate means that our results are significant and reliable. Queen’s Law did exceptionally well on student satisfaction, student advising, law school environment, student-faculty interaction, and learning to think like a lawyer to name but a few areas. As well, areas for improvement were noted: class preparedness, legal writing in first year, and more clinical programs/experience.

- **Proposed Take-Home Examination Policy:** A draft policy was circulated as notice of a motion to be brought at the next meeting of Faculty Board. Over the years there have been problems with take-home exams due to the duration of the exam, the impact (i.e., attendance, preparedness for class, etc.) of such an exam on other courses, maintaining grading anonymity, etc. Private exams, which are not proctored nor are administered by the law school or central university, are excluded from this policy.

- **2013 Cycle Admissions Report:** J. Emrich circulated the 2013 Admissions Report. She commented on several highlights of the report:
 - 2013-14 enrolment as of Sept. 11, 2013
 - First year class profile: pre-law education
 - 2013 cycle comparative chart of first-year application volumes
 - 2013 comparative chart of upper year application volumes
 - Entrance scholarships awarded in the 2013 admission cycle

- Comparative geographic dispersion of Queen's first year law class 2003-2013

- **Notice of Motion for: Revision of Calendar Terms of Reference for BISC and Exchange Scholarships to include Public Interest Internship Awards.** The Faculty of Law approved the BISC scholarships in November 2012 and approved an extension to include international exchange scholarships in January 2013. The present motion is proposing an amendment to include an award to provide funding for public interest internships.

- **Strategic Planning Committee Report:** M. Walters and L. Dufraimont, co-chairs of the Strategic Planning Committee, outlined the Committee's recommendation that the Faculty expand its first-year class from 165 to 200 students, as detailed in the October 15, 2013 document circulated to Faculty Board: *Proposal to Faculty Board Re: Queen's Law Enrolment Expansion*. This proposal was circulated for discussion purposes only. There was no motion considered at the October meeting.

The Committee is of the view that before preparing a final draft of the new plan, it would be helpful for Faculty Board to consider the proposed expansion, which will generate an additional \$2M in net annual revenue for the Faculty. If Faculty Board approves the proposal for expansion (at a subsequent meeting), the draft plan will be able to focus on the question of how to best allocate this new revenue.

A lively, engaged discussion followed. Faculty and students expressed viewpoints for and against. At the end of the meeting, faculty and students were encouraged to continue this discussion via our listservs, student surveys, etc.

Decisions:

- **Approval of Nominations for Members of Faculty Board Committees:** *Moved to add M. Bailey to the Admissions Committee as Chair and to have J. Karton added to the Curriculum Committee as Chair. Vote on Motion. Motion carried.*

- **Take-Home Examination Policy:** *Moved that the policy in respect to take-home examinations be approved. Vote on Motion. Motion carried.*

Deferred: (List deferred items)

- **Nothing was deferred.**

Sincerely,

Beverly Baines, Chair, Faculty Board