

University of Waterloo
SENATE GRADUATE & RESEARCH COUNCIL
Minutes of the 12 September 2022 Meeting
[in agenda order]
Needles Hall 3318/3308

Present: Steven Bednarski (for Drysdale), Amelia Clarke, David Clausi, Peter Deadman, Charmaine Dean, Bernie Duncker, Anna Esselment, Ana Ferrer, Bertrand Guenin, Alison Hitchens, Aiden Huffman, Brian Laird, Anita Layton, Bill McIlroy, Ian Milligan, Liz Nilsen, Jennifer Reid, Martin Ross, Marianne Simm, Siva Sivoththaman, Julian Surdi, Mike Szarka, Kathy Winter (secretary).

Resources: Trevor Clews, Amanda McKenzie.

Guests: Elizabeth Demers, Richard Wikkerink, Olaf Weber.

Regrets: Julie Joza*, John Thompson*, Jeff Casello*

Organization of Meeting: Charmaine Dean, co-chair of the council, took the chair, and Kathy Winter acted as secretary. The secretary advised that due notice of the meeting had been given, a quorum was present, and the meeting was properly constituted.

DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No conflicts of interest were declared.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council heard a motion to approve or receive for information the items of the consent agenda. Milligan and Clarke. Carried.

1. MINUTES OF 13 JUNE 2022

Council approved the minutes of the meeting as distributed.

2. RESEARCH ETHICS

Council approved membership updates to the Clinical Research Ethics Board and Human Research Ethics Board as presented.

3. GRADUATE AWARDS

Council approved items (a) and (b), as presented; and received items (c) through (f) for information.

REGULAR AGENDA

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising.

5. CO-CHAIRS' REMARKS

Dean welcomed council members to the start of the fall 2022 academic term and provided updates regarding provincial funding of Mitacs paid Internships for both undergraduate students and post-doctoral fellows: (a) money for this year has already been utilized, (b) proposals approved prior to 28 August 2022 will be supported, whereas those received since are on hold until provincial funding decisions are finalized, (c) programs include Accelerate, Elevate, Business-ready, and International programs. Dean committed to ensure that Mitacs will remain a priority in the University's ongoing talks with the province.

6. GRADUATE STUDIES AND POSTDOCTORAL AFFAIRS—revised ACADEMIC CALENDAR DATES

Council heard a motion to recommend to Senate revised academic calendar dates for 2022-2023 and calendar guidelines for establishing academic dates, as presented. The in-person exam days for online courses have now been established and replace the "TBD" designation in the table of academic calendar dates approved at the 15 November 2021 meeting of Senate. Simm and Nilsen. Carried.

7. RESEARCH CENTRES AND INSTITUTES

b. New: Centre for Sustainability and Business

Council heard a motion to recommend to Senate the establishment of the Centre for Sustainability and Business (CSB), as presented. Olaf Weber (Professor, School of Environment, Enterprise and Development) and Elizabeth Demers (Professor, School of Accounting and Finance) provided a short PowerPoint presentation, including how sustainable business models have become ubiquitous and a tremendous amount of research across disciplines is underway to support this new approach. Accordingly, the CSB, a faculty-funded research centre of the Faculties of Environment and Arts, is being proposed in order to support interdisciplinary research that creates a societal impact and increases the visibility of the University of Waterloo as a powerhouse for sustainability and business, accounting, and economics. The centre will become a hub to support sustainability and business research across campus by raising funds, hosting interdisciplinary academic and joint academic-practitioner conferences, and fostering partnerships with corporations to enable practical collaborations, as well as the development of new experiential pedagogical materials—including executive training—in sustainability and business. Notably, with its focus on sustainability, interdisciplinary research, and high impact, the CSB is perfectly aligned with the University's strategic plan. In response to questions, the CSB stakeholders emphasized anticipated collaborations with other Faculties, as well as institutions (e.g., Balsillie School of International Affairs, Centre for International Governance Innovation, Waterloo Institute for Sustainable Energy, Waterloo Climate Institute). Council identified the following areas of change for the CSB proposal: (a) details on how the members of the Governing Body will be selected should be added, (b) income line items should be added to the budget depicted in Table 2, and (c) a potential connection to the Economics Futures initiative being led by Joel Blit could be indicated. As well, at the 5-year review stage, Senate Graduate and Research Council anticipates seeing the creation of more formal pathways for Graduate Students. Duncker and Clarke. Carried with one abstention.

8. CONSULTATION PLAN – SENATE GOVERNANCE REVIEW: FUTURE OF SGRC

Council received the Future of SGRC Consultation Plan as presented by Dean. In addition, members were provided a contextual overview as to how this particular element (i.e., recommendation #32) fits within the larger framework of the [Senate Governance Review](#) as it pertains to SGRC (i.e., recommendations #28, #32, #33). Members are to anticipate invitations to separate stakeholder consultation sessions to be held in October 2022. Council was invited to send any comments thereon to committee secretary Winter.

9. CURRICULAR SUBMISSIONS

Faculty of Environment. On behalf of Senate, council heard a motion to approve item 1, as presented. Deadman and Esselment. Carried.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

11. FUTURE BUSINESS

Council was informed of two business items for future strategic discussion: Create Grants and GSPA Vision Document.

12. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held Monday 3 October 2022 from 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon in NH3318.