

University of Waterloo
SENATE UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL
Minutes of the June 17, 2024 Meeting
[in agenda order]

Present: Katherine Acheson, Avery Akkerman, Maya Baboolal, Victoria Chu, Cecilia Cotton, Laura Deakin, David DeVidi (chair), Leeann Ferries, Alysia Kolentsis, E-Therng Lee, Carol Ann MacGregor, Kristiina Montero, Catherine Newell Kelly, Cynthia Richard, Helena Shilomboleni, Chris Vigna, Johanna Wandel, Tim Weber-Kraljevski (secretary), Richard Wikkerink.

Resources/Guests: Christy Barbeau, Jennifer Coghlin, Angela Christelis, Robert Hill, Danielle Jeanneault, Carrie MacKinnon, Erika Macmillan, Charlotte Petkovic, Kyle Scholz, Diana Skrzydlo.

Absent: Chole Ding*, Jason Grove*, Namrah Hasan, Grace Marshall, Nicholas Pfeifle, Brandon Que*, 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.

The chair welcomed new members and invited guests to the meeting.

1. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No conflicts of interest were declared.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was heard to approve consent agenda as presented. Ferries and Deakin. Carried.

2. MINUTES OF THE MAY 14, 2024 MEETING

The minutes were accepted as distributed.

3. CURRICULAR SUBMISSIONS

Council approved item 3 a.-f. as presented.

REGULAR AGENDA

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The Chair encouraged members to volunteer to serve on the Academic Quality Enhancement (AQuE) Committee.

5. CURRICULUM SUBMISSIONS

a. Faculty of Arts: Acheson provided an overview of the proposed major modifications to Anthropology. A motion was heard to recommend Senate approve the proposed major modifications to Anthropology (Bachelor of Arts – Four-Year General and Bachelor of Arts– Honours) as presented. Acheson and MacGregor. Carried. Acheson provided an overview of the proposed major modifications to Religious Studies. A motion was heard to recommend Senate approve the proposed major modifications to Religious Studies (Bachelor of Arts – Four-Year General, Bachelor of Arts– Honours, and Bachelor of Arts – Three-Year General as presented. Acheson and Montero. Carried. Acheson provided an overview of the proposed major modifications to Sexuality, Marriage, and Family Studies. A motion was heard to recommend Senate approve the proposed major modifications to Sexuality, Marriage, and Family Studies

(Bachelor of Arts – Four-Year General, and Bachelor of Arts– Honours) as presented. Acheson and MacGregor. Carried. Lastly Acheson provided an overview of the proposed regulation revisions. A motion was heard to recommend Senate approve the proposed academic regulation revisions to Arts: Averages and Academic Standings, as presented. Acheson and Wandel. Carried.

6. TEACHING INNOVATION INCUBATOR PROJECTS

Scholz presented on the progress on the following five Teaching Innovation Incubator projects: Interdisciplinary Graduate Student and Design and LED “Wicked Problems” courses; Accelerating Integration of Sustainability into the Curriculum; Accessible Education; Adapting Student-Led Individually Created Courses (SLICCS) to encourage self-directed learning; and Evaluating Learn Tools – Creator+ and Performance+. Scholz also spoke to the future direction of the Teaching Innovation Incubator. Members discussed: the future of the Wicked Problems project; how SLICCS work and the potential with interdisciplinary capstones; potential future calls for projects; and using Learning Innovation and Teaching Enhancement (LITE) grants as pilots for future Teaching Innovation Incubators Projects.

7. STREAMLINED AND EXPEDITED APPROVAL POSSIBILITIES

The Chair, Barbeau, Hill, and Skrzydlo presenting on streaming and expediting approval processes, focusing on the course outline project, new programs and ‘strategic curriculum management’, and approval of multi-faculty programs, and inviting members to identify other opportunities to make approval processes more efficient and discuss guardrails that would be needed to put in place. Members discussed: the course outline project; what should be included within a course description and their purpose; what constitutes a editorial change; change frequency in which course descriptions are updated; strategies for flagging out of date course descriptions; and process for when instructors not following the rules.

8. AVPA AND TEACHING FELLOWS

This item was combined with the previous item.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

With no other business, Council moved into confidential session. The only item was the approval of the confidential minutes of the May 14, 2024 meeting, which were approved. There was no other business.

12. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting adjourned. The next meeting is Tuesday, September 17, 2024, 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. in NH 3318

June 28, 2024

Tim Weber-Kraljevski
Associate University Secretary