

University of Waterloo
SENATE
Minutes of the 18 January 2021 Meeting

Present: Sheila Ager, Jean Andrey, Sandra Banks, Lisa Bauer-Leahy, Michael Beauchemin, Kankar Bhattacharya, Anne Bordeleau, David Billedeau, Carmen Bruni, Kofi Campbell, Jeff Casello, Robyn Clarke, David Clausi, Joan Coutu, Neil Craik, Eric Croiset, Lori Curtis, Peter Deadman, Charmaine Dean, David DeVidi, Catherine Dong, Fraser Easton, Aiman Fatima, Paul Fieguth, Wendy Fletcher, George Freeman, Martha George, Mark Giesbrecht, Julia Goyal, Kelly Grindrod, David Ha, John Haddock, Feridun Hamdullahpur (chair), Dennis Huber, Natalie Hutchings, Achim Kempf, Jennifer Kieffer, Sabrina Khandakar, Veronica Kitchen, Karen Jack (secretary), Christiane Lemieux, Robert Lemieux, Lili Liu, Kesen Ma, Ellen MacEachen, Blake Madill, Sara Marsh, Peter Meehan, Teferi Mergo, Samantha Meyer, Ian Milligan, Zoran Miskovic, Barb Moffatt, Graham Murphy, Richard Myers, Beth Namachchivaya, Cathy Newell Kelly, Erin O'Connell, Daniel O'Connor, Troy Osborne, David Perrin, William Power, Neil Randall, Samuel Rubin, James Rush, Max Salman, Emma Schuster, Marcus Shantz, Joanne Shoveller, Abbie Simpson, Sivabal Sivaloganathan, Siva Sivoththaman, Richard Staines, Bruno Tremblay, Sharon Tucker, Twesh Upadhyaya, Cristina Vanin, Johanna Wandel, Paul Ward, Mary Wells, Stan Woo, Nancy Worth, Clarence Woudsma, En-Hui Yang, Samer Zu'Mot

Guests: Jean Becker, Kathy Becker, Bruce Campbell, Aldo Caputo, Yufei Du, Donna Ellis, Barbara Forrest, Mike Grivicic, Candace Harrington, Marios Ioannidis, Narveen Jandu, Ross Johnston, Andrea Kelman, Nick Manning, Norah McRae, Bessma Momani, Mary Power, Alice Raynard, Chris Read, Ian Rowlands, Emily Schroeder, Daniela Seskar-Hencic, Allan Starr, Sherri Sutherland, Brandon Sweet, Mathew Thijssen

Absent: Mike Ashmore*, Dominic Barton, Dan Brown*, Cindy Forbes, Robert Gorbet*, Martin Karsten*

*regrets

OPEN SESSION

Opening Remarks

The chair welcomed senators to the first meeting of 2021.

Consent Agenda

Senate heard a motion to approve or receive for information the items on the consent agenda.

George and O'Connor.

1. MINUTES OF THE 16 NOVEMBER 2020 MEETING

Senate approved the minutes of the meeting.

2. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS

Joint Report – Graduate & Research Council and Undergraduate Council. Senate received the report for information.

Graduate & Research Council. Senate received the report for information.

Undergraduate Council

Faculty of Arts, Liberal Studies – Inclusion of Non-Arts Cross-listed Courses in Average

Senate heard a motion to approve the proposed revisions to the academic standings regulations as they apply to Liberal Studies students, effective 1 September 2022.

The remaining items were received for information.

3. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Recognition and Commendation. Senate received the report for information.

4. REPORTS FROM THE FACULTIES

Senate received the reports for information.

The question was called, and the motion carried unanimously.

Regular Agenda

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising from the minutes.

6. PRESENTATION – STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE AND DEVELOPING TALENT ACTION TEAM OUTCOMES

Following an introduction by the chair, Rush and Dean informed senators how the strategic plan task forces' and action teams' reports are informing the University's implementation of the plan. Senators heard about: the overall implementation map (action teams, strategic areas, and lenses); the action teams' purposes; details about the three action teams (membership, processes, rationales and recommendations); themes and signature commitments; transitions to actions; recognition of and thanks to the many individuals who have been involved in the work. Senate heard that decisions about resourcing will follow, and that the various reports will be made available in some form in the future.

7. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS

Executive Committee

Senate heard a motion to appoint the Executive Committee as the Chancellor Review Committee

Freeman and Myers. Carried unanimously.

Graduate & Research Council

New Program, Faculty of Arts

Senate heard a motion to approve a new Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Political Science, including optional experiential stream, effective 1 September 2021, as presented in the supporting materials.

Casello and Ager. Carried unanimously.

Program Changes, Faculty of Health

Senate heard a motion to approve the discontinuation of the collaborative doctoral program in Work and Health in (a) Kinesiology, (b) Recreation and Leisure Studies, and (c) School of Public Health and Health Systems, effective 1 January 2021, as presented at Attachment 1.

Casello and Liu. Carried unanimously.

Program Changes, Faculty of Engineering

Senate heard a motion to approve the discontinuation of the (type 2) Graduate Diploma (GDip) in Software Engineering within the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE), effective 1 January 2021, as presented at Attachment 2.

Casello and Wells. Carried unanimously.

Graduate Studies – Academic Calendar Changes

Senate heard a motion to approve updates to the Enrolment and Time Limits regulation, effective 1 January 2021, as presented at Attachment 3.

Casello and Murphy. Carried unanimously.

Undergraduate Council

Faculty of Arts, Global Business and Digital Arts

Senate heard a motion to approve the proposed change to the Bachelor of Global Business and Digital Arts as outlined in the report, effective 1 September 2022.

DeVidi and Ager.

In response to a question, DeVidi confirmed that a co-op feasibility study had been done for the honours Global Business and Digital Arts co-operative program.

The question was called and the motion carried unanimously.

8. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

The president spoke to: recent and pending good news announcements, including new and renewed Canada Research Chairs; recent deaths of members of the community, including in particular, the sad news in December of Pearl Sullivan's passing; a government relations update; the ongoing safety measures in place due to the pandemic; some pandemic-related data with regard to students; the University's engagement with the National Centre for Faculty Development and Diversity. At the president's invitation, Dean provided a brief update on the President's Anti-Racism Task Force and its five working groups. In discussion: efforts being undertaken to coordinate communications regarding the pandemic; ways the costs of the University's "quarantine package" typically are shared; work being done by the safety abroad team to enable international exchanges when it is safe to do so.

9. Q&A PERIOD WITH THE PRESIDENT

Questions were received from the floor during the Report of the President.

10. REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, ACADEMIC & PROVOST

Rush provided members with an overview of the rationale for the proposed changes to the Spring 2021 academic term dates distributed to senators earlier in the day. Senate heard a motion to revise the Spring 2021 term academic calendar dates as indicated in the report.

Rush and Ha.

In discussion: from guest Marios Ioannidis on behalf of FAUW, a request for consideration for those instructors who request early exams, and advice that such requests are routinely handled and accommodated as schedules permit by the registrar's office; an acknowledgement that in the consultations which occurred about these revised dates, the request by undergraduate students for more study breaks could not be accommodated; agreement by Casello to discuss with the Graduate Operations Committee ways to ensure unintended impacts on graduate thesis submission deadlines do not occur.

The question was called and the motion carried unanimously.

11. REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, RESEARCH & INTERNATIONAL

Following a brief overview by Dean, Senate received the report for information.

12. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

Senate convened in confidential session.

22 January 2021

Karen Jack
University Secretary