

**University of Waterloo**  
**SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**  
**Minutes of the April 22, 2024 Meeting**  
**[in agenda order]**

Present: Joan Coutu, Laura Deakin, Catherine Dong, Vivek Goel (chair), Mike Grivicic (secretary), Christiane Lemieux, Rory Norris, David Porreca, Luke Potwarka, Mary Robinson, James Rush, Sharon Tucker

Guests: David DeVidi, Jenny Flagler-George, Genevieve Gauthier-Chalifour, Diana Goncalves, Andrea Kelman, Tim Weber-Kraljevski

Regrets: Jeff Casello, Jack deGooyer, Carol Ann MacGregor, Clarence Woudsma

**1. MINUTES OF THE MARCH 25, 2024 MEETING AND BUSINESS ARISING**

A motion was heard to approve the minutes as distributed. Porreca and Deakin. Carried. There was no business arising.

**2. RECOMMENDATION RE: ACADEMIC QUALITY ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE**

DeVidi spoke to the report and recommendation: formation of this committee aims to elevate the academic quality function, with greater focus and improved feedback, while also yielding bandwidth at the Graduate & Research Council as well as at Undergraduate Council to allow greater attention/focus on strategic items at those bodies; this recommendation is an outcome of the Senate Governance Review and the committee/councils' reflective exercise; comparator institutions have had similar bodies for this function for some time. The chair emphasized that this function is important for maintaining and enhancing the quality of academic offerings, and that while this function is carried out autonomously by Ontario institutions this is not the case in other jurisdictions. Members noted a minor typographical error to be remedied for the version of the report going to Senate. A motion was heard to recommend that Senate approve the creation of the proposed Academic Quality Enhancement Committee, as amended. Deakin and Dong. Carried.

**3. RECOMMENDATION RE: FILLING VACANCIES ON SENATE COMMITTEES/COUNCILS**

This report was distributed separately from the agenda, and it was noted that the earlier timelines for filling in the committee/council membership will be targeted in 2025. A motion was heard to acclaim the membership of Senate committees and councils as presented on the attached list of nominees. Porreca and Deakin. Carried.

**4. GUIDELINES FOR VISITORS TO SENATE MEETINGS**

Gauthier-Chalifour spoke to the draft document: seeking initial feedback and comments from the committee today with the intent of bringing forward a finalized draft at an upcoming meeting; recommendation would have the chair approve representations on the advice of SEC, with a provision to give preference to accredited/recognized groups from the University community. Members discussed: establishing guidelines could in itself generate more representations at Senate and thereon skew where Senate devotes its attention; measures included within the guidelines would aim to mitigate the potential for abuse; SEC would be able to reroute requests to other governance bodies. A revised version of the guidelines will be brought forward to the next meeting.

**5. DRAFT APRIL 8, 2024 SENATE AGENDA**

Members discussed the draft agenda and highlighted: item under Business Arising from the Minutes will move under the President's Report; Porreca will meet with Casello and others with regard to 8(c); item 11(a) will be removed, in light of the discussion at this meeting; the report from the COU academic colleague will be moved into the regular agenda, with Kline to be invited to speak to the report. A motion was heard to approve the May 6, 2024 Senate agenda, as amended. Porreca and Norris. Carried.

**6. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business. With no other business, the committee moved into confidential session.

The next meeting of the committee will be Tuesday May 28, 2024 from 3:30-4:30 p.m.

May 14, 2024

Mike Grivicic  
Associate University Secretary