

University of Waterloo
SENATE
Minutes of the 22 February 2021 Meeting

Present: Sheila Ager, Jean Andrey, Sandra Banks, Lisa Bauer-Leahy, Michael Beauchemin, Kankar Bhattacharya, David Billedeau, Anne Bordeleau, Dan Brown, Carmen Bruni, Kofi Campbell, Jeff Casello, Robyn Clarke, David Clausi, Joan Coutu, Neil Craik, Eric Croiset, Lori Curtis, Charmaine Dean, David DeVidi, Catherine Dong, Fraser Easton, Aiman Fatima, Paul Fieguth, Wendy Fletcher, Cindy Forbes, George Freeman, Martha George, Mark Giesbrecht, Robert Gorbet, Julia Goyal, Kelly Grindrod, David Ha, John Haddock, Feridun Hamdullahpur (chair), Dennis Huber, Natalie Hutchings, Martin Karsten, Sabrina Khandakar, Jennifer Kieffer, Veronica Kitchen, Karen Jack (secretary), Christiane Lemieux, Robert Lemieux, Lili Liu, Kesen Ma, Ellen MacEachen, Blake Madill, Peter Meehan, Teferi Mergo, Ian Milligan, Zoran Miskovic, Barb Moffatt, Graham Murphy, Cathy Newell Kelly, Erin O'Connell, Daniel O'Connor, Troy Osborne, David Perrin, William Power, Neil Randall, Samuel Rubin, James Rush, Max Salman, Emma Schuster, Marcus Shantz, Joanne Shoveller, Abbie Simpson, Sivabal Sivaloganathan, Siva Sivoththaman, Richard Staines, Bruno Tremblay, Sharon Tucker, Twesh Upadhyaya, Cristina Vanin, Johanna Wandel, Paul Ward, Mary Wells, Stan Woo, Nancy Worth, Clarence Woudsma, En-Hui Yang, Samer Zu'Mot

Guests: Stacey Acker, Jean Becker, Kathy Becker, Margaret Burnett, Bruce Campbell, Aldo Caputo, Jennifer Coghlin, Donna Ellis, Barbara Forrest, Brian Forrest, Mike Grivicic, Candace Harrington, Narveen Jandu, Ross Johnston, Andrea Kelman, Meagan Lai, Nick Manning, Norah McRae, Dina Meunier, Marina Mourtzakis, Mary Power, Joe Quadrilatero, Chris Read, Ian Rowlands, Andrea Santi, Emily Schroeder, Daniela Sesar-Hencic, Nadia Singh, Alisa Sivak, Allan Starr, Sherri Sutherland, Brandon Sweet, Su-Yin Tan, Mathew Thijssen, Russ Tupling, Chris Wilson-Smith

Absent: Mike Ashmore*, Dominic Barton, Peter Deadman*, Achim Kempf*, Sara Marsh, Samantha Meyer*, Richard Myers*, Beth Namachchivaya*

*regrets

OPEN SESSION

The chair welcomed members to the meeting.

Consent Agenda

The chair invited the secretary to speak to the annual call for nominations for upcoming vacancies on Senate which she did. Senate heard a motion to approve or receive for information the items on the consent agenda.

Freeman and Milligan.

1. MINUTES OF THE 18 JANUARY 2021 MEETING

Senate approved the minutes of the meeting.

2. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS

Undergraduate Council. Senate received the report for information.

3. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Honorary Degrees & Convocation Speakers. Senate received the report for information.

Recognition and Commendation. Senate received the report for information.

4. REPORTS FROM THE FACULTIES

Senate received the reports for information.

5. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Policy 76/Policy 77 Drafting Committee. Senate heard a motion to approve the following membership on the Policy 76/Policy 77 Drafting Committee: Kate Lawson and Su-Yin Tan as members recommended by FAUW, and David DeVidi and Kevin Hare as members recommended by the President.

Senate heard a motion to approve the following appointments:

Distinguished Teacher Awards Committee: Greta Kroeker, as faculty representative, term to 30 April 2021; Ginny Wong and Kylie Myles, as undergraduate student representatives, terms to 31 August 2021; Joseph Varga and Giuseppe Femia, as graduate student representatives, terms to 31 December 2021; Tiffany Bradley, as alumni representative, term to 30 April 2021.

Amit & Meena Chakma Awards for Exceptional Teaching by a Student Selection Committee: Emily Arnold, Zurie Campbell, and Stephanie Ye-Mowe as undergraduate student representatives, terms to 31 December 2021; Han Li and Becky Anderson, as graduate student representatives, 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.

7. TEACHING PRESENTATION – BLENDED LEARNING INITIATIVE

Following the chair's remarks about the value of Senate's input on this timely and important subject, DeVidi spoke to the subject of today's presentation being a step forward to a University digital learning strategy. He introduced Su-Yin Tan, teaching fellow from Environment, and Donna Ellis, the director of Centre for Teaching Excellence who informed senators about the "Blended Learning Initiative". Members heard: that it is an enterprise of the University's teaching fellows; a key goal is to learn from the emergency remote teaching experience of 2020; about work being done to determine the right balance between online and in-person components; some supporting data; about examples in the Faculties of Arts and Science; about different models and plans to support course redesign; about activities and discussions underway to enable growth.

In discussion: a suggestion to consider identifying ways to work with community partners; considerations in striking the right balance between delivery methods; the pedagogical drive to find what is beneficial to students and instructors; ways intentional design can help motivate students; a coming survey will help identify innovations across the campus; work being done by the Copyright Advisory Committee.

8. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS

Undergraduate Council. Senate heard a motion to approve the proposed change to the Doctor of Optometry Program as outlined below, effective 1 September 2022.

DeVidi and Lemieux. Carried unanimously.

9. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Referring to his presentation, the president provided senators updates about: campus operations in the red zone (some in-person activities, research, and office activity); student activity on campus (residences, amenities, international student support in light of federal travel rules); the COVID-19 testing centre.

10. Q&A PERIOD WITH THE PRESIDENT

There were no questions.

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

2020-21 Operating Budget Update. Rush provided an update on the 2020-21 operating budget and planning for 2021-22. Members heard about some details of how the budget was managed over the course of the year, and that the budget for 2020-21 looks set to be balanced with a small surplus. Rush provided some commentary about income and expenses over the year. With respect to 2021-22 planning, Rush spoke to: the continued emphasis on efficient use of resources and cost containment, impacts of government policy, enrolment management, tuition rate setting, risk mitigation, and strategic resource developments. In response to a question, Rush provided commentary on the history of the University Fund and advised that the expense line reflects some ongoing encumbrances.

Department Name Change – Kinesiology. Senate heard a motion to change the name of the Department of Kinesiology to the Department of Kinesiology and Health Sciences.

Liu and Rush.

Liu provided an overview of the rationale for the proposed change and spoke to consultations the Faculty undertook. After Liu reviewed key points of the rationale as provided in the agenda, she advised that she obtained agreement from four of the five other University Faculties with respect to this proposal. In discussion: opposition to the motion from Dean of Science Bob Lemieux; suggestions that a qualifier like “performance” be added to “health sciences”; concerns about the potential for confusion by students; reasons why “performance” is inadequate and, why no qualifier is needed; the University’s obligation to be congruent with professional designation regulations which this proposal addresses; a reminder of the many years that this change has been under consideration and discussion.

The question was called and the motion carried with 58 votes for, 14 votes against, and nine abstentions.

Department Name Change – School of Public Health and Health Systems. Senate heard a motion to change the name of the School of Public Health and Health Systems to the School of Public Health Sciences.

Liu and Andrey.

Liu briefly spoke to the rationale and consultation undertaken as provided in the agenda. Senate heard an expression of thanks to Liu and the Faculty for the broad consultation undertaken with students with respect to this proposal.

The question was called and the motion carried with one abstention.

12. REPORT OF THE VICE PRESIDENT, RESEARCH & INTERNATIONAL

Senate received the report for information.

13. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

Senate convened in confidential session.

23 February 2021

Karen Jack
University Secretary