

University of Waterloo
SENATE UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL
Minutes of the 19 September 2023 Meeting
[in agenda order]

Present: Katherine Acheson, Janice Aurini, Logan Baston, Victoria Chu, Cecilia Cotton, Vivian Dayeh, Laura Deakin, David DeVidi (chair), Leeann Ferries, Jason Grove, Fatma Gzara, Alysia Kolentsis, Carol Ann MacGregor, Grace Marshall, Kristiina Montero, Cathy Newell Kelly, Rory Norris, Isaac Ocampo, Ryan Trelford, Chris Vigna, Johanna Wandel, Tim Weber-Kraljevski (secretary), Richard Wikkerink

Regrets: Charvi Patel, Theodore Thompson, Mike Wood

Resources/Guests: Angela Christelis, Blair Clarence, Jennifer Coghlin, Trevor Holmes, Carrie MacKinnon, Christine McWebb

Organization of Meeting: David DeVidi took the chair, and Tim Weber-Kraljevski acted as secretary. The secretary advised that a quorum was present. The agenda was approved without formal motion.

The chair welcomed new members Logan Baston, Celia Cotton, Laura Deakin, Alysia Kolentsis, and Grace Marshall. The chair also welcomed and introduced guests Christine McWebb and Trevor Holmes.

1. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

No conflicts of interest were declared.

2. APPROVAL OF THE 20 JUNE 2023 MINUTES AND BUSINESS ARISING

The following revision was requested: the addition of the Diploma in Creative Writing, Three-Year General English Creative and Professional Writing, and Three-Year General English Rhetoric, Media, and Professional Communication to the list of minor academic plan changes presented under item 3. The minutes were approved with the revision without formal motion. There was no business arising from the minutes.

3. ACADEMIC QUALITY ASSURANCE

Christelis presented on the new Quality Assurance Framework (QAF) from the Quality Council (QC) and the procedural changes for program reviews impacting self-study deadlines, site visits, progress reports, and minors and smaller offerings. Christelis also presented on future goals for Institutional Quality Assurance Process (IQAP) including: website updates; new templates; alignment of accreditation with program reviews; Indigenization and Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) guidance in self-studies; program differentiators; and more surveying support for programs. Members discussed: timelines for program review changes and IQAP future goals; the consultation done around changes for program reviews; tailoring self-study templates to programs; and recent improvements to the information provided by IAP, Co-op, and the Library for self-studies. Christelis and DeVidi invited members to provide any further feedback to them directly.

4. UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE LEVEL EXPECTATIONS (UDLE) 8. DIVERSITY

McWebb introduced her portfolio and mandate as Associate Vice-President, Faculty Planning and Policy, which includes review of UDLE 8. McWebb provided a brief overview of UDLE 8 and requested feedback on what programs currently teach to satisfy UDLE 8 and how Waterloo could be more intentional about teaching students a better understanding of the intellectual, social, cultural, and political diversity of the world. Members discussed: the current number of programs that are satisfying UDLE 8 and if Waterloo needs to be more strict in ensuring that programs satisfy it; pressure for programs to undergo curriculum diets and potential flexible options that programs could use; the Anti-Racism modules that have been

developed; concerns with one-size-fits-all solutions and the importance of providing students different options; challenges within Arts with having specific program requirements instead of degree requirements; the definition of diversity used in UDLE 8; and the importance of building culture and graduating good citizens who are able to engage others with civility. McWebb invited members to provide any further feedback to her directly.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

The chair invited members to think about topics for future meetings and members suggested religious accommodations. Members were encouraged to send any further topic ideas to the chair and secretary.

The chair provided an update that the Council's recommendation to form a curricular subcommittee is anticipated to go forward to Senate Executive Council at its next meeting; and the recommendation to form an IQAP Committee of Senate is with Senate Graduate & Research Council to review.

6. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is Tuesday, 17 October 2023, 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. in NH 3318

5 October 2023

Tim Weber-Kraljevski
Governance Officer