

University of Waterloo
SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Minutes of the 1 November 2021 Meeting

Present: Michael Beauchemin, Jeff Casello, Joan Coutu, Lori Curtis, Benjamin Easton, George Freeman, Vivek Goel (chair), Karen Jack (secretary), Christiane Lemieux, Kristina Llewellyn, Graham Murphy, Oudy Noweir, Luke Potwarka, James Rush, Johanna Wandel

Guests: Diana Gonçalves, Andrea Kelman

The chair welcomed members to the meeting.

1. MINUTES OF THE 4 OCTOBER 2021 MEETING

Members heard a motion to approve the minutes of the 4 October 2021 meeting.

Murphy and Freeman. Carried unanimously.

2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising.

3. DRAFT 15 NOVEMBER 2021 SENATE AGENDA

Following a brief review of the agenda, during which it was noted that some minor corrections will be made to materials before final distribution, the committee approved it by consensus.

4. SENATE GOVERNANCE REVIEW

After the president spoke to the benefits of a recent Board governance review which identified several areas of improvement, he recommended that a Senate governance review occur. Members agreed with his suggestion that this committee undertake it and make recommendations to Senate. Members understood that the Secretariat will support the activity with regard to research, benchmarking, and administrative support. In discussion: the desirability of a more strategic focus for Senate meetings; some areas for consideration (e.g., the calendar and frequency of meetings, committee and council structures and mandates, bylaw revisions, contents of agenda materials); the value of aligning with the Board cycle to ensure the bodies are mutually informed; early considerations of benchmark institutions. In response to a question about next steps, the president indicated that: he will inform Senate about the activity this month; he and the secretary will draft terms of reference for discussion at the next meeting; this committee's future meetings will be booked for one hour to accommodate the work; work in the new year should lead to recommendations for Senate in the spring with some things to be implemented next fall and others in the future.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

The committee agreed with the president's suggestion that if, later this month, there is no major business for a December meeting of Senate, the secretary will advise Senate that it is cancelled. Members understood that in such a case, the 6 December meeting of this committee also is cancelled.

There was no other business.

6 November 2021

Karen Jack
University Secretary