The chair welcomed new senators Mathieu Doucet (faculty-at-large representative) and Samantha Hossack (graduate student representative) to their first meeting of Senate and noted that a revised committee appointments report was at members’ places.

The chair updated members on the Senate to Board elections which closed on Wednesday 13 December 2017. Julia Goyal was elected as the Senate graduate student representative on the Board of Governors, term to 30 April 2018. The faculty representative election resulted in a tie between Robert Gorbet and Bryan Tolson. At the chair’s invitation, Jack noted the lack of protocol in the event of a tie in Senate’s procedures, but recommended that in light of the Board’s use of Bourinot’s Rules of Order, that procedure be followed, which entails a run-off between the two tied candidates. Senate heard that Gorbet and Tolson agreed to this process, and Senators were invited to provide comment. In the absence of remarks, Senators understood that a run-off election will occur beginning 16 January and running for two days. [Secretary’s note: the election resulted in Senator Gorbet being elected to the Board, term to 30 April 2018.]

OPEN SESSION

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

DeVidi and Dea.

1. MINUTES OF THE 20 NOVEMBER 2017 MEETING
Senate approved the minutes of the meeting.
2. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS
   Graduate & Research Council. Senate received the report for information.

   Undergraduate Council. Senate received the report for information.

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

4. REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, ACADEMIC & PROVOST
   University Research Chairs. Senate received the report for information.

5. REPORTS FROM THE FACULTIES
   Senate received the reports for information.

6. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS
   Senate approved the appointment of Leia Minaker, faculty representative to the Amit and Meena Chakma Awards for Exceptional Teaching by a Student Committee, term to 30 December 2018.

   Senate approved the following appointments to the Distinguished Teacher Awards Committee:
   Firas Mansour, faculty representative, term to 31 December 2019; Tiffany Bradley, alumni representative, term to 31 December 2019; Wanis Nafo and Colin Van Niejenhuis (replacing Laura Williams), graduate student representatives, terms to 30 December 2018.

   Senate approved the appointment of Michael Balogh as COU Academic Colleague Alternate, term to 30 June 2020.

   The question was called, and the motion carried unanimously.

Regular Agenda

7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES
   Casello spoke to a question raised at the last meeting re: the Final Assessment Report for Combinatorics & Optimization about underrepresentation of women. He advised that the report’s language only reflected the external reviewers’ comments and also should have included the department’s response which is that definitive steps are being taken, and the department has identified several ways to find exceptional women candidates.

8. TEACHING PRESENTATION
   Following an introduction by Coniglio, Jason Grove, graduate attributes lecturer in chemical engineering, presented to Senate on “Building Experiential Classes to the Masses – How a Blended Approach Enables High-Value Use of Class Time.” Grove spoke to his efforts over the last few years to lead improvements in experiential learning. Highlights included: the significance of interactive work in both supporting required deliverables and making the subject matter more engaging; the value of offering blended learning environments to meet students’ needs; lessons learned re: teaching innovations to enable new classroom experiences. In discussion: the importance of learning by both instructors and students; support is needed for instructors to take risks; data re: student success are being examined.

9. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS
   Executive Committee
   Senate heard a motion that it approve the proposed bylaw changes at its second reading.

   Dea and Clubine. Carried unanimously.
Joint Report from Graduate & Research Council and Undergraduate Council
Senate heard a motion to approve the 2018-19 calendar dates as presented in the report.

Casello and Coniglio. Carried unanimously.

Graduate & Research Council:
Senate heard motions to the following effects:

Faculty of Mathematics. To approve a new Type II Graduate Diploma in Quantum-Safe Cryptography, effective 1 January 2018, as presented in the report.

Casello and Watt.

In response to a question about the viability of meeting the diploma’s requirements, Casello advised of the plan’s vetting process where no concerns had been raised and Watt indicated that he viewed the diploma as an enhancement of current offerings for those students who have longer time options. Casello advised Senate of the difference between diploma “types”: “I” is for those who begin a Master’s program but do not finish, “II” is undertaken by students concurrent with a degree program, and “III” are direct-entry, stand-alone plans. The question was called and the motion carried unanimously.

Faculty of Environment. To approve a new Type III Graduate Diploma in Climate Risk Management, effective 1 September 2018, as presented in the report.

Casello and Andrey. Carried unanimously.

Undergraduate Council
Senate heard the following motion:

Faculty of Arts, Articulation Agreement. That Senate approve the proposed admission standards for the Honours Bachelor of Arts, Honours Arts and Honours Bachelor of Arts, Social Development Studies outlined in the attached articulation agreement with Conestoga College Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning (“Conestoga”), effective 1 September 2018.

Coniglio and Peers. Carried unanimously.

10. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT
Hamdullahpur provided a wide-ranging report in which he spoke to: the conclusion of the 60th anniversary celebrations last month; coming activities in developing the next strategic plan; applications by the University for the federal “supercluster” initiative have been submitted and are under review; the University’s success in being awarded three of the Government of Canada’s “150 Chairs”; continuing work on Canada Research Chairs; the committee undertaking the search for the next vice-president, academic & provost has made excellent progress, and senators should watch for an extraordinary meeting invitation soon; good conversations are occurring about engaging the University community on the important dialogue about academic freedom and freedom of expression.

11. Q&A PERIOD WITH THE PRESIDENT
There were no questions.
12. REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, ACADEMIC & PROVOST
At Dixon’s invitation, DeVidi spoke to progress being made on the next stage of the course evaluation project and expressed his hope that the committee will complete its work in the calendar year.

Dixon advised: the search for Peers’ successor as Dean of Arts will begin soon; the School of Pharmacy is celebrating its tenth anniversary and offered congratulations; today is Peggy Jarvie’s last meeting before her retirement. On behalf of the president and his office, he expressed thanks to Jarvie for her excellent leadership over the last several years; a round of applause followed.

13. REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, UNIVERSITY RESEARCH
Dean provided members with a brief report on activities, including an update that Peter Huck’s Industrial Research Chair in Water Treatment has been renewed, and that her office’s equity plan is online. Dean invited feedback on the latter item and members received her written report for information.

14. REPORT OF THE DEAN OF ENVIRONMENT
Andrey advised members about the proposed changes to the Constitution of the Faculty of Environment. Senate heard a motion that pursuant to Section 15 of Senate Bylaw 1, it approve the revised Constitution of the Faculty of Environment.

Andrey and Gorbet. Carried unanimously.

15. OTHER BUSINESS
There was no other business.

Senate convened in confidential session.

20 January 2018
Karen Jack
University Secretary
Secretary to Senate