

University of Waterloo
SENATE
Minutes of the 21 October 2019 Meeting

Present: Sheila Ager, Jean Andrey, Upkar Arora**, Sandra Banks, Chris Bauch, Michael Beauchemin, Kankar Bhattacharya, Anne Bordeleau, Carmen Bruni, Kofi Campbell, Claudio Canizares, Jeff Casello, Fred Chereski, David Clausi, Tara Collington, Joan Coutu, Alexandria De Sousa, Peter Deadman, Charmaine Dean, David DeVidi, Mathieu Doucet, Lynette Eulette, Paul Fieguth, Wendy Fletcher, Cindy Forbes**, George Freeman, Mark Giesbrecht, Robert Gorbet, Julia Goyal, David Ha, Feridun Hamdullahpur (chair), Craig Hardiman, Dennis Huber, Natalie Hutchings, Martin Karsten, Sabrina Khandakar, Veronica Kitchen, Scott Kline, Karen Jack (secretary), Alex Lee, Robert Lemieux, Lili Liu, Kesen Ma, Ellen MacEachen, Katie Misener, Barb Moffatt, Rick Myers, Cathy Newell Kelly, Erin O'Connell, Linda Ogechi Iheme**, Troy Osborne, Bill Power, William Pristanski**, James Rush, Beth Sandore Namachchivaya, Marcus Shantz, Joanne Shoveller, Siva Sivoththaman, Pearl Sullivan, Hamid Tizhoosh, Bryan Tolson, Bruno Tremblay, Cristina Vanin, Johanna Wandel, Stephen Watt, Nancy Worth, En-Hui Yang

Guests: Bruce Campbell, Aldo Caputo, Donna Ellis, Ross Johnston, Andrea Kelman, Jennifer Kieffer, Nick Manning, Chris Read, Ian Rowlands, Daniela Seskar-Hencic, Allan Starr, Emily Schroeder, Paul Wehr, Kathy Winter

Absent: Michael Balogh, Dominic Barton*, Lisa Bauer-Leahy, Ashreena Bhangu, Eric Croiset, Shannon Dea*, Fraser Easton*, Shikha Gandhi, Kelly Grindrod*, John Haddock*, Teferi Mergo, Ian Milligan*, Zoran Miskovic*, Neil Randall*, Max Salman*, Naima Samuel*, Mark Seasons*, Jason Small*, Richard Staines, Susan Tighe*, Vivek Unnithan*, Maya Venters*, June Xu

*regrets

**joined by telephone

OPEN SESSION

The chair noted items at places: an addendum for Item 3.a., Recognition and Commendation, and a revised motion for Item 8.e.i., Report of Long Range Planning Committee. The chair also reminded members that the roster of graduands for October convocation ceremonies was provided via SharePoint.

Consent Agenda

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

Gorbet and Andrey.

1. MINUTES OF THE 16 SEPTEMBER 2019 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

Faculty of Science, Co-operative Program Requirement Changes

Senate heard a motion to approve the proposed revisions to the co-operative program requirements for BSc Science programs as described, effective 1 September 2020.

Faculty of Science, Term Unit Load

Senate heard a motion to approve the proposed revisions to the term unit load limits as described, effective 1 September 2020.

Faculty of Science, Course Grades and Credits

Senate heard a motion to approve the proposed revisions to the regulations re: course grades and credits as described, effective 1 September 2020.

Faculty of Science, Upgrading of a Bachelor of Science Degree

Senate heard a motion to approve the proposed revisions to the regulations re: upgrading a bachelor of science degree as described, effective 1 September 2020.

Faculty of Science, Repeating and Counting of Courses

Senate heard a motion to approve the proposed revisions to the regulations re: repeating and counting courses as described, effective 1 September 2020.

Registrar's Office, 50% Rule

Senate heard a motion to align faculty rules related to the minimum number of courses with numeric grade being counted towards an average for a given credential (i.e., academic plan or program) by creating harmonized text and removing related faculty-specific text, effective 1 September 2020.

The remaining items were received for information.

3. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Recognition and Commendation. Senate received the report for information.

4. REPORTS FROM THE FACULTIES AND ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY

Senate received the reports for information.

5. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT

Senate approved the following appointment:

- **Graduate and Research Council:**
 - David Billedeau, replacing Alexander Mercado, as the graduate student representative from the Faculty of Environment, term 1 October 2019 to 30 April 2020.

The question was called, and the motion carried unanimously.

Regular Agenda

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising from the minutes.

7. TEACHING PRESENTATION – PAUL WEHR, DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

David DeVidi introduced Paul Wehr, continuing lecturer in Psychology. Wehr presented the topic, “Learning to Learn in PYSCH 101.” Wehr shared his observations re: process vs content; ways to assist students in “learning to learn”; details about the workshop he has developed; assessment tips and techniques. In discussion: the technique’s viability to work in a variety of disciplines; the utility of the method across question styles and lengths; the importance of sharing teaching knowledge.

8. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS

Executive Committee. Hamdullahpur introduced proposed changes to Senate Bylaw 3 for the first reading. There were no comments or questions.

Joint Report – Graduate & Research and Undergraduate Councils

Senate heard a motion to approve the 2020-2021 calendar dates and calendar guidelines for establishing academic dates as presented in Attachment 1.

DeVidi and Casello.

In discussion: the need to balance study days, and exams on Sundays, and the infrequency in which this concern arises in the calendar; support for and against Sunday examinations; a suggestion to consider, during years in which this issue arises, a potential reduction in the study break week in October.

The question was called and the motion carried with one opposed and two abstentions.

**Graduate & Research Council
Program Change, Faculty of Applied Health Sciences**

Senate heard a motion to approve the creation of six fields in the MSc program in the School of Public Health and Health systems, effective 1 January 2020, as presented at Attachment 1.

Dean and Liu. Carried unanimously.

**Undergraduate Council
Faculty of Applied Health Sciences, Department of Kinesiology**

Senate heard a motion to approve the inactivation of the Rehabilitation Sciences Minor and creation of the new Rehabilitation Sciences Specialization as described below, effective 1 September 2020.

DeVidi and Liu. Carried unanimously.

Senate heard a motion to approve the motions involving inactivations as an omnibus motion:

Faculty of Science, Honours Biology, Environmental Biology Specialization (Regular and Co-op) and Honours Environmental Science, Ecology Specialization (Regular and Co-op)

Senate heard a motion to approve the proposed changes to the Honour Biology, Environmental Biology Specialization (regular and co-op) and Honours Environmental Science, Ecology Specialization (regular and co-op) as described below, effective 1 September 2020.

Faculty of Science, Honours Material and Nanosciences

Senate heard a motion to approve the proposed changes to the Honours Material and Nanosciences program as described below, effective 1 September 2020.

Faculty of Science, Honours Co-operative Material and Nanosciences

Senate heard a motion to approve the proposed changes to the Honours Co-operative Material and Nanosciences program as described below, effective 1 September 2020.

DeVidi and Lemieux. Carried unanimously.

Long Range Planning Committee

Senate heard a motion to receive the Senate Long Range Planning Committee's recommendation that the Board of Governors approve the University of Waterloo Strategic Plan 2020-2025, as presented in Attachment 1.

Rush and Freeman. Carried unanimously.

9. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Strategic Plan Final Decision

The chair thanked members for the helpful discussion and thoughtful feedback re: the draft plan at the September meeting and indicated that it, and feedback from the Board of Governors the same week have led to changes to the plan as provided with the agenda materials.

Senate heard a motion to support the adoption of, and recommend to the Board of Governors that it adopt the 2020-2025 strategic plan as presented.

Hamdullahpur and Andrey.

In response to questions, the president spoke to: the University's commitment to curiosity-based research; the role the University has, and has held, with respect to supporting protection of intellectual property ownership, and encouraging startups; activities and initiatives that exist and are being further developed with respect to support of international students; clarification that core funds are not being spent on launching startups, but indeed, there is an investment fund for this purpose; a request to articulate more explicitly references to undergraduate students.

The question was called and the motion carried with two opposed and two abstentions.

Update

Hamdullahpur spoke to a variety of matters, including: recent achievements (Waterloo Centre for Astrophysics, the Fall Reading Week, Concept by Velocity, Excellence Canada); an update on the Committee on Student Mental Health; rankings.

10. Q&A PERIOD WITH THE PRESIDENT

There were no questions.

11. REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, ACADEMIC & PROVOST

Student Experience Review. Rush invited Chris Read, associate provost, students, to present on the Student Experience Review and its final report. Speaking to his slides, Read shared: the goals of the review; the group's structure and process; its scope, key questions, observations and recommendations; identified gaps; relevant initiatives and next steps.

In discussion: a suggestion and agreement to ensure Indigenous matters are kept front of mind; the need to ensure Senate is kept apprised of the status of the recommendations made; thanks for the work undertaken to date; agreement that Read shall return as appropriate for a future update.

Strategic Mandate Agreement Update. Rush updated members on the current status of the strategic mandate agreement. Speaking to his slides, Rush advised re: the timeline; an overview of the government's funding; evaluations. Senators understood that updates will be provided regularly.

Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates. Senate heard a motion to approve the lists of candidates for degrees, diplomas and certificates as recommended by the Faculty councils and the associate vice-president, graduate studies and postdoctoral affairs, and to authorize the chair (on behalf of Senate and report at its subsequent meeting) based on the recommendation of the registrar or, (in the case of graduate students) the associate vice-president, graduate studies and postdoctoral affairs, to add to or change the lists of candidates for degrees, diplomas and certificates, provided that the chair report back to Senate to advise of any such additions or changes.

Rush and Sullivan. Carried unanimously.

12. REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, RESEARCH AND INTERNATIONAL

Following some comments from Dean, Senate received the report for information.

13. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

Senate convened in confidential session.

8 November 2019

Karen Jack
University Secretary