

**University of Waterloo
SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Minutes of the April 20, 2026 Meeting**

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

Resources: David DeVidi, Jenny Flager-George, Tony Ly, Genevieve Gauthier-Chalifour

Guests: Marcus Shantz, Samir Sharma

Regrets: Laura Deakin, Blake Madill

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 March 24, 2026 Meeting

A minor typo was brought forward for correction from Seasons.

A motion was heard to approve the minutes of the March 24, 2026 meeting, as amended. Skidmore and Porreca. Carried.

3.3 Business Arising from the Minutes

There were no items of business arising.

4. Reports to the Senate Executive Committee

4.1 Senate Engagement Working Group Update

Marcus Shantz, Co-Chair of the Senate Engagement Working Group, provided an update on the progress of the working group and gave an overview of the Bylaw 1 amendments and draft Rules of Procedure, as provided in the meeting materials.

The Committee discussed the need to be mindful when allotting time on the agenda for the proposed new informal sessions, and the use of the consent agenda to make time for informal or strategic items. Members inquired about Senate having the same duty of obedience as the Board. Vivek Goel, President and Vice-Chancellor, and Chair of the Senate Executive Committee (SEC), clarified that senators are expected to act in the institution's best interests; however, the principle of "speaking with one voice" applies to the Board of Governors, not to Senate.

A suggestion was made to add *call the question* to motion examples provided the Rules of Procedure document.

Goel noted that the Rules of Procedure would be assessed after the first year of use.

5. Senate Agenda Preparation

5.1 Senate Work Plan 25/26

This item was provided for information only.

5.2 Draft May 4, 2026 Senate Meeting Book

The Chair provided an overview of the main items on the May Senate agenda.

A motion was heard that the Senate Executive Committee approve the May 4, 2026 Senate agenda, as presented. Porreca and Seasons. Carried.

The committee then moved into confidential session.

Marcus Shantz and Samir Sharma left the meeting.