

University of Waterloo
SENATE GRADUATE & RESEARCH COUNCIL
Minutes of the 13 February 2023 Meeting
[in agenda order]
Needles Hall 3318/3308

Present: Derek Armitage, Ramona Bobocel, Jeff Casello, Nancy Collins (for Alison Hitchens), Rob de Loe, Maureen Drysdale, Bernie Duncker, Anna Esselment, Bertrand Guenin, Julie Joza, Ian Milligan, Liz Nilsen, Jennifer Reid, Martin Ross, Marianne Simm, Siva Sivoththaman, Mike Szarka, Shawn Wettig, Kathy Winter (secretary).

Resources: Trevor Clews, Angela Christelis, Carrie MacKinnon-Molson

Guests: Richard Wikkerink, Clarence Woudsma, Leia Minaker

Regrets: Charmaine Dean*, Aiman Fatima, Ryan Johnson*, Zerihun Kinate, Brian Laird*, Anita Layton, William McIlroy, Manoj Sachdev, Julian Surdi*, Shirley Tang

Organization of Meeting: Jeff Casello, 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. Milligan and Guenin. Carried.

1. MINUTES OF 9 JANUARY 2023

Council approved the minutes of the meeting as distributed.

2. CURRICULAR SUBMISSIONS

Council approved items a and b as presented.

3. GRADUATE AWARDS

Council approved item a, as presented.

REGULAR AGENDA

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising.

5. CO-CHAIRS' REMARKS

In light of fulsome agenda, Casello remarked only briefly upon: (a) [funding competitions](#) - 120 applications; (b) graduate student financial support, including new [Research Assistant and Teaching Assistant rates](#).

6. GRADUATE STUDIES - ACADEMIC CALENDAR CHANGES 2023/24

Council heard a motion to recommend to Senate the approval and adoption of new: (a) class components definitions and (b) class delivery mode definitions, for the Graduate Studies Academic Calendar in alignment with the same additions to the Undergraduate Academic Calendar, effective 1 September 2023. Item (a) moved forward to a vote following minor discussion of “field study” terminology where it was subsequently clarified that this applied to both teaching and research—whether indoors or outdoors. In contrast, as a result of more extensive discussion regarding “blended” and “online” terminology, council tabled item (b) pending further clarification and consideration of class delivery modes at the graduate level. Simm and Nilsen. Carried.

7. NEW PROGRAM: MASTER OF FUTURE CITIES (MFC)

Council heard a motion to recommend to Senate to approve a new interdisciplinary course-based Master of Future Cities (MFC), offered by the Faculty of Environment, as presented. Leia Minaker (incoming program director) and Clarence Woudsma from the School of Planning, provided an overview of the new program and council discussed: feasibility of a fall 2023 program start date (Simm confirmed viability even taking into consideration Senate and Quality Council pending approvals); program review date (2-year mark); degree type naming convention (MFC was chosen because the tuition and per-course tuition structure differ from other Master of Environmental Studies (MES) programs). Armitage and de Loe. Carried.

8. POTENTIAL AMENDMENTS TO ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULE OF SENATE

Council considered the proposed amendments to the annual meeting schedule of Senate, as distributed. In discussion: possible implications for certain council business (e.g., curricular submissions, new programs, centres and institutes) where it was concluded that the reduced number of Senate meeting dates would be viable.

9. CURRICULAR SUBMISSIONS

Faculty of Engineering.

Council heard a motion to recommend to Senate two major program revisions to the Master of Engineering (MEng) in Chemical Engineering: (a) adding a direct entry Co-operative program/option (enrollment targets set and to be evaluated with assistance of Co-operative Education) and (b) adding one new graduate specialization in entrepreneurship, effective 1 May 2023, as presented. Sivoththaman and Esselment. Carried.

Faculty of Health.

Council heard a motion to recommend to Senate one major program revision to the Master of Kinesiology (MKin) degree: (a) adding two new graduate specializations in Human Factors and Ergonomics (HFE) and Movement and Exercise Sciences (MES), effective 1 May 2023, as presented. Esselment and Ross. Carried.

10. GRADUATE STUDIES AND POSTDOCTORAL AFFAIRS VISIONING EXERCISE-CONTINUED

Casello continued his presentation, *Towards a proposed vision: Graduate studies at Waterloo*, as circulated. Some central questions included: What are our differentiating features? How to re-align branding so as to attract graduate students? How to re-imagine currency (i.e., research as currency or engagement with graduate students as currency)? Visioning to be continued with a view to receive Council's endorsement thereon.

11. RESEARCH DATA MANAGEMENT INSTITUTIONAL STRATEGY

Milligan spoke to the [RDM Institutional Strategy Project](#) and his PowerPoint presentation, *Research Data Management (RDM) Institutional Strategy and Implementation Plan*, as distributed. He reminded council that by 1 March 2023, Waterloo is required to articulate and publish this strategy to our website. In discussion: continued emphasis on the essential role of principal investigators in this endeavor; value as opposed to compliance exercise; concrete guidance and support through data management assistance program; increased library resources and community of practices.

12. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

13. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held Monday 6 March 2023 from 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon in NH3318.