

University of Waterloo
SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Minutes of the 6 February 2023 Meeting
[in agenda order]

Present: Michael Beauchemin, Jeff Casello, Joan Coutu, Catherine Dong, Vivek Goel (chair), Mary Hardy, Andrea Kelman (secretary), Christiane Lemieux, Graham Murphy, Mary Robinson, James Rush, Julian Surdi, Stephanie Ye-Mowe

Regrets: Carol Ann MacGregor, Luke Potwarka, Clarence Woudsma

Guests: Jean Becker, Jenny Flagler-George, Diana Gonçalves, Christopher Taylor

1. REPRESENTATION IN THE UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

Jean Becker

- As institutions align with stated values of inclusion and equity, Indigenous representation is required within the bicameral system of the institution
- Indigenous people have a great deal to contribute and must be present at these tables
- Indigenous leadership at several institutions through the appointment of Indigenous Chancellors has occurred since 2015 with the recommendations from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission report
- Other institutions are designating seats for Indigenous leaders on Senates and Boards signaling a cultural shift
- UW has gained some reputation for structural change over the past three years for its efforts and there are indications of progress

Christopher Taylor

- PART recommendations 78-83 speak to the reality that there is an underrepresentation of Black, Indigenous, and other racialized leaders in the bicameral system of governance as well as other administrative bodies at the institution. Black, Indigenous and other racialized members of the community face barriers to joining governance bodies
- Building competency and an understanding around education and the ability to participate is key
- Main challenges are collectively we need to increase the number of Black, Indigenous and other racialized individuals in the community

The following discussion occurred.

- Most of the institution's governance structure is written into the UW Act
- Recognizing that representation on Senate is mostly through election, how do we encourage community members to participate and how do we provide support
 - Consider reserving seats for Black and Indigenous representation by adding seats like we reserve for faculty
 - Take some existing ex-officio seats and change their designation
 - Consider how appointments are made to committees and councils of Senate – could SEC play a bigger role in those appointments
 - Consider a committee to bring these perspectives forward – EDI-R committee

ACTION:

- Explore these ideas and bring back for future discussion at Committee.

2. MINUTES OF THE 3 JANUARY 2023 MEETING

A motion was heard to approve the minutes as presented. Dong and Surdi. Carried with one abstention.

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising.

4. CHANCELLOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Goel reminded the committee that Dominic Barton's term as Chancellor will end on June 30, 2024.

- The target to recommend an appointment to Senate will be the Fall of 2023
- March Senate Executive Committee will discuss the characteristics and degree of engagement appropriate for the next Chancellor

A motion was heard to recommend to Senate that the Senate Executive Committee be appointed as the Chancellor Nominating Committee. Casello and Dong Carried.

5. DRAFT 27 FEBRUARY 2023 SENATE AGENDA

The draft agenda was reviewed.

- Members asked for an update on the digital learning strategy consultations
- Rush advised that they are ongoing and will come forward at a later date

A motion was heard to approve the 27 February 2023 Senate agenda as presented. Beauchemin and Dong. Carried.

6. MEMO – SENATE GOVERNANCE REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee reviewed the current terms of reference. Various comments were received.

- Issue of representation on this committee should be reviewed as this committee has significant influence on what gets on the Senate agendas
- Provide more oversight into the appointments to committees and councils and improve visibility on the operationalization of the process

ACTION: Secretariat to review comments and report back at a future meeting.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

7 February 2023

Andrea Kelman
University Secretary