

University of Waterloo
SENATE GRADUATE & RESEARCH COUNCIL
Minutes of the 6 March 2023 Meeting
[in agenda order]
Needles Hall 3318

Present: Ramona Bobocel, Jeff Casello, Charmaine Dean, Rob de Loe, Maureen Drysdale, Bernie Duncker, Anna Esselment, Aiman Fatima, Bertrand Guenin, Alison Hitchens, Ryan Johnson, Julie Joza, Brian Laird, William McIlroy, Ian Milligan, Liz Nilsen, Jennifer Reid, Martin Ross, Manoj Sachdev, Marianne Simm, Julian Surdi, Mike Szarka, Shirley Tang, Kathy Winter (secretary)

Resources: Angela Christelis, Carrie MacKinnon-Molson

Guests: Nasser Abukhdeir, Troy Glover, Mike Grivicic, Kelly Heald, Mark Weber

Regrets: Derek Armitage*, Zerihun Kinate, Anita Layton, Siva Sivoththaman*, Shawn Wettig*

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. Hitchens and Duncker. Carried.

1. MINUTES OF 13 FEBRUARY 2023

Council approved the minutes of the meeting, as distributed.

2. GRADUATE AWARDS

Council approved item a, as presented.

REGULAR AGENDA

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Under business arising ([item 6; 13 February 2023 SGRC](#)), council was apprised that items 6a (class component definitions) and 6b (course delivery modes) would be submitted as a joint SUC / SGRC report to Senate once item 6b has been reconsidered and endorsed by SGRC.

4. CO-CHAIRS' REMARKS

Casello remarked briefly upon the recently concluded [funding competitions](#) - 120 applications; 13 accepted—with thanks provided to the adjudication committees. Dean summarized [Ministers' recent statement](#) to protect Canada's research and the provincial government's response in support, including commitment to enact new granting models (e.g., no project funding if any affiliations with a university, research institute, or laboratory connected to military, national defence, or state security entities of foreign state actors that pose a risk to Canada's national security) and implementation plans (late spring/summer 2023). In discussion: international visiting graduate students-IVGS (forms being updated in relation to research); cotutelle agreements (GSPA and Director of Research Security available to support and advise); admissions; implications for global open research. Dean also spoke to SGRC strategic discussions (such as Casello's visioning exercise)—noting plans for Duncker to lead discussions related to Create Grants at 8 May 2023 SGRC. Co-chairs Casello and Dean invited council to bring forward other strategic discussion topics.

5. ACADEMIC PROGRAM REVIEWS

On behalf of Senate, council heard a motion to approve the following, as presented:

- a. Final Assessment Report: Business, Entrepreneurship and Technology. In discussion: collab and startup support through post-degree and new outreach efforts; strong and growing alumni relationships; scaling through faculty partnerships and growth. Sachdev and Ross. Carried.
- b. Final Assessment Report: Recreation and Leisure Studies. In discussion: enrollment values for course- and research-based programs; students' evaluations of co-op opportunities and engagement with CEE thereon; growing research opportunities. Laird and Mellroy. Carried.
- c. Two-year Progress Report: Chemical Engineering. In discussion: recommendation to implement more frequent graduate student advisory committee meetings through advanced planning and scheduling. Sachdev and Bobocel. Carried.

6. GRADUATE STUDIES ACADEMIC CALENDAR (GSAC) REVISIONS

Council heard a motion to recommend to Senate the following academic calendar changes, as presented:

- a. Revisions to "Grading scheme" text in the "Grades and grading" section. Simm and Guenin. Carried.
- b. Revisions to the inactive status definition to include information about medical leave and the inactive status process for the Mathematics for Teachers (MMT) program. Simm and Esselment. Carried.

7. GRADUATE STUDIES AND POSTDOCTORAL AFFAIRS VISIONING

Casello continued his presentation, *Towards a proposed vision: Graduate studies at Waterloo*, as circulated. Some central questions included: How do we know our students are impactful? What metrics and data collection methods demonstrate impact? In Discussion: current strategies and metrics that speak to impact (e.g., annual performance review-APR, student activity reports); enhancing current methods and seeking new methods (longitudinal perspective, calibrated data, automated APRs, introduce portal solution); challenges in relation to harvesting these data. Visioning discussion will conclude on 10 April 2023 SGRC with recommendations and actionable items to follow, as well as to receive Council's endorsement thereon.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

9. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held Monday 10 April 2023 from 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon in NH3318.

29 March 2023

Kathy Winter, PhD, CPsych,
Assistant University Secretary