

University of Waterloo
SENATE
Minutes of the Monday 22 February 2016 Meeting

Present: Jean Andrey, Sandra Banks, Trevor Bechtel, Katherine Bergman, Graham Brown, John Burbidge, Lutz-Alexander Busch, Susan Cadell, Jennifer Clapp, Tara Collington, Mario Coniglio, Ray Darling, George Dixon, Bernard Duncker, Fraser Easton, Marlene Epp, David Edwards, Samir Elhedhli, Mavis Fenn, Wendy Fletcher, Allyson Francis, Jim Frank, John Garcia, Sally Gunz, Feridun Hamdullahpur, Anwar Hasan, Mark Haslett, Robert Henderson, Dennis Huber, Mike Hudson, Pallavi Hukerikar, Shelley Hulan, Craig Janes, Beth Jewkes, Greta Kroeker, Robert Lemieux, Christos Lolas, Paul Marriott, Rachel Mitchell, Barb Moffatt, Mohammad Nasif, Daniel O'Connor, Ian Orchard, Wayne Parker, Diana Parry, Douglas Peers, Angela Pereira, David Porreca, Tristan Potter, Chanakya Ramdev, David Rose, James Rush, Erin Sargeant Greenwood, Susan Schultz Huxman, Samantha Shortall, James Skidmore, Richard Staines, Gordon Stuble, Hamid Tizhoosh, Bryan Tolson, Barbara Veale, Johanna Wandel, William Watson, Stephen Watt, Alexander Wray

Guests: Stephen Amirikah, Bruce Campbell, Jana Carson, Donna Ellis, Rocco Fondacaro, Stéphane Hamade, Sarah Hildebrandt, Jennifer Kieffer, Derek Madge, Nick Manning, Scott Nicoll, Tamer Özsu, Chris Read, Ellen Réthoré, Daniela Seskar-Hencic, Allan Starr, Brandon Sweet, Marilyn Thompson, Alexander Wong

Secretariat & Office of General Counsel: Logan Atkinson, Karen Jack, Melissa Zapletal

Absent: Alanna Benson, Dong Eui Chang*, Eric Croiset, Maya D'Alessio*, David DeVidi*, Michael Drescher, Shikha Gandhi, Robert Gorbet, Marios Ioannidis*, Tom Jenkins, Karim S. Karim, Scott Kline*, Alysia Kolentzsis, James Koo, Susan Leat*, Shoufa Lin, Michele Mosca*, Paul Murphy*, David Perrin*, Bruce Richter*, Mark Seasons*, Jay Shah, Neil Thomson, Olaf Weber*

*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 agenda was amended by consent to bring the report of the Vice-President, Academic & Provost (originally item 12 on the agenda), forward to appear as new item 6 on the agenda, and to adjust the numbering of all subsequent items as a result.

OPEN SESSION

1. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Senators were asked to declare any interests they may have in relation to the items on the agenda in open session. No conflicts were declared.

Consent Agenda

Senate heard a motion to approve or receive for information the items on the consent agenda.

O'Connor and Wray.

Two corrections were noted in the materials submitted under the Consent Agenda. On page 9 of the materials, a comma was inserted after the word "Senate" and before the word "council" in the second last line of the report from Senate Graduate & Research Council. For page 10 of the materials, Senators were directed to the corrected page distributed to them at their places. The motion was amended to allow for these changes.

2. **MINUTES OF THE 18 JANUARY 2016 MEETING**

Senate approved the minutes of the meeting.

3. **REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS**

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

Undergraduate Council

- **Changes to combinatorics and optimization.** Senate approved changes to the minimum major average as presented in the report.
- **Undergraduate Admission Requirements.** Senate approved the changes to the English language requirements for 2017 as presented in the report.
- **Academic Program Review Report (Germanic and Slavic studies).** Senate approved the Two-Year Report for Germanic and Slavic studies as presented in the report.
- **Academic Program Review Report (Bachelor of Social Work).** Senate approved the Two-Year Report for the Bachelor of Social Work plan as presented in the report.

Senate received the remaining item in the report for information.

4. **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

Recognition and Commendation. Senate received the report for information.

Honorary Degrees and Convocation Speakers. Senate received the memorandum for information.

5. **REPORTS FROM THE FACULTIES**

Senate received the reports for information.

The question was called, and the motion carried.

Regular Agenda

At the invitation of Hamdullahpur, Wray introduced a delegation of international students, representing the “Why 9?” movement related to the Board’s recent decision to increase international tuition by 9%. The president called on Mugwe Kiragu to address Senate on behalf of the delegation. He spoke to the university’s reputation and the attraction it has for international students. But, he suggested, great disappointment is generated by the constant increase in international tuition. He addressed his comments to the value of the Canadian dollar and the impact it has on the ability of international students to pay tuition. He reviewed the history of international student tuition at the university, and made comparisons to select other institutions in Ontario. Finally, he asked what improvements in quality international students could expect as a result of a tuition increase that is four times the rate of inflation. According to the delegation, it is not clear that higher tuition fees actually translate into a better student experience for international students. He closed by appealing to the Board of Governors to reconsider its decision on this point.

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

2015-16 Operating Budget Update. Orchard provided an update on the status of the current budget. Slides used in Orchard’s presentation may be seen here: https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/sites/ca.secretariat-general-counsel/files/uploads/files/ian_orchard_senate_-_february_22_2016.pdf

Most recent estimates suggest a deficit of about \$1.221 million dollars for fiscal 2015-2016. Orchard specifically pointed out that a significant portion of the increase in salaries and wages relate to the hiring of new faculty members, intended to support enhanced quality of teaching and research at the university. Orchard also commented on the fact that the rate of inflation for university expenses is actually higher than the consumer price index, based largely in the increases in salaries and benefits.

Orchard spoke to the rationale to increase international student revenue and some of the considerations that went into that decision by the Board of Governors for the 2016-2017 year. He referred to some of the programmes and services the university has in place to support international students.

Orchard explained the process by which tuition fees are established, through consultation with the deans and through relying on extensive data generated by Institutional Analysis and Planning. He made some comparisons between the increases to be implemented at this university, and recent increases at other institutions in Ontario. Comparative data is used programme by programme, across the sector domestically, and in select universities in Australia, the United States and the United Kingdom. This information was available to the Board of Governors when it debated the question at its meeting of 2 February 2016.

Senate heard a motion that Senate recommend to the Board of Governors that it reconsider its decision to approve an international tuition increase of 9%, and attempt to deliver a more responsible increase in tuition.

Wray and Francis.

Wray spoke to the difficulties facing international students, in the context of the uncertainty related to the budget process and the tuition framework.

It was confirmed that the tuition increase applies to all four years of enrolment.

There was comment from the international students' delegation that the quality of international student is actually dropping due to various factors. In response to points raised by the delegation: clarification was provided to the effect that the ELAS program runs out of Conestoga College, and not the University of Waterloo, such that its revenues belong to the College; tuition for engineering programs at McGill University are actually higher than at the University of Waterloo.

With respect to tuition planning for students already enrolled, the question has been discussed. For this current increase, it is not possible to limit the increase to entering students, but the question will continue to be considered in years forward.

Orchard was asked whether there is a plan to inform students considering coming to this university that there may be increases in tuition during their programme of study. International tuition is posted online, and the Board of Governors does have a policy limiting increases to a certain ceiling. Our web sites will be reviewed to ensure that the message is sufficiently clear.

The question was called, and the motion was defeated.

Senate heard a motion that Senate task Dr. Ian Orchard, Vice-President Academic and Provost, with preparing recommendations on tuition policy in consultation with the Deans, and student senator caucus.

Wray and Ramdev.

Orchard advised that tuition policy is a policy of the Board of Governors, and it is now in existence.

Orchard asked whether this motion is intended to address all tuition, and to whom would the committee report. In response, Senate was advised that the scope would be limited to international tuition. Students feel as though they're left out in budget discussions, and would like to have a discussion respecting sustainable international tuition.

A question was raised about the definition of the “student caucus,” and whether it even exists.

It was pointed out that, because the Board has approved the tuition increase already, it is a difficult position for senators who also sit on the Board to take part in debate on these motions.

The question was called, and the motion was defeated.

7. RESEARCH PRESENTATION
DR. ALEXANDER WONG, CANADA RESEARCH CHAIR IN MEDICAL IMAGING SYSTEMS, DIRECTOR, VISION AND IMAGE PROCESSING RESEARCH GROUP, SYSTEMS DESIGN ENGINEERING

Dixon introduced Dr. Wong. Wong spoke in particular about integrative imaging systems, correlated diffusion imaging, the compensated magnetic resonance imaging system, and a number of other significant technological advances.

Wong answered a question about the potential for the development of more invasive technologies, and how this research is intended for medical uses only and not increased surveillance in other settings. He also addressed the possibility of false positives in the application of this technology.

Slides used in the presentation may be seen at: https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/sites/ca.secretariat-general-counsel/files/uploads/files/wong_senatetalk.pdf.

8. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Evolution of Senate Membership. Atkinson advised that he had posted online a short explanation of how Senate membership has evolved relative to the Senate membership requirements in *The University of Waterloo Act, 1972*. The explanation can be found by following a link appearing with the Act on the web site of the Secretariat & Office of General Counsel.

Residency language in Graduate Studies Calendar. This matter was deferred, to be raised later in the agenda under “Other Business.”

9. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS

Executive Committee.

Senate Bylaw 3, A bylaw relating to the selection of members of Senate (2nd reading). Senate heard a motion to approve the proposed amendment to Senate Bylaw 3.

Skidmore and Henderson. Carried.

10. PRESENTATION – WORKING GROUP ON BIBLIOMETRICS’ WHITE PAPER

DR. TAMER ÖZSU, ASSOCIATE DEAN, RESEARCH, FACULTY OF MATHEMATICS

Özsu informed members about the work of the group studying bibliometrics at the university. He noted that in the white paper, Tim Kenyon ought to be listed as a member of the task force, and Mark Haslett ought to be listed as University Librarian, rather than Head Librarian.

The task force was thanked for its thorough consultation and for integrating feedback into the white paper.

Slides used in the presentation may be seen at: https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/sites/ca.secretariat-general-counsel/files/uploads/files/bwg_white_paper_presentation-senate.pdf.

11. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Hamdullahpur presented a short report on recent activities at the university, including: support for the international student delegation in coming to Senate and expressing their opinions and concerns; the issue of international tuition is a complicated one, but it is one of the very few areas where the university can generate additional income; congratulations to a number of university faculty for receiving recognition for their work; Jeff Casello has been named Associate Provost, Graduate Studies, and Ian Rowlands has been named interim Associate Vice-President, International; congratulations to Chris Lolas and his executive team for their re-election to their offices with the Federation of Students; thanks to FEDs and its leadership, and to GSA and its leadership, for the passage of the student referendum to support the expansion of the Physical Activities Complex and the Student Life Centre; congratulations on the success of the Research Talks; at the federal level, a stimulus package is likely to be announced at any time, for shovel ready infrastructure projects; the federal government is also asking for input on its pending budget, and the president appeared before the Standing Committee on Finance, representing the U15, to make a submission, focusing on restoring the funding level for the tri-agency granting councils and addressing research infrastructure challenges; review of the National Research Council, and associated reporting lines; the federal government is also keenly interested in “big science” projects, and more information will be released on these projects in due course; at the provincial level, the budget will be announced this Thursday and the president has been invited to be present; funding formula is currently under review, and it is hoped that changes will be coming forth shortly after the budget is announced.

12. Q&A PERIOD WITH THE PRESIDENT

The president was asked if there are any plans for top entrepreneurs to come to campus to address the community. He responded that the university is working on this but it is difficult to attract top entrepreneurs due to their busy schedules.

Questions were posed on operational concerns and transparency concerns for research centres and institutes under Policy 44, and whether the Deans and the Vice-President, Research have been hearing similar concerns. Dixon advised that faculty-level centres and institutes will be required to conform to Policy 44 as they come forward for renewal. With respect to university-level research centres and institutes, work is continuing to bring them into compliance with the policy. Some parts of this work are easier accomplished than others, and adjustments in the constitutions of those entities are underway. Discussions inside each centre or institute are quite thorough among the members of the institute, and Dixon is satisfied that the process is being properly undertaken in the institutes.

The University Secretary & General Counsel was asked about the use of gender neutral language in the recent note to the community of the Vice-President, University Research search. Atkinson advised that a change would be made in the next notice.

The University Secretary & General Counsel was asked about the gender balance on the Vice-President, University Research search committee. Atkinson noted that more attention would be paid to this issue as further search committees are established in the future.

Dixon advised that the next research seminar will be given by Jennifer Clapp on 1 April 2016.

13. REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, UNIVERSITY RESEARCH

Senate received the report for information.

14. OTHER BUSINESS

Frank spoke to the relationship between residency requirements for graduate students and program time limits, raised during the January meeting of Senate and brought forward to this meeting as

Business Arising. He suggested that the source of the question may be confusion between these two time limitations.

Senate convened in confidential session.

23 February 2016

Logan Atkinson
University Secretary & General Counsel
Secretary to Senate