

**University of Waterloo**  
**SENATE UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the 15 November 2022 Meeting**  
**[in agenda order]**

**Present:** Veronica Austen, Monica Barra, Benoit Charbonneau, Martin Cooke, Daniel Davison, Vivian Dayeh, David DeVidi (Chair), Leeann Ferries, Fatma Gzara, Carol Ann MacGregor, Kristiina Montero, Troy Osborne, Naman Sood, Ryan Trelford, Chris Vigna, Johanna Wandel, Tim Weber-Kraljevski (secretary), Tyler West, Richard Wikkerink

**Resources/Guests:** Jennifer Coghlin, Jason Grove, Danielle Jeanneault, Scott Kline, Amanda McKenzie, Denise Whitehead

**Regrets:** Victoria Chu, Catherine Newell Kelly

**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.

**1. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

No conflicts of interest were declared.

**2. APPROVAL OF THE 4 OCTOBER 2022 MINUTES AND BUSINESS ARISING**

The minutes were approved without formal motion. There was no business arising from the minutes.

**3. Academic Program Reviews**

**PR Religious Studies and Jewish Studies:** Scott Kline joined the meeting. Kline spoke to the two-year progress report, highlighting: the impact of the pandemic slowing the progress of the implementation plan; and the renewal of the doctoral program taking place over the next year which is anticipated to dramatically change what the program will look like. Discussion included: clarification on the newly developed policy on course development, scheduling, and inactivation, and how it works in practice; how the department is addressing faculty course releases and planned future retirements. Kline left the meeting.

**PR Sexuality, Marriage, and Family Studies:** Denise Whitehead joined the meeting. Whitehead spoke to the two-year progress report, highlighting: the process of revising the program's name to address concerns with the use of "marriage"; challenges with faculty hiring; opportunities for growth; connecting with WatSPEED on Continuing Education and Professional Development Courses/Certificates. Discussion included: faculty hiring and the reviewer recommendation process. Whitehead left the meeting.

There was a motion to approve the two-year progress report for Religious Studies and Jewish Studies on behalf of Senate. Charbonneau and Montero. Carried. There was a motion to approve the two-year progress report for Sexuality, Marriage, and Family Studies on behalf of Senate. Cooke and Vigna. Carried.

**4. CURRICULAR ITEMS FOR APPROVAL & INFORMATION**

**Arts.** Cooke presented an overview of the regulation changes for PD Courses and Work Term Reports. In a response to a question, Members heard that the PD Courses changes would be retroactively affective for the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 calendars, as well as going forward. There was a motion to recommend that Senate approve the proposed regulations changes. Cooke and Wikkerink. Carried.

**Renison.** Montero presented course changes for SWREN 423R, SWREN 424R, SWREN 431R, SWREN 434R, SWREN 470R, and an update to the Bachelor of Social Work Admission section of the calendar. Members discussed the removal of SDS 250R as a required prerequisite course and the affect on the methodology course

requirement. There was a motion to approve the course changes and admissions page revisions on behalf of Senate. Montero and Barra. Carried.

**Science.** Barra provided an overview of the following course inactivations of work-term report courses WKRPT 200S, 300S and 400S. There was a motion to approve the course inactivations on behalf of Senate. Barra and Charbonneau. Carried. Barra also provided an overview of the renewal of the joint academic agreement between Dalian Maritime University (DMU) and the University of Waterloo. Discussion included: the process included in section 3.2.1. “When possible, Waterloo staff will visit DMU annually during Waterloo’s Fall Term (September to December) to examine and interview Applicants for English language skills”; the need for more than one champion to ensure resiliency of an agreement; and the current status of the Dual Degree Admissions Specialist role. There was a motion to recommend that Senate approve the proposed renewal of the joint academic agreement between DMU and the University of Waterloo. Barra and Dayeh. Carried.

#### **5. DIGITAL LEARNING FRAMEWORK**

The chair spoke to the updated Digital Learning Framework included with the material and informed members that it had been approved by the Senate Graduate and Research Council (SGRC) at their November meeting to go forward to Senate. Members discussed concerns with the current Review and Approval Process, particularly with the timing and the potential for the process to be overly prescriptive or burdensome. The chair reminded members that the Review and Approval Process is still being developed and encouraged the Associate Deans and Undergraduate Operations Committee (UOps) to meet with Aldo Caputo to provide their feedback.

#### **6. CONSULTATION FOR MAJOR MODIFICATIONS**

McKenzie provided an update from the Quality Council, that in the new Quality Assurance Framework there is a new requirement for major modifications that “Input from current students and recent graduates of the program should be considered as part of the development of the [major modification], with the Proposal [written rationale] including a statement on the way in which the proposed major modification will improve the student experience”. McKenzie highlighted: additional information has been sent to the Associate Deans; recent graduates can be contacted through Alumni Relations; feedback should be anonymous; trivial changes, such as adding an ‘s’ to a program name, will only require proportional consultation; and that further guidance is anticipated.

#### **7. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

#### **8. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is Tuesday 13 December 2022, 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. in NH 3318

5 December 2022

Tim Weber-Kraljevski  
Associate University Secretary