

University of Waterloo
SENATE GRADUATE & RESEARCH COUNCIL
Minutes of the 18 March 2019 Meeting
[in agenda order]

Present: Jeff Casello, Trevor Clews, Charmaine Dean, Jeremy Bergen, Raouf Boutaba, David Clausi, Amelia Clark, Bernard Duncker, Rhona Hanning, Bruce Hellinga, Julie Joza, Christiane Lemieux, Daniel Martel, Bruce Muirhead, Daniela O'Neill, Jack Rehder, Naima Samuel, Simron Singh, Shirley Tang, Linda Warley, Shawn Wettig, Kathy Winter (secretary)

Resources: Jennifer Kieffer, Carrie MacKinnon

Regrets: Ana Ferrer*, Lauren Meliss Holt*, Alexander Mercado, Kirsten Müller, Richard Staines*, Max Salman*, Jackie Stapleton, Mike Szarka, Takin Tadayon, Amanda McKenzie, Alyssa Voigt

Organization of Meeting: Charmaine Dean, co-chair of the council, took the chair, and Kathy Winter acted as secretary. The secretary advised that due notice of the meeting had been given, a quorum was present, and the meeting was properly constituted.

1. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No conflicts of interest were declared.

2. MINUTES OF 11 FEBRUARY 2019 AND BUSINESS ARISING

The minutes were approved as distributed. Hanning and Wettig. Carried.

3. CO-CHAIRS' REMARKS

Casello spoke to: (a) Tri-Agency CGS M scholarships (applicant rankings now complete); (b) fall 2019 applications (uneven across faculties, likely won't meet domestic Master's targets, looking at extending application deadlines); and (c) generous alumnus donation through AMTD foundation (3M over 5 years, 15 postdoctoral positions, as well as funding for graduate students).

Dean spoke to University of Waterloo Research Strategic Plan: Research Leaders Council and Innovation Ecosystem Council met twice to consider elements of Research Strategic Plan. Draft list of proposed research themes near completion; will be brought for comment / feedback at various committees and open consultation sessions shortly. Five thematic areas being considered: Understanding Human Experiences; Building Blocks of the Future/Future Technologies; Deciphering the Universe; Advancing Sustainability; Enhancing Human Health. Sub-themes will reflect discipline areas encompassed by these high-level thematic areas. Goals for advancing research also being identified under broad headings: Enhance the Global Impact and Reputation of Waterloo Research; Enhance Research Excellence; Strengthen Research Partnerships and Internationalization; Fully realize Enrichment of Waterloo Research Ecosystem through Principles of Equity, Diversity and Inclusivity; Research in Action; Reinforce Waterloo's Distinctive Brand of Preeminence in Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Research Impact. Research Strategic Plan will also describe some of the big questions or complex problems that are being addressed at Waterloo and this last section is yet under early development.

4. CURRICULAR SUBMISSIONS

a. Applied Health Sciences. Council heard an omnibus motion to approve items 1 to 3 as presented. Hanning and Wettig. Carried.

b. Engineering. Council heard an omnibus motion to recommend to Senate approval of the addition of 5 specializations to the Master of Engineering (MEng) within the department of Systems Design Engineering, effective Spring 2019, as presented. Hellinga and Warley. Carried.

5. UNIVERSITY RESEARCH

a. Clinical Research Ethics Committee - Membership changes. Council heard a motion to approve a new member knowledgeable in law for a 3-year term, as presented. Joza and Muirhead. Carried.

6. GRADUATE AWARDS

Council heard a motion to approve item (a) through (c), as presented. In discussion: stream-lined faculty-based adjudication process; range in scholarship values (provides greater flexibility at faculty level). O'Neill and Martel. Carried. Council received item (d) as information.

7. ACADEMIC PROGRAM REVIEWS

a. Status of Reports under Review. Council received for information guidance on academic program review process. Casello introduced new SGRC standing agenda item: [Status of Reports under Review](#) and highlighted: (1) GSPA's eager support of critical and thoughtful program review process, (2) varied response by faculty and program, (3) significant need for volunteers and timely completion of reviews. Casello invited feedback on proceeding as is, or forming sub-committee of reviewers.

8. RESEARCH CENTRES AND INSTITUTES

a. Renewal: Waterloo Centre for Germanic Studies. Council heard a motion to approve the 5-year renewal of the Waterloo Centre for Germanic Studies, as presented. Duncker spoke in Skidmore's absence providing brief history of this faculty-level centre supported by donation. In discussion: budget annual vs cumulative over 5-years (latter being preferred moving forward), Stork award recipients – some of whom are non-UW students. Duncker and Warley. Carried.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

Casello noted that (1) pre-reading material forthcoming re: comprehensive regulations and associated calendar text changes; comments / feedback invited, (2) [Student Experience Review](#) underway with external reviewers on-site week of 18 March 2019. Dean appealed to council to create added supportive culture of caring toward students as exam period approaches.

10. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on Monday 8 April 2019 from 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon in NH 3318.

18 March 2019

Kathy Winter, PhD, CPsych,
Assistant University Secretary