

University of Waterloo
SENATE GRADUATE & RESEARCH COUNCIL
Minutes of the 9 January 2023 Meeting
[in agenda order]
Needles Hall 3318/3308

Present: Derek Armitage, Ramona Bobocel, Jeff Casello, Charmaine Dean, Rob de Loe, Maureen Drysdale, Bernie Duncker, Anna Esselment, Aiman Fatima, Bertrand Guenin, Alison Hitchens, Ryan Johnson, Julie Joza, Brian Laird, William McIlroy, Ian Milligan, Liz Nilsen, Jennifer Reid, Martin Ross, Manoj Sachdev, Marianne Simm, Siva Sivoththaman, Mike Szarka, Shirley Tang, Kathy Winter (secretary)

Resources: Carrie MacKinnon, Amanada McKenzie

Guests: Richard Wikkerink

Regrets: Zerihun Kinate, Anita Layton, Julian Surdi*, Shawn Wettig

Organization of Meeting: Charmaine Dean, co-chair of the council, took the chair, and Kathy Winter acted as secretary. The secretary advised that due notice of the meeting had been given, a quorum was present, and the meeting was properly constituted.

DECLARATIONS OF 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. Hitchens and Laird. Carried.

1. MINUTES OF 12 DECEMBER 2022

Council approved the minutes of the meeting as distributed.

2. RESEARCH ETHICS

Council approved a membership update to the Human Research Ethics Board.

3. GRADUATE AWARDS

Council received items a for information.

REGULAR AGENDA

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising.

5. CO-CHAIRS' REMARKS

Casello updated council: (a) Policy 30, Employment of Graduate Student Teaching Assistants - was approved by Provost and will go to [16 January 2023](#) Senate for information; thank you to drafting committee members, including Reid; Casello will advise as to consistent messaging on the policy roll out across faculties, and (b) adjudication for postdoctoral [funding competitions](#) has begun (117 applications for the 3 competitions); evaluation committee soon to convene and a representative from Engineering still needed. Dean outlined 3 processes under Duncker's portfolio (i.e., senior awards/graduate teaching and research, core facilities and commitments to being a more sustainable institution, and core partnerships and commercialization) and stated plans to keep this council routinely apprised.

6. GRADUATE STUDIES AND POSTDOCTORAL AFFAIRS VISIONING EXERCISE

Speaking to his presentation, *Towards a proposed vision: Graduate studies at Waterloo*, as circulated, Casello outlined: Waterloo's necessary and aspirational vision ("the best and most sought-after") for graduate studies and graduate students, the importance of facilitating and catalyzing student-centric pathways in the creation of a cohesive framework of excellence; and the requirement for deliberate collaboration and coordination amongst campus stakeholders. Casello outlined the first 2 of 6 actions toward attainment: (1) attract, recruit, and confirm exceptional students and scholars equitable, diversely, and inclusively; (2) facilitate academic, personal, and professional student-centered pathways through unique suites of options, interdisciplinarity, and experiential opportunities. In discussion: importance of continued graduate student input (GSA, GSRC, focus groups) in establishing and realizing this vision; leveraging alumni strength and impacts; building brand identity within faculties; connecting vision to Waterloo Strategic Plan, Waterloo at 100; funding (impacts of external funding and revenue neutral course-based programs); supervisor resources, capacity, expectations, and identity through impactful graduate students; garnering meaningful and effective metrics through new and existing data. Casello's presentation to be continued 13 February 2023 SGRC (slide 13).

7. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

8. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held Monday 13 February 2023 from 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon in NH3318.