

University of Waterloo
SENATE UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL
Minutes of the May 14, 2024 Meeting
[in agenda order]

Present: Katherine Acheson, Avery Akkerman, Janice Aurini, Cecilia Cotton, Laura Deakin, David DeVidi (chair), Chole Ding, Leeann Ferries, Jason Grove, Alysia Kolentsis, E-Therng Lee, Carol Ann MacGregor, Grace Marshall, Kristiina Montero, Catherine Newell Kelly, Nicholas Pfeifle, Chris Vigna, Johanna Wandel, Tim Weber-Kraljevski (secretary), Richard Wikkerink.

Resources/Guests: Blair Clarence, Jennifer Coghlin, Jennifer Gilles, Danielle Jeanneault, Carrie MacKinnon, James Thompson.

Absent: Victoria Chu*, Namrah Hasan, Nigharika Senthil Kumar, Cynthia Richard, Helena Shilomboleni, William Wong,
*Regrets

Organization of Meeting: Dave 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.

1. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No conflicts of interest were declared.

2. MINUTES OF THE APRIL 9, 2024 MEETING

The minutes were accepted as distributed.

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The chair informed members that Senate approved the creation of the Academic Quality Enhancement (AQuE) Committee and encouraged those members interested in serving on the AQuE Committee to volunteer. Members discussed the term length for the AQuE Committee membership.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was heard to approve consent agenda as presented. Cotton and Deakin. Carried. Members discussed: support for new student members for reviewing the material; and the purpose of the consent agenda.

4. CURRICULAR SUBMISSIONS

Council approved item 4a as presented.

REGULAR AGENDA

5. ACADEMIC PROGRAM REVIEWS

- a. **Final Assessment Report: Computing and Financial Management.** Thompson joined the meeting and provided a brief overview of the report. Members discussed: admissions and admission averages; issues with the name of program and employers being unfamiliar with it; attrition rates for the program; the shared governance of the program; and the tuition rate of the program. Thompson left the meeting.

A motion was heard to approve the Final Assessment Report on behalf of Senate, as presented. Deakin and Grove. Carried, with one abstention. Members discussed the rationale for Computing and Financial Management graduates being ineligible for the Master of Accounting (MAcc) program.

6. REGISTRAR'S OFFICE

- a. Effective Dates Chart:** Jeanneault provided the effective date chart for information.

7. CAMPUS SUPPORT AND ACCESSIBILITY

Gillies presented on her portfolio as the Associate Provost, Campus Support and Accessibility, organizational structure changes, the missions and goals of the office, and initial priorities. Members discussed: creating a framework for religious accommodations; accountability for unit concerning accessibility; accessible infrastructure on campus; how Faculties and Associate Deans can support the office; family accommodations; and expanding employee wellness.

8. CREDENTIALS FRAMEWORK RECOMMENDATION: THE LEGO MODEL

The chair provided an overview of the Credential Framework recommendations. Collins presented on the lego model concept to standardize degree structures to improve program flexibility by allowing combinations of credentials across Waterloo's administrative boundaries without the need to create specific programs. Members discussed: the current process, practices and definitions at Waterloo; examples of the lego model at Waterloo and other institutions; the increased push for customization of degrees; concerns including impact on cohorts and the culture, preparing students for co-op, accommodating the various background of students, the logistics of scheduling, setting tuition, choosing majors, and the overfilling of certain programs, and having programs agree on definitions; strategies for addressing concerns; the potential benefits for students and the university; and the need for a goals discussion.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

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

May 28, 2024

Tim Weber-Kraljevski
Governance Officer