University of Waterloo
SENATE
Minutes of the Monday 17 September 2012 Meeting


Secretariat: Logan Atkinson, Tracy Dietrich, Karen Jack


*regrets

Organization of Meeting: Feridun Hamdullahpur, chair of Senate, took the chair, and Logan Atkinson, secretary of Senate, acted as secretary. Atkinson advised that due notice of the meeting had been given, a quorum was present, and the meeting was properly constituted.

The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

OPEN SESSION

Consent Agenda
Senate heard a motion to approve or receive for information by consent items 1-4 below.

1. MINUTES OF THE 18 JUNE 2012 MEETING
The minutes of the meeting were approved as distributed.

2. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS
Executive Committee. Senate received this report for information.

Graduate & Research Council. Senate received this report for information.

The associate provost, graduate studies informed Senate that the chairs of Senate Graduate & Research Council (SGRC) and Senate Undergraduate Council (UGC) have agreed to combine their previously separate final academic program review reports to Senate. The reports will encompass both graduate and undergraduate programs and will be included in SGRC’s submissions to Senate. Consequently, she advised of the withdrawal of the recreation & leisure studies and kinesiology
reports in the UGC submission and that the recreation & leisure studies report in the SGRC submission is the joint submission from SGRC and UGC. Senate will receive the joint kinesiology report at its October meeting.

Nominating Committee for Honorary Degrees [at senators’ places]. Senate received the news release for information.

Undergraduate Council
- **Three-year General History.** Senate approved the changes to this plan as described in the report.

- **Academic Standing – Bachelor of Independent Studies Students.** Senate approved changes to the Faculty of Arts’ regulations re: academic standing for Bachelor of Independent Studies students as described in the report.

The remaining items in the report were received for information.

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

   **Tenure and Promotion of Faculty Members.** Senate received this report for information.

4. **REPORTS FROM THE FACULTIES AND ST. JEROME’S UNIVERSITY**  
   Senate received these reports for information.

Eagles and Freeman. Carried.

**Regular Agenda**

5. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**  
   There was no business arising.

6. **REPORT FROM UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL**
   - **Honours Mathematical Economics (Co-op).** Senate heard a motion to approve this new plan as described in the report.
   
   DeVidi and Busch. Carried.

   - **Honours Mathematical Economics (Arts and Business Co-op and Regular).** Senate heard a motion to approve the inactivation of these plans.
   
   Noble and Freeman. Carried.

   - **Three-year General Geography and Environmental Management (BA); Honours Geography and Environmental Management (BA); Honours Geography and Environmental Management (Arts and Business Regular) (BA); Joint Honours Geography and Environmental Management (BA); Development and Environment Specialization (BA); Earth Systems Science Specialization (BA); Geometrics Specialization (BA).** Senate heard a motion to approve the inactivation of these plans.
   
   Andrey and Hunt. Carried.
7. **RESEARCH PRESENTATION**
The vice-president, university research introduced François Paré, professor of French studies. Professor Paré delivered a presentation summarizing his work on linguistic and cultural minorities. Slides used in the presentation may be seen at https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/sites/ca.secretariat/files/uploads/files/20120917frenchstudies.pdf

8. **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**
Slides used by the president in the course of his report may be seen at https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/sites/ca.secretariat/files/uploads/files/20120917presidentsreport.pdf

The president welcomed the following individuals, attending their first meeting of Senate in their new roles: Katherine Bergman, president of St. Jerome’s University; Logan Atkinson, secretary of the university; Ken McGillivray, vice-president, advancement; Pearl Sullivan, dean of engineering; Dave Wallace, chief information officer.

He advised Senate that Graham Brown, principal of St. Paul’s University College, was recently awarded a Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal by the Governor General of Canada for “contributions to Aboriginal youth education.”

The president reported on the arrival of a large number of new students, both graduate and undergraduate, to campus in the fall term. He remarked, however, that we are still below target in terms of PhD registrations.

An update was provided with respect to the provincial government’s intention to overhaul the post-secondary sector. Government is interested in promoting three year degrees, enhanced online offerings, and full three term operations. Much discussion ensued as a result, culminating with the requirement that each university in the province file with the ministry by 30 September 2012 a strategic mandate agreement to differentiate the university from others and to define three key strategic areas based on the university’s track record. Waterloo is close to completion of a draft of its strategic mandate agreement, and the provost will make a full presentation on the topic to Senate during the confidential session.

The president advised that discussions with the ministry continued on the executive compensation freeze and the possibility of a wider public sector compensation freeze. Provincial economic issues will continue to provide challenges to the sustainability of the provincial funding framework.

The donation of the TechTown building on the north campus by Tom and Toby Jenkins was acknowledged with gratitude, a donation valued at approximately $22.5 million.

A highly engaging conference on academic freedom was hosted jointly by the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada, Wilfrid Laurier University, and the University of Waterloo on 6 September. Discussions continue with the Canadian Association of University Teachers with respect to its censure threat relative to governance of the Balsillie School of International Affairs.

The president summarized exciting development projects at the main campus and the Stratford campus, including the opening of the Mike & Ophelia Lazaridis Quantum-Nano Centre on 21 September, and the opening of the digital media building in Stratford on 16 October.
9. Q & A PERIOD WITH THE PRESIDENT
A number of questions were raised during this session.

It was confirmed that the daycare project is almost ready to go to tender, although it was pointed out that a final business plan for the operation had not been received.

In the context of a recent serious accident involving a pedestrian and a bus, several questions were raised with respect to safety on Ring Road. The vice-president, administration & finance advised that the administration is continuing to look at options for enhancing safety on Ring Road.

Huber reported that, in connection with the i3 gateway project, footings are going in and announcements on progress will be made in due course.

10. REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, ACADEMIC & PROVOST
Admissions Averages [handout at places]. The provost reported on the relationship between admissions averages and student success. Slides used in her presentation can be viewed at https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/sites/ca.secretariat/files/uploads/files/20120917admissionaverages.pdf

11. REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, ADVANCEMENT
The vice-president, advancement reported on his work during his first weeks in office, including becoming familiar with ongoing projects and exploring internal and external challenges to fundraising.

12. OTHER BUSINESS
Office for Persons with Disabilities Name Change. Senate heard a motion to recommend to the Board of Governors that the name of the “Office for Persons with Disabilities” be changed to “AccessAbility Services.”

Noble and DeVidi. Carried.

Senate convened in confidential session.

Logan Atkinson
Secretary of the University
CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

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

13. MINUTES OF THE 18 JUNE 2012 MEETING
   Senate heard a motion to approve the minutes of the 18 June 2012 meeting as distributed.

   Porreca and Brown. Carried.

14. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES
   There was no business arising.

15. OTHER BUSINESS
   **Strategic Mandate Agreement.** The provost made a presentation on the university’s draft strategic mandate agreement, and also on the mid-cycle review of the sixth decade plan. Slides used in her presentation can be viewed at https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/sites/ca.secretariat/files/uploads/files/20120917sma.pdf

   A general discussion followed on aspects of the draft strategic mandate agreement. Included in particular were comments on open courseware and other questions of online delivery of courses and programs; the issue of consolidation of offerings in business and business-related disciplines; the concept of an innovation village and the projected timelines for this project; the idea of innovation across our programs, meaning social innovation as well as technological innovation; the need for cooperation across our entrepreneurship efforts; and strategies to encourage the compression of degree programs through the application of advanced learning technologies.

   The meeting adjourned at 5:11 p.m.

   Logan Atkinson  
   Secretary of the University