

# TRU SENATE AWARDS & HONOURS COMMITTEE

Place: OM 1662

Date: Thursday, May 16, 2013

## MINUTES

Present: Christine Anderson , Marjorie Budnikas (Chair), Gordon Down, Stephen Eaglestone, Wayne Hendry (non-voting), Jack Miller, Christopher Seguin (non-voting), , Martha White.

Absent: Jeromy Spence

- 1) The meeting was called to order at 1:07 PM. The agenda was adopted with the correction of the February minutes being from 2013, and adding the yet to be adopted November 2012 minutes. (SE/MW)
- 2) The minutes of November 7, 2012 (JM/GD) and February 5, 2013 (MW/SE) were adopted as printed.
- 3) Old Business
- 4) New Business

1) *The Awards Office proposed additional Policy Interpretation:*

**Motion:** Each graduate will be given medal consideration once for each degree earned. If a graduate is otherwise eligible, has not met the graduation requirements at the time of adjudication, but subsequently graduates that Spring, they will be included in the following year's adjudication pool.. **Withdrawn.** The issue will be brought forward to the first meeting in the Fall for further discussion.

**Motion:** Courses which are in progress or otherwise incomplete at the time of adjudication which are determined not to be required for the candidate's degree will be excluded from medal adjudication. Approved. ( GD/SE).

**Motion:** Reg II, 1., c. "...only the highest-graded credits...will be assessed..." will be taken to mean that among upper/lower credits, graded credits will always be used ahead of transcript notations (such as COM - Complete) which do not impact the GPA. Approved. (GD/MW).

**Motion:** For the purposes of calculating the medal GPA, the "most recent 60 credits" will be deemed to only include institutional credit. Approved. ( JM/GD).

While voting in agreement with this motion and acknowledging the functional necessity of this interpretation, CS noted concern over the failure to recognize transfer credit (PLAR, while not impacting the GPA, is already included as it is counted as institutional credit).

GD agreed to wordsmith and distribute for future consideration a motion to recognize that two-term, six-credit courses will be considered split for adjudication purposes with the overall grade and credit being assigned to individual terms.

2) *TRU 2013 Baccalaureate Medals:*

**Motion:** To approve and recommend to the Chair of Senate for final approval the awarding of the attached 14 TRU baccalaureate medals. Approved. (GD/JM)

3) *TRU 2013 Governor General's Silver & Collegiate Bronze Medals:*

**Motion:** To approve and recommend to the Chair of Senate for final approval the awarding of the attached Governor General's Silver Medal and Governor General's Collegiate Bronze Medal. Approved. (GD/JM)

5) GD distributed for comment two draft timelines: one for the adjudication of the Spring Medals and a second for the adjudication of the Lieutenant Governor's Silver Medal in the Fall.

6) The meeting was adjourned at 3:27 PM. (JM)

**TRU Senate Awards & Honours Committee**  
**Interpretations and applications of**  
**Academic Achievement Awards (Policy ED 9-1)**

1) **The adjudication set:**

**MOTION: The graduates eligible for a medal are those who applied to graduate between April 1st of the preceding year and March 31st of the current year. (2012/11, GD/JM)**

*As per ED 9-1, Reg.I.2., only graduates eligible to convocate at the June or prior October convocation are considered. Policy ED 17-0 dictates that students must apply to graduate/convocate by March 31 in order to be eligible for June's convocation. NOTE: When or whether a graduate chooses to convocate is irrelevant to medal consideration, but the deadline to apply for graduation/convocation does dictate the medal eligibility window. In some cases, graduates may have finished all of their degree requirements and wait (intentionally or not) a year or more before applying to graduate, and be considered for that year's medal.*

2) **Assessment Period - Credits:**

**MOTION: Students who are deemed to have met the residency requirement of their Division and degree will be considered to have an assessment period of sufficient credits. (2012/11, SE/MW)**

*As per ED 9-1, Reg II.1.f., graduates must have at least 24 graded TRU instructed credits. If the graduate has fewer than 60 graded and non-graded TRU credits on their transcript, this will not in and of itself disqualify them from medal consideration.*

**MOTION: Courses which are in progress or otherwise incomplete at the time of adjudication which are determined not to be required for the candidate's degree will be excluded from medal adjudication. (2013/05, GD/SE)**

*Therefore for example, if two students whose degree requirements are already satisfied both take the same additional OL or Campus course for interest or toward a further credential and one student completes the course just prior to adjudication while the other does not, the course will be included for one student's adjudication and excluded for the other, even though they were in the same class.*

**MOTION: Reg II, 1., c. "...only the highest-graded credits...will be assessed..." will be taken to mean that among upper/lower credits, graded credits will always be used ahead of transcript notations (such as COM - Complete) which do not impact the GPA. (2013/05, GD/MW)**

*Where, for example, a student's six most recent semesters total 54 credits, the seventh semester will be included," using upper level credits first". If the seventh semester contains 3 graded upper level credits and 9 COM upper level credits, the graded credits will be used first, both for the purposes of GPA calculation and for the purposes of satisfying the 24 credit medal residency requirement.*

**MOTION: For the purposes of calculating the medal GPA, the "most recent 60 credits" will be deemed to only include institutional credit. (2013/05, JM/GD)**

*Therefore, regardless of when the transfer credit was completed and regardless of whether letter grades were assigned (i.e. OL), transfer credit will not be considered part of the assessment period. This is for GPA purposes only and does not impact the course density calculation.*

**3) Assessment Period - Configuration:**

**MOTION: The assessment period (“the most recent 60 credits”) must contain at least 24 graded TRU instructed credits, or graduates are deemed ineligible for medal consideration. (2012/11, JM/JS)**

*The residency requirement in ED 9-1, Reg II.1.f. ensures that every medal is based on at least 24 graded TRU credits. The clear inference and only way for this to occur is if the 24 credits are completed within the 60-credit assessment period.*

**4) Assessment Period - Course Density:**

**MOTION: Where the transcript does not allocate transfer credit to the actual semester(s) in which they were completed, they will be averaged over the period indicated by the accompanying transcript notation. (2012/11, JM/SE)**

*Where, for example, 44 transfer credits are allocated to “2010 – 2012” on the transcript, they will be treated as 11 credits completed over each of the Fall and Winter semesters of 2010-11 and 2011-12.*

**MOTION: PLAR credits will counted in the semester they are assigned, to a maximum of 15 credits per semester. (2012/11, JM/JS)**

*Where, for example, 35 PLAR credits are awarded in Fall 2011, for the purposes of measuring course density (60 credits completed within 8 semesters), 15 credits will be deemed to have been completed in Fall 2011, and the remaining 20 PLAR credits will not factor into the course density calculation. This balances the work completed for the PLAR portfolio, while maintaining the intent of the course density requirement and recognizing that 35 credits could not normally have been completed in a single term.*