University of Waterloo
SENATE UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL
Minutes of the 7 March 2023 Meeting
[in agenda order]


Regrets: Vivian Dayeh, Henry Cheung, Jason Grove

Resources/Guests: Angela Christelis, Jennifer Coghlin, Andrew Houston, Andrew Hunt, Danielle Jeanneault, Grit Liebscher, Carrie MacKinnon

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 7 MARCH 2023 MINUTES AND BUSINESS ARISING
The minutes were approved without formal motion. There was no business arising from the minutes.

3. Academic Program Reviews

FAR - Theatre and Performance: Andrew Houston and Grit Liebscher joined the meeting. Liebscher spoke to the Final Assessment report, highlighting: the recent hire of two new tenure-track faculty members; updates to the Humanities Theatre; the creation of a curriculum committee, the comprehensive review of curriculum, centering core pedagogical values and EDI, and connecting with CTE; integrating core performances into the program; new possibilities for delivering content that can be taught by program staff; and support for the co-op program. Members discussed: co-op opportunities, setting expectations for co-op students, and the Co-op for Social Good program; balancing foundational canonical content with an openness of voices that have been invisible in dominant culture; and the program’s commitments to beauty and justice. Houston and Liebscher left the meeting.

There was a motion to approve the Theatre and Performance report on behalf of Senate. Acheson and Ferries. Carried.

History: Andrew Hunt joined the meeting. Hunt spoke to the two-year progress report, highlighting: the progress on growing the co-op stream; being mindful of broadening of course offerings to look at people and places that have been traditionally overlooked by the program and the recent faculty hires supporting this; and additional context for the recommendation on support staff. Members discussed: clarification on if the co-op students presented in the report were Honours Arts co-op students or Arts and Business co-op students; the tone of the report and steps being taken for the next round; instituting a permanent curriculum committee; and the inclusion of only Department Faculty members with the exclusion of the AFIW faculty members in the program. Hunt left the meeting.

Members recommended the editorial change to include the AFIW faculty members in the report and discussed the Institutional Quality Assurance Process (IQAP) for programs that include faculty members from the AFIW. There was a motion to approve the History report with the editorial change on behalf of Senate. Auston and Newell Kelly. Carried.
Liberal Studies: Acheson spoke to the two-year progress report, highlighting: the increasing enrolment, and the popularity of the Honours option (introduced in 2019) and the co-op option (introduced in 2020); and the program’s alignment to the universities’ strategies priorities by offering flexible paths and being interdisciplinary. Acheson left the meeting.

There was a motion to approve the Liberal Studies report on behalf of Senate. Motion Charbonneau and Barra. Carried. Acheson rejoined the meeting.

4. CURRICULAR ITEMS FOR APPROVAL & INFORMATION

Environment and Science. Wandel presented course changes for Geography & Environmental Management and Interdisciplinary Studies. There was a motion to approve the course changes on behalf of Senate. Wandel and Barra. Carried.

5. SENATE GOVERNANCE REVIEW

The chair provided an overview of the Sketch of SUC Subcommittees document. Members discussed: AFIW representation on the subcommittee and that the ADUs from the AFIW members on the subcommittee should be updated to the correct term; the potential time of subcommittee meetings; the possibility of making changes to the subcommittee and Senate QA committee in the future; allowing for important or controversial items to still go to Senate as needed; and the practice for QA committees at other institutions, the workload for the proposed QA committee, and the committee’s membership. The Associate Deans were asked to provide the approval mapping for their Faculty. The chair and the secretary will put together a draft proposal for Senate to be discussed at the next meeting.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

7. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is Tuesday 11 April 2023, 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. in NH 3318

Tim Weber-Kraljevski
Associate University Secretary