

University of Waterloo
SENATE GRADUATE & RESEARCH COUNCIL
Minutes of the November 18, 2024 Meeting

Present: Steven Bednarski, Sue Ann Campbell, David Clausi, Ashley Day (secretary), Robert de Loe, Peter Deadman, Charmaine Dean (co-chair), Mrittika Dresha, Bernard Duncker, Anna Esselment, Ana Ferrer, Brian Ingalls, Julie Joza, Brian Laird, Joseph Meleshko, Ian Milligan, Carlee Ann Montgomery, Marina Mourtzakis, Nicholas Pellegrino, Martin Ross, Marianne Simm, Siva Sivoththaman, Mike Szarka, Justin Wan (co-chair)

Resources/Guests: Angela Christelis, Trevor Clews, Jennifer Coghlin, Mike Grivicic, Alison Hitchins, Carrie MacKinnon Molson

Absent: Neela Hassan, Abhishesh Homagain, Shirley Tang, Clarence Woudsma

Organization of Meeting: Charmaine Dean and Justin Wan took the chair in Woudsma's absence, and Ashley Day acted as secretary. The secretary advised that a quorum was present. The agenda was approved without formal motion.

1. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No conflicts of interest were declared.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council heard a motion to approve or receive for information the items of the consent agenda. Item 4a was requested to be pulled into the regular agenda for discussion by Laird. Pellegrino and Ferrer. Carried

2. MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 21, 2024 MEETING

Council approved the minutes of the meeting as distributed.

3. GRADUATE AWARDS'

Council received the following for decision:

4. Cornfield PhD Fellowship in Sustainable Energy Systems – trust
5. Wefers Bettink Family Graduate Scholarship – endowment
6. Severin Hacker PhD Fellowship in Amblyopia Research – trust
7. Statistics and Actuarial Science Graduate Entrance Award – operating
8. Civil and Environmental Engineering Graduate Award – operating
9. Tikkun Olam Award – trust
10. Innovation in Psychology Graduate Scholarship – trust
11. Major Graduate Award for Innovation in Engineering – trust
12. Major Graduate Award for Innovation in Science - trust

Council received the following for information:

13. Statistics and Actuarial Science Chair's Graduate Award – operating

14. CURRICULAR SUBMISSIONS

- 4.1 Faculty of Engineering (Siva Sivoththaman)
- 4.2 Faculty of Environment (Peter Deadman)
- 4.3 Faculty of Science (Martin Ross)

Amendment post package distribution: The effective date for the Master of Science (MSc) in Chemistry - Quantum Information Chemistry on page 202 shall be amended from Winter 2023 to Winter 2025.

- 4.4 Faculty of Math (Brian Laird)

REGULAR AGENDA

15. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising from the minutes.

16. CO-CHAIR'S REMARKS

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Dean spoke to Institutional Partnerships forum and town halls that have recently happened. Council was reminded how important these engagement opportunities are to support development of institutional guidelines. SGRC was encouraged to provide feedback. Milligan asked for any additional feedback to be sent to the institutional email taskforce-partnerships@uwaterloo.ca by Friday November 22.

Dean introduced Justin Wan who has stepped in as co-chair in Woudsma's absence for the November SGRC meeting. Wan spoke to his role as Interim Co-AVP, Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs and research area of scientific computing.

Dean then provided the following brief updates:

17. Council members were encouraged to attend the University Operating Budget Town Hall taking place in the afternoon of November 18. Feedback can also be sent to budget@uwaterloo.ca.

18. There is a call for nominations for membership of the Presidential Nominating Committee. SGRC members are encouraged to participate. Additional information can be found on the Secretariat website.

19. CREATE Tri-Council quota will be provided to us by the end of the year. There will be competitive review, and we have been encouraged by the agency to submit beyond the quota.

20. 2025-2026 ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Coghlin introduced the item as an annual submission to SUC and SGRC prior to approval at Senate at the November meeting. The attached guidelines were used during the creation of the calendar.

A motion was heard to recommend that Senate approve the 2025-2026 calendar dates as presented. Ross and Milligan. Carried.

21. GRADUATE STUDIES ACADEMIC CALENDAR CHANGES

Simm presented the proposed changes to the graduate calendar. There is progress being made to review sections and make updates, reflect changes and identify any gaps. There are five items in total in the package as presented.

A motion was heard to recommend that Senate approve the following Graduate Studies Academic Calendar changes, effective 1 January 2025, as presented. Simm and Esselment. Carried

22. OPEN RESEARCH CONFERENCE

Milligan presented a short overview of the recent Open Research Conference and the current challenges, and multiple understandings of what open research is across departments. Open discussion took place at the event on Balancing Open Science and Research Security, and the Need for Cultural and Structural Change. Examples shared during discussions included positive research data sharing, the need to protect research, and examples of dangerous research sharing. Outcomes from the discussions will be used to develop principles as a next step.

23. CURRICULAR SUBMISSIONS

10.1 Faculty of Engineering (Siva Sivoththaman)

A member of council requested that the consent item be pulled into the regular agenda, specifically the creation of the new MSE 619 Healthcare Analytics course in the Department of Management Science and Engineering. Laird spoke to the change being supported by the Faculty of Health but wanted to note that the school of health sciences will move from health informatics to analytics in 2025 and would like to ensure there is no overlap between Faculties. Sivoththaman and Laird to connect offline to ensure faculty teaching are communicating and to monitor any overlap.

A motion was heard to approve the new course, MSE 619, with the understanding that the Faculties will communicate any duplication of effort. Sivoththaman and Esselment. Carried

As part of the regular agenda, Sivoththaman spoke to the calendar change requests and adding a number of specializations. It was noted that there is an amendment post package distribution: The effective date for the Master of Engineering (MEng) in Mechanical and Mechatronics Engineering on page 323 shall be amended from Winter 2023 to Winter 2025.

A motion was heard to recommend that Senate approve the following major modifications, effective May 1, 2025, as presented. Sivoththaman and Ross. Carried

10.2 Faculty of Environment (Peter Deadman)

Deadman introduced the major modification to the Master of Development Practice which will reduce the number of required courses from 13 to 9; and remove the Graduate Studies Practicum milestone.

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A motion was heard to recommend that Senate approve the following major modifications, effective 1 January 2025, as presented. Deadman and Esselment. Carried.

24. DORA WORKSHOP

Milligan presented an overview on the Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA). Milligan spoke to who has signed DORA to date (McGill, Montreal, Calgary and more to come). There are 18 general recommendations. Milligan spoke to number 4 and 5 specifically (research publications, and research outputs). The Tri-agencies recently announced the move to narrative CVs which will provide a more holistic overview of a candidate and a better understanding of how candidates fit with initiatives. So far, Milligan has received feedback from six Faculties with helpful engagement. Milligan confirmed that policy 76 and 77 could not be opened up should UW join.

The groups broke out for discussion. Questions included: *What do you think the biggest challenges are in implementing DORA at the University of Waterloo? Do you think we should sign DORA? What challenges might arise in your unit, and why? What solutions might overcome these challenges? Given these challenges, what's your overall recommendation on a pathway forward?*

Milligan will share an analysis of the group discussions at a future SGRC meeting prior to a recommendation to Senate.

25. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no further business.

26. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting adjourned. The next meeting will be held on Monday, January 27, 2025, 10:30 a.m. to noon in NH 3318.

November 20, 2024

Ashley Day
Governance Officer
Secretariat