

University of Waterloo
SENATE
Minutes of the Monday 20 June 2022 Meeting

Present: John Abraham, Jean Andrey, Marc Aucoin, Michael Beauchemin, Anne Bordeleau, Jeff Casello, Trevor Charles, Joan Coutu, Kim Cuddington, Lori Curtis, Laura Deakin, Charmaine Dean, Jack DeGooyer, David DeVidi, Nenone Donaldson, Catherine Dong, Benjamin Easton, Aiman Fatima, Paul Fieguth, Wendy Fletcher, Cindy Forbes, George Freeman, Mark Giesbrecht, Moira Glerum, Vivek Goel (chair), Rob Gorbet, Kelly Grindrod, David Ha, Kevin Hare, Dennis Huber, Natalie Hutchings, Sonia Ismail, Karen Jack (secretary), Narveen Jandu, Martin Karsten, Achim Kempf, Jennifer Kieffer, Veronica Kitchen, Christiane Lemieux, Robert Lemieux. Xianguo Li, Lili Liu, Kristina Llewellyn, Brad Lushman, Blake Madill, Ceileigh McAllister, Peter Meehan, Graham Murphy, Richard Myers, Erin O’Connell, Daniel O’Connor, Douglas Peers, Nicholas Pfeifle, Luke Potwarka, Mary Robinson, James Rush, Matthew Schwarze, Siv Sivaloganathan, Siva Sivoththaman, Julian Surdi, Chao Tan, Sharon Tucker, Graeme Turner, Diana Vangelisti, Paul Ward, Dan Weber, Stan Woo, Clarence Woudsma, Changbao Wu, Annie Yang, En-Hui Yang

Guests: Jean Becker, Sonya Buffone, Sarah Burch, Bruce Campbell, Aldo Caputo, Sam Charles, Adrien Cote, Donna Ellis, Jenny Flagler-George, Barbara Forrest, Anne Galang, Diana Goncalves, Sarah Hadley, Scott Inwood, Ross Johnston, Suzanne Kearns, Andrea Kelman, Megan Lambe, Nick Manning, Norah McRae, Bessma Momani, Kristiina Montero, Fayaz Noormohamed, Mary Power, Alice Raynard, Chris Read, Karim Sallaudin Karim, Allan Starr, Kerry Stryker, Sherri Sutherland, Mathew Thijssen, Sean Thomas, Ian Vanderburgh, Sarah Willey-Thomas

Absent: Dominic Barton*, Sandra Banks, Lisa Bauer-Leahy, Neil Craik*, Kristine Dalton*, Onurcan Gokkaya, Scott Kline, Alysia Kolentsis, Ellen MacEachen, Carol Ann MacGregor, Nasser Mohieddin Abukhdeir, Beth Namachchivaya, Cathy Newell Kelly, Oudy Noweir, Troy Osborne, Naima Samuel, Marcus Shantz*

*regrets

OPEN SESSION

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Senators were asked to declare any conflicts they may have in relation to the items on the agenda. No conflicts were declared.

CHAIR’S REMARKS

The chair welcomed Senators to meeting, including the new president of the Graduate Student Association, Julian Surdi, and remarked on those Senators attending their last meeting, Jean Andrey and Kristina Llewellyn. He also noted that June is Pride month, and Indigenous History month, and invited members to reflect on and participate in these cultural observances.

Consent Agenda

Senate heard a motion to approve or receive for information the items on the consent agenda.

Llewellyn and Hare.

1. MINUTES OF THE 16 MAY 2022 MEETING

Senate approved the minutes of the meeting.

2. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS

Senate Graduate & Research Council

Senate received the report for information.

Senate Undergraduate Council

Senate received the report for information.

3. REPORTS FROM THE FACULTIES

Senate received the reports for information.

4. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Senate approved Julian Surdi as the graduate student representative to the Senate Executive Committee (term to 30 April 2023).

The question was called and the motion carried with one abstention.

Regular Agenda

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising.

6. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS

Senate Executive Committee

Senate heard a motion to endorse the Executive Committee's Senate Governance Review Report and its recommendations.

Freeman and Hare.

The president spoke to the excellent conversations that occurred at the committee's meetings over the past five months and he invited Senators to review the report for the common themes that emerged. He spoke to the accountability framework and the proposed timing of implementing the recommendations. In discussion: some concern from a Senator that the report is a good start, but lacks coverage of some key issues; agreement from some for the desirability of moving away from "rubber-stamping"; an observation that the implementation of a portal will help to address some technical issues; agreement with the need to find paths to Senate for some key discussions that are not occurring now; that endorsing the report will enable work to begin in effecting changes.

The question was called and the motion passed with two abstentions.

Graduate & Research Council

Following a brief overview of the report from Casello, Senate heard motions to approve:

Several Faculties joining the Collaborative Aeronautics Program (CAP), effective 1 September 2022. Casello and Dean. Carried unanimously.

Updating the MEng in Electrical and Computer Engineering degree requirements to include one new Graduate Specialization in Business Leadership, effective 1 September 2022. Casello and Fieguth. Carried unanimously.

A direct entry Co-operative program/option to the MEng in Electrical and Computer Engineering program., effective 1 September 2022. Casello and Fieguth. Carried unanimously.

Adding a new Master's Research Paper with Internship study option to the Master of Environmental Studies in Social and Ecological Sustainability, effective 1 September 2022. Casello and Andrey. Carried unanimously.

Changing the PhD and MSc program names to align with the following recent department and school name changes, effective 1 September 2022.

Casello and Liu. Carried unanimously.

The discontinuation of the coursework study option from Master of Mathematics in Computer Science and the Co-operative Program, effective 1 September 2022.

Casello and Giesbrecht. Carried unanimously.

Senate Long Range Planning Committee

The president observed: that the report distributed with the agenda summarizes the key points of discussion about “Waterloo @ 100”; that a first draft of the paper will be worked on over the summer and consultations will occur in the fall; that Senate will be invited to part of the Board of Governors Retreat on 28 September to participate in a visioning exercise about the activity; that the committee will be meeting about it in September and beyond; that a final draft of the report will be ready for Senate’s and Board’s consideration in early 2023. There were no questions.

Senate Undergraduate Council

Following a brief overview of the report from DeVidi, Senate heard a motion to approve the inactivation of the Honors Chemistry, Biobased Specialization, effective 1 September 2023.

DeVidi and R. Lemieux. Carried unanimously.

7. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Strategic Plan Update - Research

The president invited Dean to present the strategic plan research update. Dean was joined by Karim Karim, associate vice-president, commercialization and entrepreneurship, Adrien Cote, executive director of Velocity, and Scott Inwood, director of commercialization. In turn, Senators heard about: the office of commercialization and entrepreneurship (the provincial environment; connecting to the Strategic Plan; key members of the office of C&E); some details about the office (vision; mission; key pillars; support for innovators; engagement with the ecosystem; thought leadership; Velocity; the Waterloo Commercialization Office (WatCo); future considerations.

In discussion, Dean affirmed the continued and ongoing commitment to basic research throughout the Office of Research. There were no other questions.

President’s Update

In a wide-ranging report, the president offered updates on: the increase of in-person events on campus; the excellent convocation ceremonies that occurred earlier in the month and the important steps taken to include new Indigenous elements with openings and closings provided by Elder Myeengun Henry and drumming and singing by the Cedar Hill Singers; the address to students by Ukrainian president Zelenskyy being organized this week. He invited Rick Myers, president of St. Paul’s University College to speak to a pending name change for his institution. Myers advised Senators about the name change to United College and spoke to some of the rationale for the change which will be effective on 24 September.

8. REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, ACADEMIC & PROVOST

Rush invited David DeVidi, and Ian Vanderburgh, from the Complementary Teaching Assessment Project to provide Senators with an update on the ongoing work. Senators heard about: the Complementary Teaching Assessment Project team; key goals of the second phase; some work being one on peer review of teaching, teaching dossiers, principles, and important factors; the main focus of the update: summative PRT, including: consultations, use for non-faculty instructions, implementation and adaptation to come, concerns around bias, and results.

In discussion: the growing sense of community; some of the work to follow; plans for training for the peer review process, and, that this is a priority; the complementarity of the plans with existing student surveys; expressions of thanks for the work done to date.

Rush next provided his general update, touching on: the recent convocation celebrations; student services updates; the coming suspension of the campus mask requirement; fall term confirmations; the advent of the new Council of Academic Leaders; some accomplishments and work being done on the budget and integrated planning review.

In discussion: how the decision to not extend the mask requirement aligns with advice from the Region; senior leaders will revisit the mask decision if public health conditions suggest it; from the president that the intention is to hold Senate meetings in person in the fall; support for the sentiments expressed by the provost that community members must remain cooperative and respectful to one another as the University continues to manage through the pandemic.

9. REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, RESEARCH & INTERNATIONAL

In light of the time, Dean did not present and Senate received her report for information.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

Senate convened in confidential session.

21 July 2022

Karen Jack
University Secretary