University of Waterloo
SENATE
Minutes of the Monday 21 April 2014 Meeting


Guests: Mario Coniglio, Donna Ellis, Peggy Jarvie, Nick Manning, Carlos Mendes, Daniela Seskar-Hencic, Allan Starr, Dave Wallace

Secretariat & Office of General Counsel: Logan Atkinson, Tracy Dietrich


*regrets

Organization of Meeting: Geoff McBoyle took the chair in the absence of the president, 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 1-4 below.

1. MINUTES OF THE 24 MARCH 2014 MEETING
Senate approved the minutes of the meeting as distributed.

With respect to the Confucius Institute, a question was raised about the offering of credit courses through the Confucius Institute (as suggested on its website), although the institute was not approved by Senate. Cartwright assured Senate that courses are offered through the Centre for East Asian Studies, not through the Confucius Institute, and confirmed that the website would be corrected.

2. REPORTS FROM COUNCILS
Graduate & Research [revised report at senators’ places]. Senate received the report for information.

Undergraduate
• Chemical Engineering, Faculty of Engineering. Senate approved amendments to the Chemical Engineering program as presented in the report.
• **Mechatronics Engineering, Faculty of Engineering.** Senate approved amendments to the Mechatronic Engineering program as presented in the report.

• **Biology, Faculty of Science.** Senate approved amendments to the Biology plans as presented in the report.

Re: the new Columbia International College Scholarship, Goulden described the arrangement by which scholarships dedicated to students entering the Faculty of Mathematics from the Columbia International College were established and are awarded.

The remaining items in the report were received for information.

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

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

Busch and Bobier. Carried.

**Regular Agenda**

5. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**
   **March Open House.** Darling provided information on attendance at the March Open House, and explained why attendance was down this year. Changes in timing to assist in parking and access to rooms will be done in coming years to try to maintain attendance. Darling was asked about the advisability of holding the open house on a Saturday, when the university is possibly not shown at its best. He responded by saying that this is a trade-off, the logistical issues outweighing the possible downside for not seeing the academic side of university life operating in its ordinary course.

6. **REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS**
   **Executive Committee.** Senate heard a motion to acclaim the membership of Senate committees and councils and the Board of Governors as follows:

   • **Executive Committee.** 2014-15 – Richard Wells (applied health sciences), James Skidmore (arts), George Freeman (engineering), Bruce Frayne (environment), Frank Zorzitto (mathematics), Bernie Duncker (science), Susan Schultz Huxman (affiliated and federated institutions), Chris Lolas (undergraduate student), Coleen Even and Robert Henderson (graduate students).

   • **Senate Finance Committee.** 2014-15 – James Rush (applied health sciences), Lutz-Alexander Busch (arts), Manoj Sachdev (engineering), Olaf Weber (environment), Michele Mosca (mathematics), David Edwards (science), Graham Brown (affiliated and federated institutions), Mohammad Nasif and Alexander Wray (undergraduate students), Boyd Panton (graduate student), Jay Shah (alumni).

   • **Senate Long Range Planning Committee.** 2014-15 – Diana Parry (applied health sciences), Daniel O’Connor (arts), Mario Ioannidis (engineering), Alex Brenning (environment), Dong Eui Chang (mathematics), Paul Murphy (science), Glenn Cartwright (affiliated and federated institutions), Alanna Benson and Danielle Burt (undergraduate students), Maryam Shahtaheri (graduate student), Barbara Veale (alumni).
Senate Nominating Committee for Honorary Degrees. 2014-15 – John Garcia (applied health sciences), Tara Collington (arts), Samir Elhedhli (engineering), Markus Moos (environment), Bruce Richter (mathematics), Susan Leat (science), Katherine Bergman (affiliated and federated institutions), Nickta Jowhari and Mohammad Nasif (undergraduate students), Samantha Shortfall (graduate student).

Senate Graduate & Research Council. 2014-16 – John Garcia (applied health sciences), Tara Collington (arts), Samir Elhedhli (engineering), Markus Moos (environment), Bruce Richter (mathematics), Susan Leat (science), Katherine Bergman (affiliated and federated institutions), Nickta Jowhari and Mohammad Nasif (undergraduate students), Samantha Shortfall (graduate student).

Senate Undergraduate Council. 2014-16 – Dan Davison (engineering), Carrie Mitchell (environment), Cyntha Struthers (Mathematics), Carey Bissonnette (science), Toni Serafini (federated institution).

University Committee on Student Appeals. 2014-16 – Duane Kennedy (arts), Daniel Stashuk (engineering), Allysion Francis (undergraduate student, engineering), Sameera Karri (undergraduate student, science), Daniel McRoberts (graduate student, environment).

Board of Governors. 2014-16 – David Porreca, Hamid Tizhoosh and Frank Zorzi (faculty), Allysion Francis and Chris Lolas (undergraduate students), Maryam Shahtaheri (graduate student); 2014-15 – Danielle Burt (undergraduate student).

Henderson and Hulan. Carried.

Graduate & Research Council. Horton presented a summary of graduate awards recently received by students at the university.

International Visiting Graduate Students (IVGS), Graduate Studies Regulations. Senate heard a motion to approve amendments to graduate studies regulations pertaining to IVGS as presented in the report and effective 1 May 2014.

Horton and Bobier. Carried.

Terms of Reference for the Graduate Student Millennium Bursary Program. Senate heard a motion to approve amendments to the terms of reference for the Graduate Student Millennium Bursary program as presented in the report and effective 1 May 2014.

Horton and Porreca. Carried.

Undergraduate Council

Minor in Public Policy and Administration, Political Science, Faculty of Arts. Senate heard a motion to approve the Minor in Public Policy and Administration as presented in the report.

DeVidi and Porreca. Carried.

7. PRESENTATIONS

Research. Dixon introduced Melanie Campbell, professor of physics & astronomy and optometry. Campbell presented a report on her research called the “Optics of the Eye as a Window on the Brain,” focusing on adaptive optics and methods to image amyloid beta in the retina as a diagnostic of Alzheimer’s disease.

Federation of Students. The president of the Federation of Students, David Collins, provided a presentation on the work of the Federation of Students, focusing on program delivery, student services, commercial services, and the work it does to represent student interests at the local, provincial and national levels.

Questions were asked about the rationale for ending membership in the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations, and Collins advised that the alliance was not delivering value for the Federation of Students. There are no current plans to affiliate with another national group. With respect to course evaluation, it was observed that students are interested in disclosure of course evaluation results and the accessibility of these evaluations online.


8. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT
The president was not present.

9. Q&A PERIOD WITH THE PRESIDENT.
The president was not present.

10. REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, ACADEMIC & PROVOST
ad hoc Committee on Technological Innovation/Waterloo Innovation Summit. Questions were raised on the utility of the recently approved Board of Governors ad hoc Committee on Technological Innovation and the possible relationship with centers of expertise already in place on campus, the influence that the committee will have on decision-making on IT projects, and the extent of conflicts of interest that might manifest themselves in the deliberations of this committee.

With respect to the recently held Innovation Summit, questions were raised as to why there were no internal economics professors or political science professors on panels such as “The New Innovation Economy” and “The Role of Government in the Innovation Economy.”

McBoyle indicated that the questions would be considered and a response provided in due course.

Senators’ Last Meeting. McBoyle thanked those senators completing terms for their role in university governance: faculty representatives – Jean Andrey, Bill Bobier, Dan Brown, David DeVidi, Paul Eagles, Geoffrey Hayes, Jonathan Li, Tracy Peressini, Cynthia Struthers, Barry Warner, Beth Weckman; undergraduate student representatives – Diego Almaraz de la Garza, David Collins, Sean Hunt, Renishaki Kamalanathan, Nicollette Zaptssel; graduate student representatives – Maya D’Alessio, Michael Makahnouk; alumni representative – Andrew Williams.

University Professor – Changes to Description and Criteria. Senate heard a motion to approve changes to the description and criteria for University Professor as presented in the report.

Freeman and Porreca.

Comment was made that the initial intention of this designation was to have the honor retained for life.

The motion carried.
Exceptions to Policy 40, The Chair, related to Religious Studies. Senate heard a motion to approve exceptions to Policy 40, The Chair, as presented in the report.

Peers and Bergman.

It was moved that further consideration of the main motion be postponed temporarily, and that the proposal be sent back to the Faculty Relations Committee for additional refinements in wording.

Porreca and Freeman.

Senate agreed by consensus to temporarily postpone consideration of the main motion.

11. REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, UNIVERSITY RESEARCH
Dixon reported on the following competition results:
- SSHRC: university researchers were successful on four of six Partnership Development Grant proposals, totaling $798,128 – two have been placed on the supplementary list; two Connection Grants were confirmed at $25,000 each; of 55 applicants to the 2014-2015 Insight program, 20 were successful totaling $4,100,402 – nineteen others have been placed on the supplementary list. These results show significant improvement over the 2013-2014 results.

- NSERC: the university will receive approximately $18,000,000 through various programs, including Discovery Grants, Discovery Accelerator Supplements, and Research Tools and Instruments Grants.

12. OTHER BUSINESS
Vice-President, University Relations. McBoyle confirmed that no decision has yet been made on filling the vacant vice-president, university relations position.

Student Debt. Panton spoke on the relationship between debt, tuition, working for wages, the bankruptcy exception for student debt, and students becoming enslaved by their debt, suggesting that institutions share some of the responsibility for this situation.

Rome Program Offerings. McBoyle indicated that no decision has yet been made on expanding program offerings in Rome. At the moment, the university is focusing on the Architecture program there.

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.

13. MINUTES OF THE 24 MARCH 2014 MEETING
   Senate heard a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting as distributed.

   Porreca and Bobier. Carried.

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

15. OTHER BUSINESS
   Associate Provost, Graduate Studies. McBoyle advised that the administration is deciding whether to appoint an interim associate provost, graduate studies and do a full review of the operation of the Graduate Studies Office, or whether a formal search for a new associate provost will be undertaken.

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Logan Atkinson
University Secretary & General Counsel

22 April 2014