

University of Waterloo
SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Minutes of the January 12, 2026 Meeting

Present: Ashley Day (Secretary), Laura Deakin, Tom Duever, Vivek Goel (Chair), Vikas Gupta, Nadine Ibrahim, Carol Ann MacGregor, Blake Madill, Damian Mikhail, David Porreca, Rida Sayed, Jessica Rindlisbacher, Mark Seasons, James Skidmore, Justin Wan

Resources/Guests: David DeVidi, Jenny Flager-George, Gen Gauthier-Chalifour, Andrea Kelman, Tony Ly

Regrets: Mark Ferro

1. Governance Resources

This item was provided for information only.

2. Open Session

3. Approval of Minutes

3.1 Conflict of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

3.2. Minutes of November 10, 2025 Meeting

No amendments were brought forward. A motion was heard to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2025 meeting. Deakin and Porreca. Carried.

3.3 Business Arising

No matters of business arising were identified.

4. Reports to the Senate Executive Committee

4.1. Senate Engagement Working Group Update

Laura Deakin, Co-Chair of the Senate Engagement Working Group, provided an update on the progress of the working group. Discussions of the working group so far have focused on defining meeting expectations, how to bring motions forward, enhanced communications and ensuring varied voices are heard. The working group will bring an update to Senate at its November meeting.

4.2. Appointment of Chancellor Review Committee

Vivek Goel, Chair of the Senate Executive Committee (SEC), spoke to the report as provided in the materials. As is long-standing practice, SEC traditionally serves as the Chancellor Nominating/Review Committee. The motion is brought forward to SEC and to Senate so the review may take place with ample time to reappoint Bachher, should the committee nominate him for a second term. A consultation plan will be brought forward to the next meeting of SEC.

A motion was heard that the Senate Executive Committee recommend that Senate appoint the Senate Executive Committee to serve as the Chancellor Review Committee. Gupta and Deakin. Carried.

4.3. SEC Mandate Review

Ashley Day, Secretary to the SEC, spoke to the environmental scan provided in the meeting materials. It was noted that the Senate Engagement Working Group is concurrently having related discussions to Senate and committee effectiveness, and that future outcomes from the working group may inform the SEC mandate review in the coming months.

Members discussed committee nomenclature, comparator committee oversight of nominations and

elections, transparency around the work of SEC, and governance effectiveness and oversight.

5. Senate Agenda Preparation

5.1. Senate Work Plan 25/26

This item was provided for information only.

5.2. Draft Senate Agenda for January 26, 2026

Goel provided an overview of the draft agenda for the January 26, 2026 meeting of Senate.

A motion was heard that the Senate Executive Committee approve the January 26, 2025 Senate agenda as presented. Porreca and Deakin. Carried.

6. Other Business

No other business was identified.

7. Adjournment

It was noted that the next meeting of the Senate Executive Committee will be held on February 17, 2026, from 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

January 14, 2026

Ashley Day
Associate University Secretary