

University of Waterloo
SENATE
Minutes of the Monday 15 May 2023 Meeting
[in agenda order]

Present: John Abraham, Nasser Abukhdeir, Sheila Ager, Marc Aucoin, Lisa Aultman-Hall, Sandra Banks, Jeff Casello, Trevor Charles, Joan Coutu, Kristine Dalton, Laura Deakin, Charmaine Dean, David DeVidi, Nenone Donaldson, Mark Ferro, Mark Giesbrecht, Vivek Goel (chair), Kelly Grindrod, Vikas Gupta, David Ha, Peter Hall, Kevin Hare, Neela Hassan, Nadine Ibrahim, Martin Karsten, Acey Kaspar, Andrea Kelman (Secretary), Jennifer Kieffer, Veronica Kitchen, Scott Kline, Christiane Lemieux, Brad Lushman, Stephanie Maaz, Shana MacDonald, Ellen MacEachen, Carol Ann MacGregor, Blake Madill, Colleen Maxwell, Peter Meehan, Kristiina Montero, Cathy Newell Kelly, Chris Nielsen, Rory Norris, James Nugent, Erin O'Connell, Troy Osborne, David Porreca, Luke Potwarka, Jacinda Reitsma, Cynthia Richard, Mary Robinson, James Rush, Beth Sandore Namachchivaya, Rida Sayed, Asher Scaini, Marcus Shantz, Sivabal Sivaloganathan, Siva Sivoththaman, James Skidmore, Sharon Tucker, Graeme Turner, Dan Weber, Mary Wells, Clarence Woudsma

Guests: Jean Becker, Aldo Caputo, Michael Dorr, Donna Ellis, Anne Galang, Diana Goncalves, Paul Feiguth, Jenny Flagler-George, Barbara Forrest, Sarah Hadley, Michele Hollis, Ross Johnston, Nick Manning, Norah McRae, Ian Milligan, Fayaz Noormohamed, Chris Read, Ian Rowlands, Daniela Seskar-Hencic, Nadia Singh, Kathy Smidt, Sherri Sutherland, Brandon Sweet, Tim Weber-Kraljevski, Sarah Willey-Thomas, Caitlin Vaux, Katy Wong-Francq

Absent: Dominic Barton, Aubrey Basdeo, Judy Castaneda, Kim Cuddington, Jack DeGooyer, Catherine Dong, Aiman Fatima, Wendy Fletcher, Bruce Frayne, Murray Gamble, Rob Gorbet, Natalie Hutchings, Sonia Ismail, Narveen Jandu, Achim Kempf, Alysia Kolentsis, Robert Lemieux, Xianguo Li, Lili Liu, Jennifer Lynes Murray, Ceileigh McAllister, Richard Myers, Erin O'Connell, John Saabas, Labibah Salim J Ali, Diana Vangelisti, Stanley Woo, Changbao Wu, Annie Yang

*regrets

OPEN SESSION

CHAIR'S REMARKS

The chair welcomed new members whose terms began May 1, 2023, and announced that, following approval at the Special Senate and Board of Governors meetings in April 2023, Professor Chris Houser will join the University of Waterloo as Dean of the Faculty of Science for a five-year term commencing July 1, 2023.

The chair informed members that the Senate Self-Assessment Survey deadline has been extended to allow for greater participation, and encouraged those eligible senators to complete the survey, if they had not already done so. The chair also announced a Senate Orientation Module has been created to provide a general overview of governance at Waterloo, the roles and responsibilities of the Senate, and how to prepare for and what to expect at Senate meetings. All senators, and particularly new senators, were encouraged to complete the module. Finally, the chair reminded members that that nominations for honorary degree recipients are due May 31, 2023. Senators were encouraged to submit nominations and to encourage their colleagues to submit nominations as well.

1. 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.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

A motion was heard to approve the agenda as distributed. Skidmore and Porreca. Carried with one abstention.

3. MINUTES OF THE 17 APRIL 2023 MEETING

A motion was heard to approve the minutes as distributed. Newell Kelly and Porreca. Carried.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising.

5. SENATE WORKPLAN

Goel noted that the workplan had been updated to reflect the reduction of meetings from ten to eight annually, that was approved with the amendment to Senate Bylaw 1 that received the second and final reading at the 17 April 2023 meeting. This item was received for information.

6. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

a. President's Update

Goel provided his report:

- With May as Asian Heritage month, Goel noted this offers the opportunity to pay special attention to the vital roles our community members of Asian heritage play in the success of our institution, while also recognizing the important work needed to eliminate anti-Asian racism, and all forms of racism, on our campuses.
- He highlighted the conflict in Sudan and its toll on life and peace adds to a growing list of humanitarian crises around the world, and informed members that Ian Rowlands and Waterloo International had issued a statement on behalf of the University expressing concern regarding the ongoing conflict in Sudan and sympathy for those impacted by events there.
- On May 8, 2023 the university welcomed 27 successful applicants for its second summer research program for students from Ukraine. This program runs from May to August 2023 and is designed for 4th year bachelor, master, and doctoral students from Ukrainian universities whose studies were affected by Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine.
- On April 24, 2023 the Globe and Mail reported on a memo sent to our research community and graduate students, and on May 3, 2023 the Toronto Star reported on Waterloo ending its partnerships with Huawei. The Office of the Vice-President, Research and International has developed a safeguarding research workplan and has identified activities to assist faculty with their research to enhance successful outcomes and to safeguard their work. As well, Vice-President Dean has been leading the sector-wide development of best practices around safeguarding research in line with the federal and Ontario provincial governments, and has been engaged in regular conversations with peer institutions in the U15 and with government agencies.
- Goel hosted a Queen's Park Reception with over 30 MPPs, including MCU Minister Jill Dunlop and several of their cabinet colleagues, in attendance. The focus on the event was how the University is driving innovation, from industry partnerships, research commercialization and entrepreneurialism.
- On May 5, 2023 Waterloo hosted, in partnership with Health Canada, Statistics Canada and Canadian Institute for Health Information, a conference in Ottawa entitled Cybersecurity, Privacy, and Artificial Intelligence in Health Data: Advancements and Challenges.
- A recent Financial Times article titled "Toronto capitalises on tech success," said, "few outside of Canada had heard of the University of Waterloo in sleepy south-west Ontario. Today, it is widely regarded to be a breeding-ground for world-class tech talent." and quoted Lauren Haw, chief executive of Toronto-based real estate platform Zoocasa, that "Waterloo is like saying you went to Harvard Law".
- As noted at last Senate, on April 21 the University of Waterloo, in partnership with MaRS Discovery District, hosted the Waterloo Innovation Summit which brought together some of the world's leading experts on sustainable aeronautics, electric and autonomous vehicles, clean energy and urban planning to reimagine the future of local and global transportation.
- On May 23, Prince Hussain Aga Khan will engage in a fireside conversation at Humanities Theatre, to share his work and photography on the devastating impact of plastic pollution and human activity on marine life and the environment.

- Spring 2023 Convocation will be on June 13 to 17, 2023 and members were encouraged to take part and to encourage their colleagues to do so also.

Members discussed the university's approach to safeguarding research, steps being taken, concerns from researchers, and opportunities for consultation through an upcoming town hall and further discussion at future Senate meetings.

7. REPORT – SENATE GRADUATE & RESEARCH COUNCIL

a. Major Program Modification to the Master of Engineering (MEng) in Mechanical and Mechatronics Engineering – Co-operative Program

Casello provided an overview of the item, and a motion was heard that Senate approve adding a direct entry Co-operative program/option to the MEng in Mechanical and Mechatronics Engineering Program, effective 1 September 2023, as presented. Casello and Wells. Carried.

b. Major Program Modification to the Graduate Diploma (GDip) in Design Engineering and Graduate Diploma (GDip) in Design Engineering – Cooperative Program

Casello provided an overview of the item, and a motion was heard that Senate approve discontinuing the type 2 GDip in Design Engineering and the type 2 GDip in Design Engineering – Co-operative Program, effective 1 September 2023, as presented. Casello and Wells. Carried.

c. Major Program Modification to the Master of Mathematics (MMath) in Statistics

Casello provided an overview of the item, and a motion was heard that Senate approve discontinuing the coursework study option from the MMath in Statistics program, effective 1 September 2023, as presented. Casello and Giesbrecht. Carried.

8. REPORT – SENATE UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL

a. Closure of Application to Part-Time On-Campus Three-Year General Science Program

Newell Kelly provided an overview of the item, and a motion was heard that Senate approve the closure of application to part-time on campus Three-Year General Science program, effective 1 September 2023, as presented. Newell Kelly and Ager. Carried with one abstention.

9. AMENDMENTS TO POLICY 33 – ETHICAL BEHAVIOUR

Goel provided an overview of the item, and a motion was heard that Senate approve the amendments to Policy 33, as presented, and that Senate recommends the amendments to the Board of Governors for approval. Rush and Porreca.

Members discussed: the rationale for making the amendment to Policy 33 instead of Policy 42; the commitment to relook at the requirements within a year's time; and concerns with Bill 26 and government intervention in university policy.

The motion carried with one opposed and one abstention.

10. AMENDMENT TO BYLAW 4 – Ex-OFFICIO MEMBERSHIP

Goel provided an overview of the item and a motion was heard that Senate gives second and final reading to the amendments to Senate Bylaw 4 as presented, with said amendments to effect:

- i. Removal of the Vice-President, Advancement, the Vice-President University Relations, and the Deputy Provost, Integrated Planning and Budgeting as ex-officio members of Senate
- ii. Addition of the Associate Vice-President, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Anti-Racism, the Associate Vice-President, Indigenous Relations, and the Associate Vice-President Academic Operations as ex-officio members of Senate

Newell Kelly and Casello. Carried with one abstention.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was heard to approve or receive for information the items on the consent agenda, listed as items 11-15 of the Senate agenda. Porreca and Skidmore. Carried.

11. REPORT – SENATE GRADUATE & RESEARCH COUNCIL

Received for information.

12. REPORT – SENATE UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL

One item approved; remaining item received for information.

- a. That Senate approve the proposed academic regulation revision to the second degree and degree upgrades for the Faculty of Health, effective 1 September 2024, as presented.

13. REPORT – HONORARY DEGREE COMMITTEE

Received for information.

14. REPORT – COU ACADEMIC COLLEAGUE

Received for information.

15. REPORT – VICE-PRESIDENT, RESEARCH & INTERNATIONAL

Received for information.

16. REPORT OF THE PROVOST – FACULTY APPOINTMENTS, LEAVES

Received for information.

17. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

With no further business in open session, Senate convened in confidential session.

16 May 2023
AK/twk/dg

Andrea Kelman
University Secretary (Acting)
Secretary to Senate