Present: Katherine Acheson, Veronica Austen, Monica Barra, Harleen Bhandal, Rachel Bruce, Kofi Campbell, Benoit Charbonneau, Victoria Chu, Martin Cooke, Daniel Davison, Vivian Dayeh, Abigayl De Souza, David DeVidi (chair), Leann Ferries, Brendan Larson, Amanda Morin, Jeremy Pittman, Francis Poulin, Reginald Somera, Megan Town, Cristina Vanin, Chris Vigna, Rebecca Wickens (secretary), Richard Wikkerink

Resources: Blair Clarance, Jennifer Coghlin, Danielle Jeanneault, Amanda McKenzie, Alyssa Voigt

Guests: Hans De Sterk, Melissa Holst, Naveen Jandu, Siv Sivaloganathan

Regrets: Cathy Newell Kelly

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

1. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST
No conflicts of interest were declared.

2. APPROVAL OF THE 15 SEPTEMBER 2020 MINUTES AND BUSINESS ARISING
A change was requested to reflect that Charbonneau commented favourably on the rationale for the digital art specialization (i.e. a compliment to the drafters) not on the proposed changes to the specialization. Subject to that change, the minutes were approved without formal motion. There was no business arising from the minutes.

3. CURRICULAR ITEMS FOR APPROVAL & INFORMATION

Applied Health Sciences. Ferries presented the new courses, course changes and inactivations together. There was a motion to approve the foregoing on behalf of Senate. Ferries and Acheson. Carried.

Ferries presented a new minor in addictions, mental health and policy, noting: this is the first credential covering this area; it is aligned with the recommendations of the president’s advisory committee on student mental health; and it will be interdisciplinary in nature. In response to discussion re: counting thesis courses towards the minor, Ferries said she would inquire and report back. There was a motion to recommend that Senate approve the proposed new plan as presented. Ferries and Cooke. Carried.

Ferries took members through the major modifications, highlighting the name change of the Bachelor of Science, Health Studies to Bachelor of Science, Health Sciences, as well as the change to admission requirements for the Bachelor of Science, Kinesiology. There was a motion to recommend that Senate approve the proposed major modifications. Ferries and Vanin. Carried. Ferries took members through the minor modifications, noting where there was consultation or collaboration with other faculties. There was a motion to approve the minor modifications on behalf of Senate. Ferries and Barra. Carried.

Arts. Following a brief introduction, there was a motion to approve the course changes on behalf of Senate. Acheson and Larson. Carried. Acheson presented the minor modifications, noting: new language subject codes added to the cultural identities minor; two courses added to the literature category of the three-year general English – literature and rhetoric plan. There was a motion to approve the minor modifications on behalf of Senate. Acheson and Campbell. Carried.

Engineering. Davison presented the engineering submission, highlighting: the proposed changes to management sciences plans in response to student feedback, particularly, re: workload; two new options (computing option, computer engineering option) and one revised option (software engineering option) intended to enable engineering students to get a meaningful software credential; other changes of a housekeeping nature. Discussion included:
managing any overlaps between STV 208 and special topics offered under ARTS 490; whether philosophy was consulted re: STV 208; the need to look at different faculties’ offerings related to stochastic modelling and processes, and machine learning; assisting students to navigate the new and revised computing/software options. Following discussion, there was a motion to recommend that Senate approve the new plans, major modifications and regulations, and that council approve the remainder of the submission on behalf of Senate. Davison and Barra. Carried.

Environment. Larson presented the new courses and course changes noting, in particular, the new course on pandemics and the knowledge integration course on interdisciplinary collaboration. Following discussion, GEOG 311 and 411 were removed from the submission pending consultation with economics. There was a motion to approve the remainder of the new courses and course changes on behalf of Senate. Larson and Poulin. Carried.

Larson took members through the plan changes, highlighting: the changes to geography and environmental management specializations (noting the impact of withdrawing the proposed changes to GEOG 311 and 411); adding the knowledge integration breadth requirements to the calendar (requesting a friendly amendment to remove chemistry courses only available to chemistry students); a change to requirements for planning students related to COVID-19; minor changes to the diploma in environmental assessment and the urban studies minor. There was a brief discussion re: mathematics courses to add to the breadth requirements for knowledge integration. Following the discussion, there was a motion to approve the minor modifications on behalf of Senate. Larson and Charbonneau. Carried.

Discussion re: the new 2+2 agreement with Shandong University of Economics and Finance included: questions regarding the contact information in the agreement; whether there was background information available on the partner institution; the possibility of having a standard format for rationales supporting 2+2 agreements. Following discussion, there was a motion to recommend that Senate approve the admissions, progression and other academic requirements in the agreement. Larson and Barra. Carried.

Mathematics. Charbonneau presented the new courses, course changes and inactivations. There was a motion to approve the foregoing on behalf of Senate. Charbonneau and Ferries. Carried.

Charbonneau spoke to the major modifications to the computing and financial management plan (noting a typo in the motion re: the plan name), indicating that the changes are to reflect parallel changes made by the School of Accounting and Finance (SAF) to the accounting and financial management curriculum. There was a motion to recommend that Senate approve the proposed major modification to the computing and financial management plan. Charbonneau and Acheson. Carried.

Charbonneau presented major modifications to the Math/Chartered Professional Accountancy (CPA) plan and Math/CPA – finance specialization plan, noting that the faculty worked with SAF on these amendments. There was a motion to recommend that Senate approve the proposed major modifications to the Math/CPA plan and Math/CPA – finance specialization plan. Charbonneau and Acheson. Carried.

Charbonneau gave an overview of the minor modifications to computer science plans, including: an update to the digital hardware specialization to reflect the inactivation of an electrical and computer engineering course; deletion of text related to Canadian Information Processing Society accreditation; an update to the invalid plan combinations table. There was a motion to approve the proposed minor modifications on behalf of Senate. Charbonneau and Poulin. Carried.

Re: the inactivation of the pure mathematics, teaching plan, members heard that there was low enrolment in this plan and interested individuals can obtain the same credential another way. There was a motion to recommend that Senate approve the plan inactivation and the regulation change re: upgrading a general to an honours degree. Charbonneau and Poulin. Carried.
Science. Barra took members through the new courses, course changes and inactivations in physics and astronomy following a curriculum renewal in that department. There was a motion to approve the foregoing on behalf of Senate. Barra and Larson. Carried. Barra spoke to requests to change previously approved effective dates, one which was circulated with the agenda and one that was circulated on 6 October 2020 as an addendum to the science submission. There was a motion to approve the revised effective dates. Barra and Acheson. Carried. Barra presented the minor modifications to the physics plans and the honours materials and nanosciences plans. Discussion focused on the rationale for removing MATH 114 and introducing PHYS 249. Following discussion, there was a motion to approve the proposed minor modifications to the physics plans and the materials and nanosciences plans on behalf of Senate. Barra and Town. Carried. Barra presented the minor modifications to the medical physiology minor, which parallel those presented by applied health sciences under that faculty’s submission. There was a motion to approve the minor modification on behalf of Senate. Barra and Ferries. Carried.

Software Engineering. Davison highlighted changes to the awards section to align with different criteria in mathematics and engineering, addition of courses, and other housekeeping changes. There was a motion to approve the minor modifications on behalf of Senate. Davison and Charbonneau. Carried.

4. REGISTRAR’S OFFICE
Preferred Name Guideline. Coghlin provided an overview of the proposed guideline on recording students’ names. Discussion included: whether adding headings and reorganizing the text could improve readability of the guideline; concerns that the systems cannot accommodate accents and special characters; clarification about the law governing use of preferred names; where it is necessary and useful to have access to a student’s legal name (e.g. disciplinary matters). Following discussion there was a motion to recommend that Senate approve the proposed guideline on recording students’ names. Charbonneau and Larson. Carried with three abstentions and two against.

Academic Calendar Dates. Coghlin presented the calendar dates for 2021-2022, explaining the change noted in red. There was a motion to recommend that Senate approve the academic dates for 2021-2022. Charbonneau and Ferries. Carried.

5. ACADEMIC PROGRAM REVIEWS
Items a and b were received for information.

Two-Year Report – Applied Math, C&O, Computational Math, Pure Math. Discussion included: issues encountered with the review; challenges external reviewers have understanding the faculty of mathematics given its size and complexity; the need for more context for reviewers, particularly where the organizational structure or operational model diverges from other universities; the benefit of involving the associate deans, undergraduate and graduate in the reviews (more recent step in the process). Following discussion, there was a motion to approve the report on behalf of Senate. Town and Acheson. Carried. Charbonneau and Poulin abstained from the vote.

6. STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLEMENTATION
This item was deferred due to time constraints.

7. OTHER BUSINESS.
There was no other business.

8. NEXT MEETING
The next meeting is 10 November 2020, 12:00 noon – 2:00 p.m. via Teams.

3 November 2020
Rebecca Wickens
Associate University Secretary