

University of Waterloo
SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Minutes of the 6 April 2020 Meeting

Present: Kofi Campbell, Jeff Casello, Shannon Dea, Paul Fieguth, Robert Gorbet, Feridun Hamdullahpur (chair), Karen Jack (secretary), Bill Power, James Rush, Naima Samuel, Richard Staines, Bryan Tolson

Regrets: Michael Beauchemin, Mark Giesbrecht, Vivek Unnithan

1. MINUTES OF THE 2 MARCH 2020 MEETING

Members heard a motion to approve the minutes of the 2 March 2020 meeting.

Tolson and Casello. Carried unanimously.

2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising.

3. DRAFT 20 APRIL 2020 SENATE AGENDA

The secretary advised that the current item numbered 10.a., re: the course evaluation project update will be brought to the May meeting of Senate, and a new item regarding academic progression rules will be brought to the April meeting instead. [Secretary's note: subsequent to the meeting, the registrar advised that information re: academic progression will be sent to the May meeting of Senate for information.]

In discussion: agreement that the confidential items meant to be considered by Senate in March will be included in the April agenda; acknowledgement that Gerry Schneider will be available to respond to questions relating to the UARC report, and that the usual UARC information/slides will be provided in the agenda package.

Members heard a motion to approve the agenda, subject to the changes as described.

Staines and Dea. Carried unanimously.

4. OTHER BUSINESS

The chair invited feedback with respect to the execution of the March Senate meeting via "Teams". In discussion: agreement that the meeting proceeded well, but future meetings will bear some improvements, including clarity re: chats and which one to use, the ability to enable follow-up questions, and, a suggestion to allow certain Senators, i.e., those who speak often, the ability to speak. There was consensus that inviting members to submit questions in advance, while not precluding anyone from asking questions during the meeting, may help to reduce the number of questions having to be fielded through the chat function.

In discussion relating to the Fall term, and discussions happening within the executive on this front, the chair spoke to the various conversations and meetings occurring within and outside of the University, and his opinion that any decision relating to the Fall term is too early to make at this time. Hamdullahpur advised that Senate will be kept apprised of plans, and in the case any decision needs to be made requiring the Senate's consideration and/or approval, Senate will be properly engaged, including booking extraordinary meetings as needed.

8 April 2020

Karen Jack
University Secretary