University of Waterloo
SENATE
Minutes of the Monday, March 26, 2012 Meeting


Keith Delaney, Alexis Hunt, Tim Jackson, Peggy Jarvie, Tim Kenyon, Firas Mansour, Bill McIlroy, Alfred Menezes, Andrea Murphy, Cathy Newell Kelly, Janet Passmore, Chanakya Ramdev, Ellen Réthóre, Hamed Shateri, Bud Walker


*regrets

OPEN SESSION

Consent Agenda
Senate heard an omnibus motion to approve or receive for information by consent items 1-5 below.

1. MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 27, 2012 MEETING
   The minutes of the February 27, 2012 meeting were approved as distributed. Senate also approved an addition to the minutes of the January 16, 2012 meeting under item 11 (report of the vice-president academic & provost) re: recommendations of the task force on innovative teaching practices to promote deep learning to clarify that in faculty hiring, a seminar presentation to the relevant department (i.e. a “job talk”) will satisfy the requirement of giving a class to assess teaching potential, provided that the presentation is used for that purpose.

2. REPORT FROM GRADUATE & RESEARCH COUNCIL
   PhD in Recreation and Leisure Studies. Senate approved amended procedures for the comprehensive examination and related changes to the Graduate Studies Calendar.

3. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT
   Recognition and Commendation. Senate received this report for information.

4. REPORTS FROM THE FACULTIES
   Senate received these reports for information.
5. OTHER BUSINESS

Early Issuance of Graduate Degree. Senate received notice of this early issuance of a PhD in Chemical Engineering to Rafat Parsaei for information.

Report of the COU Academic Colleague. Senate received this report for information.

Nasir and Porreca. Carried.

Regular Agenda

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Report from the University Appointments Review Committee. Senate received this correction for information. The provost indicated that Institutional Analysis & Planning is investigating options to purchase updated data re: gender distribution of the doctoral pool from Statistics Canada.

7. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

Amit and Meena Chakma Awards for Exceptional Teaching by a Student [report at senators’ places]. Following an explanation of the criteria on which nominees are assessed, Sue Horton, chair of the committee, presented the names of this year’s recipients to Senate: Keith Delaney (earth & environmental sciences), Andrea Murphy (architecture), Arash Shahi (civil & environmental engineering), and Hamed Shateri (mechanical engineering). A round of applause followed.

Distinguished Teacher Awards [report at senators’ places]. Geoff McBoyle, chair of the committee, provided background and context to these awards and presented the names of this year’s recipients to Senate: Tim Kenyon (philosophy), Firas Mansour (physics & astronomy), Alfred Menezes (combinatorics & optimization), and Tracy Penny Light (sexuality, marriage & family studies). A round of applause followed.

8. RESEARCH PRESENTATION [www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/20120326sepr.pdf]

Speaking to his PowerPoint presentation, professor Ian Rowlands, associate director (global initiatives) of the Waterloo Institute for Sustainable Energy, described research towards developing a “smart energy grid” in Ontario including considering what a smart grid future might look like and how to catalyze movement toward it by influencing the policy process. Senators heard about specific projects re: solar photovoltaics, time-of-use pricing, providing meaningful electricity feedback to residential customers, and empowering energy managers through an energy hub management system. Professor Rowlands also shared examples of research impacts and partnerships with a range of academic, business, government and civil society organizations.


He focused his remarks on the following matters:

- **Searches Update.** Progress is being made on four current searches (vice-president, advancement; vice-president, university relations; chief information officer; and associate vice-president, international).
- **CAUT & BSIA.** The university is providing further information to the Canadian Association of University Teachers to address the concerns it has raised regarding the Balsillie School of International Affairs. The president stated his confidence in the document approved by Senate and the consultative process it underwent, which included active participation from FAUW, and indicated that academic freedom and the integrity of the university have not been compromised.
- **Pascal Lecture.** The president acknowledged the level of anxiety and communication generated by this event. He was delighted by the campus’ respect for academic freedom and freedom of speech by allowing the lecture to proceed with respectful expressions of dissent, and suggested
that a mechanism will be developed to ensure that future invitations for university-sponsored lectures are consistent with the institution’s fundamental values.

- **New MTCU Tuition Framework.** The overall five per cent tuition cap was extended for another year with a moratorium on increasing or introducing flat or deferral fees for 2012/13.
- **Provincial Budget.** The provincial budget is due on March 27 and it is expected that recommendations from the Drummond Report will be included to some extent.
- **Federal Budget.** The federal budget is due March 29. Cuts to the Tri-Council budgets are still expected, as is the prospect of some restructuring.
- **International Activities.** The president recently visited China and Germany to establish research collaborations with excellent universities. He indicated that he will soon be travelling to Saudi Arabia to speak at a conference at the invitation of Minister of Education and then to Brazil.
- **Research Productivity.** Professor Michael Worswick was recently awarded an NSERC and CFI award of $3.5M under the Automotive Partnership Canada program.
- **Student Success.** We are proud of the achievements of Waterloo students, including a team of three chemical engineering students who won the first-ever Walmart Green Student Challenge.
- **Mid-cycle Review.** Priorities have been identified based on feedback from all university stakeholder groups. There has been some concern expressed that research was not identified as a distinct priority. The president explained how the priorities align with the pillars of the Sixth Decade Plan and shared three key goals that have emerged from the process: advance quality of education, advance research excellence and impact, and enhance student opportunities and experience.

10. **Q & A PERIOD WITH THE PRESIDENT**

**Mid-cycle Review Priorities.** In response to a question about how “entrepreneurship” fits within the identified priorities, the president indicated that it emerged as part of several clusters and that related feedback indicated the need to put resources behind it.

11. **REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, ACADEMIC & PROVOST**

**University Professor Designation.** The provost provided background to the designation and announced that François Paré (French studies) has been awarded the honour this year.

**Undergraduate Admissions Update** [www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/20120326uau.pdf]. Speaking to his PowerPoint presentation, the registrar indicated that students are being admitted to undergraduate programs on a rolling basis and that results are slightly ahead of those from this time last year. He highlighted: a discrepancy in engineering enrolment due to a change in the processing pace and cycle; 8,500 students have qualified for entrance scholarships based on high school performance; and activity at the UAE campus is maturing.

12. **REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, EXTERNAL RELATIONS**

[www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/20120326cpa.pdf] The associate vice-president, communications & public affairs (CPA) provided highlights re: the strategic renewal process that CPA has been undergoing, including defining the unit’s mandate; identifying gaps between skills, resources and activities; realigning its structure; and recruiting new staff. She highlighted some key areas for improvement, including building relationships with key journalists worldwide, enhancing internal communications, and making use of digital media. In discussion, a senator suggested that it would be valuable to retain a journalistic approach to the Daily Bulletin, including identifying areas of conflict on campus and reporting on interesting events from Senate meetings.

13. **REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, UNIVERSITY RESEARCH**

The VPUR indicated that Dr. Maureen Numelin will join the university as director of the Office of
Research Ethics, effective June 1, 2012, and highlighted recent successes in SSHRC, CIHR and CFI funding (NSERC results have not yet been received), including significant commitments in support of the Games Institute and a Ministry of Economic Development & Innovation: Ontario-China Research and Innovation Fund proposal. A round of applause followed. Senators also heard that vice-presidents, research across Canada have been invited to a meeting in mid-April with the leaders of the Tri-Councils and CFI.


The university librarian spoke briefly to the strategic library review underway and how it links to other initiatives on campus, including the sixth decade mid-cycle review. Senators heard that the library is currently completing a self-study and developing strategic directions. Themes that have arisen include: advancing research and scholarship, enabling student success, new skills for new times, and new spaces for new times. Working groups with external representation have been created to discuss each of these themes in detail.

In discussion, senators heard that: the library anticipates repurposing some of its existing space; the TUG Annex space in Guelph will be full within the next six months; focus groups including students, faculty and staff are being created; and the library is involved in a variety of digitization efforts.

15. OTHER BUSINESS

WD Deadline. A senator raised a concern re: the course withdrawal deadline in the winter term because reading week is counted as if lectures were ongoing and suggested that some students may have been adversely affected. The provost agreed to raise the issue with the Undergraduate Operations Committee and it was suggested that students with immediate issues could avail themselves of the petition procedure.

Senate convened in confidential session.
CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

It was understood that senators are to keep confidential any discussion and decisions reached in this section of the meeting.

16. MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 27, 2012 MEETING
Senate heard a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting as distributed.

Porreca and Khalid. Carried.

17. REPORT FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR HONORARY DEGREES
Pool of Candidates for Honorary Degrees. Senate heard a motion to approve the inclusion of Colonel Chris A. Hadfield (DSc; applied health sciences), Ronald Lang (LLD; arts), and Miodrag Belosevic (DSc; science) in the pool of candidates for honorary degrees.

Lawson and Khalid. Carried.

Distinguished Professor Emerita. Senate heard a motion to approve Susan M. Shaw for the title “Distinguished Professor Emerita.”

DeVidi and Freeman. Carried.

Honorary Member of the University. Senate heard a motion to approve Gail Cuthbert Brandt for the title “Honorary Member of the University.”

Hipel and Hayes. Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 5:17 p.m.

April 10, 2012

Erin Windibank
Associate University Secretary