

University of Waterloo
SENATE UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL
Minutes of the 10 January 2023 Meeting
[in agenda order]

Present: Katherine Acheson, Veronica Austen, Monica Barra, Antonia Cass, Benoit Charbonneau, Vivian Dayeh, David DeVidi (Chair), Leeann Ferries, Jason Grove, Fatma Gzara, Carol Ann MacGregor, Cici Neely, Catherine Newell Kelly, Ryan Trelford, Chris Vigna, Johanna Wandel, Tim Weber-Kraljevski (secretary), Richard Wikkerink, Stephanie Ye-Mowe

Resources/Guests: Angela Christelis, Blair Clarence, Jennifer Coghlin, Okey Igboeli, Danielle Jeanneault, Carrie MacKinnon, Julia Williams

Regrets: Victoria Chu, Kristiina Montero

Organization of Meeting: David DeVidi took the chair, and Tim Weber-Kraljevski acted as secretary. The secretary advised that a quorum was present. The agenda was approved without formal motion.

The chair welcomed returning member Katherine Acheson, and new members Antonia Cass, Jason Grove, and Cici Neely to the meeting.

1. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

No conflicts of interest were declared.

2. APPROVAL OF THE 13 DECEMBER 2022 MINUTES AND BUSINESS ARISING

The following revision was requested to add clarity to the minutes: under item 3. Health, update the sentence "Members discussed where the program would live." to "Members discussed where the program would live administratively." The minutes were approved with the revision, without formal motion. There was no business arising from the minutes.

3. ACADEMIC PROGRAM REVIEWS

Science and Business, Biotechnology-Economics, and Biotechnology-CPA. Okey Igboeli spoke to the two-year progress report, highlighting: the discontinuation of eight Science and Business program specializations; challenges with hiring; the establishment of a Science and Business Program Advisory Council; increasing the number of 400-level science courses required in some specializations; and enrolment levels. Members discussed: the home department of the new faculty hire and the Curriculum Review Committee not having student members. Igboeli left the meeting.

Members recommended an editorial change to the response to Recommendation 4 in the report, as the program has not yet started advertising. There was a motion to approve the two-year progress report for Science and Business, Biotechnology-Economics, and Biotechnology-CPA. Barra and Charbonneau. Carried.

Studies in Islam and Arabic Language. Julia Williams joined the meeting. Williams spoke to the two-year progress report, highlighting: the change in program name; administratively integrating into the Culture and Language Studies Department; changes from the review of course offering; the hiring of a new faculty member and the intent to hire a second faculty member in 2024; and the current enrollment numbers. Members discussed: enrollment numbers, goals for the program, and that students typically do not declare minor until graduation; strategies for growth; and the rationale for the change in the program's name. Williams left the meeting.

There was a motion to approve the two-year progress report for Studies in Islam and Arabic Language. Austen

and MacGregor. Carried.

Following an inquiry, members provided clarity on the rationale for having small programs with low enrolment, and discussed the role of the Council in the Academic Programs Review process.

4. CURRICULAR ITEMS FOR APPROVAL & INFORMATION

Arts. Williams re-joined the meeting. Acheson presented the new course APPLS 491, having been revised following discussion at the 13 December 2022 meeting. Members discussed the change in teaching apprenticeship opportunities to teaching-related experiential learning opportunities, and the addition of requiring Department consent to enrol. There was a motion to approve the new course on behalf of Senate. Acheson and Austen. Carried. Williams left the meeting.

Science. Barra presented course changes and inactivations with the School of Pharmacy. Members discussed electives and progression rules within the Pharmacy program. There was a motion to approve the course changes and inactivations on behalf of Senate. Barra and Charbonneau. Carried. Barra provided an overview of minor academic plan changes for Earth and Environmental Sciences plans, the Water Science Specialization, and all specializations in Honours Earth Sciences. Members questioned the rationale for replacing the EARTH 358 requirement with EARTH 355 in Earth and Environmental Sciences plans. Barra will investigate and provide the rationale for the replacement for information at the next meeting. There was a motion to approve the minor academic plan changes on behalf of Senate. Barra and Ye-Mowe. Carried with one abstention.

5. SENATE GOVERNANCE REVIEW

The chair lead discussion on the Council's mandate and areas to improve, including: whether the Council's agenda accurately reflect its mandate; the benefits of creating sub-committees, and the possible make-up and mandates of the sub-committees; the possibility of adopting consent agendas; the benefits of current practices and concerns of changes increasing the workload of some members; and strategies for decreasing the time needed for the approval of new programs. The chair will consult members and bring forward proposals to the next meeting for discussion.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

7. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is Tuesday 14 February 2023, 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. in NH 3318

31 January 2023

Tim Weber-Kraljevski
Associate University Secretary