University of Waterloo  
SENATE  
Minutes of the Monday 16 September 2013 Meeting  


Guests: Nello Angerilli, Mario Coniglio, Donna Ellis, Paul Fieguth, Peggy Jarvie, Jennifer Kieffer, Jesse McGinnis, Katie Misener, Cathy Newell Kelly, Diana Parry, Ellen Réthoré, Erin Sargeant Greenwood, Daniela Seskar-Hencic, Allan Starr, Dave Wallace

Secretariat: Logan Atkinson, Tracy Dietrich


*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.

OPEN SESSION

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

1. MINUTES OF THE 17 JUNE 2013 MEETING
   Senate approved the minutes of the meeting as distributed.

2. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS
   Graduate & Research Council. Senate received the report for information.
   Nominating Committee for Honorary Degrees [list of honorands for fall convocation at senators’ places]. Senate received the list for information.

   Undergraduate Council
   • English Language Proficiency Requirement, Faculty of Arts. Senate approved the proposed change to the English language proficiency requirement.

   The remaining items in the report were received for information.

3. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT
   Recognition and Commendation. Senate received the report for information.
Tenure and Promotion of Faculty Members. Senate received the report for information.

4. REPORTS FROM THE FACULTIES AND RENISON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
Senate received the reports for information.

5. OTHER BUSINESS
Committee/Council Appointments/Appointment Change [revised report at senators’ places].
Senate approved the following appointments/appointment change:
- **Council of Ontario Universities**: Dan Brown as COU Academic Colleague (replacing Sheila Ager), term to 30 June 2014 [this is a change from COU Academic Colleague Alternate, term to 30 June 2014]; Marios Ioannidis as COU Academic Colleague Alternate (replacing Dan Brown), term to 30 June 2016.
- **Senate Finance Committee**: Glenn Cartwright as FUAC representative (replacing Katherine Bergman), term to 30 April 2014.
- **Senate Graduate & Research Council**: Mina Rohanizadegan as environment graduate student representative (replacing Nino Antadze), term to 30 April 2014.
- **Senate Long Range Planning Committee**: Bryan Tolson as FAUW Board of Directors representative (replacing Aimée Morrison), term to 30 June 2014.
- **University Committee on Student Appeals**: John Mielke as applied health sciences faculty representative (replacing Stephen Smith), term 1 January 2014 to 30 April 2015; Allyson Francis as engineering undergraduate student representative (replacing Cameron Winterink) and Jenny Yao as science undergraduate student representative (replacing Amy Yang), terms to 30 April 2014.

Haslett and Porreca. Carried.

Regular Agenda

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES
There was no business arising from the minutes.

7. REPORTS FROM COUNCILS
Graduate & Research Council
- **Regulations for Doctoral Theses, Graduate Studies Calendar**. Senate heard a motion to approve amendments to the graduate studies calendar as to external examiners of doctoral theses and to thesis defence decisions for doctoral theses, as described in the report.

Horton and Dixon.

A question was raised about the six-year period appearing in the report, and it was advised that this was consistent with Tri-Council requirements.

With respect to the relationship between this regulation and Policy 69, Conflicts of Interest, Senate was advised that individual associate deans will implement the document in their discretion.

The motion carried.
Undergraduate Council

- **Bachelor of Applied Science, Biomedical Engineering (Co-op), Faculty of Engineering.** Senate heard a motion to approve the proposed plan.

  Sullivan and McBoyle. Carried.

- **Bachelor of Science, Honours Chemistry (Computational Specialization) (Regular and Co-op), Faculty of Science.** Senate heard a motion to approve the proposed plan.

  McMahan and McBoyle. Carried.

- **Global Engagement Specialization, Arts and Business, Faculty of Arts.** Senate heard a motion to approve the proposed inactivation of the plan.

  Peers and Porreca. Carried.

8. **TEACHING PRESENTATION**

   Coniglio introduced Jay Dolmage, professor of English language & literature. Dolmage reported on his work on “universal design,” the work of the Universal Design Working Group and the contributions of AccessAbility, and the impact that this approach to design theory might have on the way in which teaching and learning is conducted. Dolmage distributed a summary of his comments, and answered many questions on his work.


9. **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

   Hamdullahpur presented a broad report covering a number of items, including steps taken since the last meeting of Senate to have the university strategic plan approved by the Board of Governors. He focused on the board’s advice to sharpen the plan to focus on the university’s strengths, things that differentiate this university from others. There were very few changes in content in response to the board’s input; rather, the changes were ones of emphasis and further explanation. Hamdullahpur outlined the top three goals that emerged through the strategic plan. Further, he explained the establishment of the steering committee, theme leaders, and teams that are being developed to see to the implementation of the plan. The implementation plan and accountability framework will be finalized over the fall. Hamdullahpur emphasized that the plan has the potential to move this university forward toward being one of the top innovation universities in the world.

   Further in his report, Hamdullahpur spoke to: changes in the federal cabinet and other issues related to research funding at the federal level; provincial roundtables on several issues (differentiation, credit transfers, online learning, and graduate student allocation). The university attended the roundtable on differentiation to press its point on research intensity and research-based graduate study as a differentiator. The university also attended the roundtable on graduate student allocation.

   Hamdullahpur presented figures on undergraduate and graduate enrollment, new faculty hires, and new staff hires. Further, he reported on the university’s position in the QS international rankings and the Academic Ranking of World Universities (also known as the Shanghai ranking). In the QS rankings, the university has improved 11 places to 180, and has held its position in the Shanghai results. In both ranking systems, the university ranked in the top 50 in engineering and technology. These are very good results, especially given the tremendous investment by universities around the world in seeing to a strong position in these rankings. Hamdullahpur pointed out that the university ranks seventh among Canadian universities, and is the only ranked Canadian university without a medical school.
Slides used in the presentation may be seen at  

10. **Q&A PERIOD WITH THE PRESIDENT**
Hamdullahpur answered a number of questions arising from his report, including: the role of students in strategic plan implementation; the position of the university and its reaction to challenges in immigration for students and faculty (including accommodation for those facing particular difficulties); the relationship among the new strategic plan, the hiring of a new provost, and the operational phase of the plan; the future of provincial funding for the sector; the connection among university identity and branding, student connection to the campus, and departmental identity.

11. **REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, ACADEMIC & PROVOST**
McBoyle reported on the pending appointment of the associate provost human resources, the process to identify a new registrar, a possible white paper on differentiation from the provincial ministry, and the Productivity and Innovation Fund.

McBoyle advised that the difficulties experienced with implementing tuition increases in the past year should not arise for the duration of the current funding formula with the province.

12. **REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, ADVANCEMENT**
*Gift Acceptance Policy.* Sargeant Greenwood introduced the proposed new Gift Acceptance Policy for the information of Senate. She answered questions on certain parts of the policy, and confirmed that the new policy will capture best industry practice once implemented. DeVidi pointed out that the new policy represents the culmination of work begun through the urging by Senate.

Sargeant Greenwood confirmed that this new policy is intended to work in tandem with Policy 10, Naming Opportunities.

Sargent Greenwood agreed to amend the draft policy by including the idea that designated gifts are to be used expressly for purposes for which they are given. This idea appears in the current Provostial Statement on Donation Guidelines, and ought to be brought forward to the new policy because the provostial statement is superseded.

McGillivray congratulated Sargeant Greenwood and others involved in the development of the new policy, and thanked them for their work.

Slides used in the presentation may be seen at  

13. **REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, UNIVERSITY RESEARCH**
Dixon advised: a draft policy on centres and institutes is just about ready to begin the formal consultation process; the next round of funding proposals are being developed and in a preliminary sense it seems that volume will be about the same as in years past; the status of upcoming funding competitions, including the Canadian Foundation for Innovation; the success of the International Research Partnership Grants, intended to provide seed funding to support new international research projects and the collaborations that are being generated as a result.

14. **OTHER BUSINESS**
*Bicycle Security.* There was discussion about bicycle security and the possibility of making improvements in this regard.

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.

15. MINUTES OF THE 17 JUNE 2013 MEETING
    Senate heard a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting as distributed.

    Ramdev and Jowhari. Carried.

16. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES
    There was no business arising from the minutes.

17. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES
    Executive Committee. Senate received the report for information.

    Nominating Committee for Honorary Degrees
    • Distinguished Professor Emeritus. Senate heard a motion to approve Roy Cameron for the title “Distinguished Professor Emeritus.”

    Elliott and Porreca. Carried.

18. OTHER BUSINESS
    There was no other business.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Logan Atkinson
Secretary of the University

16 September 2013