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MEMORANDUM

ATTENTION Senate DATE March 4, 2019
FROM Rummana Khan Hemani PAGES 2
Secretary, Senate Appeals Board
RE: Senate Appeals Board Annual Report for 2018

The Senate Appeal Board (SAB) hears appeals from students on matters involving the application of academic policies and requirements relating but not limited to:

- withdrawal under extenuating circumstances
- admission or re-admission to the University, where special circumstances are present

SAB meets at least once a month and occasionally more frequently when there is sufficient business to warrant a meeting. In 2018, SAB met 10 times reviewing a total of 40 student appeal cases. In June 2014, the terms of reference for SAB were revised to address, in part, the marked increase in appeals over the past 5-6 years. A time limit for appeal was introduced. In addition, clearer guidelines regarding grounds for appeal and documentation requirements were implemented. The reduction in appeals in both 2015 and 2016 can largely be attributed to the changes in the terms of reference. However, in 2017 there was an increase in appeals which appears to be related to the increase in requests for retroactive withdrawal under extenuating circumstances and an accompanying increase in denied requests. In 2018 there was a decrease in the total number of requests for withdrawal under extenuating circumstances resulting in fewer applications for appeal. Students unable to provide new supporting documentation also contributed to the decrease in appeals.

Paul Garfinkel, Faculty Member, Chair

Rummana Khan Hemani, Secretary,
SAB

Dates of meetings in 2018: January 25, February 22, March 22, April 19, May 24, July 19, August 30, September 27, October 25, and December 13.

Current SAB Membership:

Paul Garfinkel, Faculty Member, Chair
Veselin Jungic, Faculty Member
Cathy D'Andrea, Faculty Member
Gord Meyers, Faculty Member
Holly Eksal, Graduate Student
Vacant, Graduate Student (Alternate)

Rummana Khan Hemani, Secretary
Geoffrey Poitras, Faculty Member (Alternate)
Vikramaditya Chandhok, Undergraduate Student
Ibrahim Hafeez, Undergraduate Student (Alternate)
Tina Edmundson, Recording Secretary

Procedure:

Each appeal is first screened to determine whether or not it meets the grounds for appeal as outlined in the terms of reference. All appeals are first heard in-camera (written form only); if the SAB is unable to give a positive judgment at this stage, students may be asked to appear in person. However, students are only asked to appear, if they have indicated so on the application form and more information is required by the Board. The case then proceeds to an in-person hearing at which time the student is able to present further evidence and answer questions. Most hearings last about 15 – 20 minutes.

Summary of Appeal Decisions 2018:

	Withdrawal Under Extenuating Circumstances	Appeals for Admission Re-admission	Total
Approved	32	0	32
Denied	6	0	6
Cancelled (no further action by student)	2	0	2
Did not hear (no grounds for appeal)	0	0	0
Tabled to the next year	0	0	
Total Appeals:	40	0	40

Summary of Appeal Decisions, 2009-2018:

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Approved	22	30	39	31	45	53	35	33	57	32
Denied	15	19	16	26	18	24	21	17	13	6
Cancelled (no further action by student)	0	2	2	1	9	3	0		0	2
Did not hear (no grounds for appeal)	3	1	0	0	1	3	3	1	0	0
Tabled to the next year	0	1	2	0	6	5	0	0	2	0
	40	53	59	58	79	88	59	51	72	40