

University of Waterloo
SENATE
Minutes of the 20 January 2020 Meeting

Present: Sheila Ager, Jean Andrey, Sandra Banks, Chris Bauch, Michael Beauchemin, Kankar Bhattacharya, Anne Bordeleau**, Carmen Bruni, Claudio Canizares, Jeff Casello, Joan Coutu, Eric Croiset, Richard Culham, Alexandria De Sousa, Shannon Dea, Peter Deadman, Charmaine Dean, David DeVidi, Mathieu Doucet, Fraser Easton, Paul Fieguth, Wendy Fletcher, Cindy Forbes**, Mark Giesbrecht, David Ha, John Haddock, Craig Hardiman, Kevin Hare (for Stephen Watt), Dennis Huber, Natalie Hutchings, Martin Karsten, Veronica Kitchen, Scott Kline, Karen Jack (secretary), Alex Lee**, Kesen Ma, Ellen MacEachen, Teferi Mergo, Ian Milligan, Zoran Miskovic, Barb Moffatt, Cathy Newell Kelly, Erin O'Connell, Troy Osborne, David Perrin, Bill Power, James Rush (chair), Beth Sandore Namachchivaya, Mark Seasons, Marcus Shantz, Joanne Shoveller, Siva Sivoththaman, Jason Small, Marlee Spafford (for Robert Lemieux), Richard Staines (for Lili Liu), Susan Tighe, Bryan Tolson, Cristina Vanin, Maya Venters, Johanna Wandel, Nancy Worth

Guests: Bruce Campbell, Aldo Caputo, Nick Manning, Harman Minhas, Norah McRae, Diana Parry, Alice Raynard, Chris Read, Emily Schroeder, Daniela Seskar-Hencic, Allan Starr, Brandon Sweet, Megan Town

Absent: Michael Balogh, Dominic Barton, Lisa Bauer-Leahy, Ashreena Bhangu, Kofi Campbell, Fred Chereski*, David Clausi*, Tara Collington*, Lynette Eulette*, George Freeman*, Shikha Gandhi, Robert Gorbet*, Julia Goyal*, Kelly Grindrod*, Feridun Hamdullahpur*, Sabrina Khandakar*, Robert Lemieux*, Lili Liu*, Katie Misener*, Richard Myers*, Linda Ogechi Itheme, William Pristanski*, Neil Randall*, Max Salman*, Naima Samuel*, Hamid Tizhoosh*, Bruno Tremblay*, Vivek Unnithan*, Stephen Watt, June Xu, En-Hui Yang*

*regrets

**joined by telephone

OPEN SESSION

Opening Remarks

Rush advised members that in the president's absence, he will serve as chair. He welcomed interim deans Richard Culham and Kevin Hare to the meeting, and made remarks acknowledging the University's, and indeed, Canada's loss of so many individuals on the recent tragic plane crash in Iran. Notably, Marzieh Foroutan, a PhD student in geography, and Mansour Esnaashary Esfahani, a PhD student in civil engineering died in the crash. Rush spoke to recent services in Waterloo and beyond, and ways the University celebrates and will consider future actions to mark their input and contributions at Waterloo. Senate took a moment to observe and honour these individuals.

Consent Agenda

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

Coutu and Dea.

Senate heard that the report of the Dean of Environment must regrettably be revised to remove Marzieh Faroutan's appointment as a part-time lecturer.

1. MINUTES OF THE 18 NOVEMBER 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 Arts, Communication Arts**

Senate heard a motion to approve the following name changes (as outlined in the report), effective 1 September 2021.

Faculty of Arts, History

Senate heard a motion to approve the name change, Applied History Specialization to Digital and Public History Specialization, effective 1 September 2021.

Faculty of Science, Three-Year General Science – Online

Senate heard a motion to approve the closure of applications to the online only completion of the Three-Year General Science program, until such a time as the Faculty develops a more robust set of Science courses to allow the degree to be completed entirely online at Waterloo.

Faculty of Science, Honours Co-operative Biotechnology/Economics

Senate heard a motion to approve the inactivation of the Honours Co-operative Biotechnology/Economics, effective 1 September 2021.

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

Senate received the reports for information.

5. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Senate approved the following committee appointments:

Amit and Meena Chakma Awards for Exceptional Teaching by a Student Committee:

- Maggie Nguyen and Zurie Campbell as undergraduate student representatives, terms to 31 December 2021.

Distinguished Teacher Awards Committee:

- Sara Seabrook as undergraduate student representative, and Tiffany Bradley as alumni representative, terms to 31 December 2021.

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. PRESENTATION – MARIOS IOANNIDIS, PROFESSOR, CHEMICAL ENGINEERING

The chair introduced and then invited Professor Ioannidis to present to Senate. Senate heard from Dr. Ioannidis about ways his department is engaging students as “agents of continuous program improvement”. In discussion: the department’s work in articulating its purpose, and ways it is providing students with agency in this process; the “learn-tell-do loop” and specific ways the department has engaged students; lessons learned, including key actions the department can take to reduce student stress; the necessity of following up once engagement has occurred. In response to questions, Senate heard: this activity has been taking place for approximately three years and there is

more to learn and do; the contagious effect of the positive feelings and perspectives, and a growing sense of collegiality; benefits of faculty working together re: “due dates”, etc., to effect better experiences for students, and the desire by faculty to work together toward this end; simple tools that the department is using and is happy to share; acknowledgement that cohort and non-cohort systems will have differences; a desire to find ways to monitor whether there are measurable reductions in stressors for students.

8. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS

Joint Report – Graduate & Research Council and Undergraduate Council

Senate heard a motion to approve two amendments to the 2020-2021 calendar dates as presented in Attachment #1.

Newell Kelly and Casello. Carried unanimously.

Graduate & Research Council Faculty of Engineering

Senate heard a motion to approve two new specializations within the Master of Engineering (MEng) in Chemical Engineering, effective 1 May 2020, as presented in Attachment #1.

Casello and Culham. Carried unanimously.

Undergraduate Council Faculty of Arts, Religious Studies

Senate heard a motion to approve the following changes to the three-year general religious studies plan, four-year general religious studies plan, and honours religious studies plan, effective 1 September 2021.

DeVidi and Ager. Carried unanimously.

Faculty of Arts, New Regulation – Declaring a Major, Minor, or Specialization

Senate heard a motion to approve the following new regulation regarding declaring a major, minor or specialization in the Faculty of Arts, effective 1 September 2021.

DeVidi and Ager. Carried unanimously.

Registrar’s Office, Dean’s Honours List/ Awards of Excellence

Senate heard a motion to approve the harmonization of rules and practices related to recognition of excellence as set forth in the report, effective 1 September 2020.

DeVidi and Ager. Carried unanimously.

9. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

There was no report.

10. Q&A PERIOD WITH THE PRESIDENT

There was no Q&A period.

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

Rush provided members with a brief update on the third Strategic Mandate Agreement. Members heard about: timelines, performance metrics, metric weighting considerations, some examples, areas in which Waterloo may be considered “best in class.” He advised of future meetings with the Ministry and of his intention to keep Senate apprised of this activity.

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

Following a brief overview by Dean, Senate received the report for information.

13. OTHER BUSINESS

Rush offered kudos to the Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs office re: the recent “GRADflix” event and its great expression of community and support for graduate activity at Waterloo. There was no other business.

Senate convened in confidential session.

11 February 2020

Karen Jack
University Secretary