University of Waterloo
SENATE
Minutes of the Monday 16 May 2022 Meeting


Absent: Dominic Barton*, Joan Coutu*, Lisa Bauer-Leahy, Scott Kline, Alysia Kolentsis, Robert Lemieux, Lili Liu, Glauca Melo*, Oudy Noweir, Sharon Tucker, Clarence Woudsma*
*regrets

OPEN SESSION

CONFLICT OF INTEREST
Senators were asked to declare any conflicts they may have in relation to the items on the agenda; no conflicts were declared.

CHAIR’S REMARKS
The chair welcomed returning and new Senators to the first meeting of the governance year.

Consent Agenda

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

Hare and Turner.

1. MINUTES OF THE 18 APRIL 2022 MEETING
Senate approved the minutes of the meeting.

2. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS
Senate Graduate & Research Council
Senate received the report for information.

Honorary Degrees Committee
Senate received the report for information.

Senate Undergraduate Council
Senate received the report for information.
3. REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, ACADEMIC & PROVOST
   University Research Chairs
   Senate received the report for information.

4. REPORTS FROM THE FACULTIES
   Senate received the reports for information.
   The question was called and carried unanimously.

Regular Agenda

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES
   There was no business arising.

6. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS
   Graduate & Research Council
   Casello spoke to the report and Senate heard a motion to approve the following Faculties joining the Collaborative Aeronautics Program (CAP), effective 1 September 2022: Arts and Environment (Master of Arts in Global Governance – Aeronautics); Environment (Master of Environmental Studies in Sustainability Management – Aeronautics, Doctor of Philosophy in Sustainability Management – Aeronautics, Master of Arts in Planning – Aeronautics, Master of Environmental Studies in Planning – Aeronautics); Engineering (Doctor of Philosophy in Systems Design Engineering – Aeronautics); Science (Master of Science in Vision Science – Aeronautics, Doctor of Philosophy in Vision Science – Aeronautics); Arts (Master of Arts in Psychology – Aeronautics).

   Senate heard from Suzanne Kearns, director, Waterloo Institute for Sustainable Aeronautics about the program and the broad engagement across the University. The chair offered thanks to all who have been working on the initiative, and noted that it is an excellent example of the strategic plan in action.
   The question was called and the motion carried unanimously.

   Senate Undergraduate Council
   DeVidi briefly spoke to the report and Senate heard a motion to approve the proposed English – Creative and Professional Writing program, effective 1 September 2023.

   Senate heard from Shelley Hulan, chair of the Department of English Language and Literature about the keen interest by students in the program, and its benefits for those who plan a career in writing.
   The question was called and the motion carried unanimously.

7. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT
   President’s Update
   The chair provided an update on a variety of matters including: that there are no significant changes for the post-secondary sector in the recent provincial budget; news and activities since the last meeting; his recent statement on open and constructive dialogue; that the Senate Executive Committee’s governance review continues apace and a report on the work, including
recommendations, will be ready for the June meeting of Senate; the long-range visioning exercise re: Waterloo at 100 that has begun; the in-person convocation ceremonies in June; the continued response to the pandemic. There were no questions.

**President’s Anti-racism Taskforce (P.A.R.T.) Report**
The chair reminded Senators about the President’s Forum being held on 19 May about the P.A.R.T. Report and encouraged members to attend. He invited Dean to speak to Senate about the taskforce’s work and resulting report. Members heard about: the broad engagement by the whole community; P.A.R.T.’s membership, structure and approach; the work of the implementation teams and working groups; a summary of themes and recommendations; and from Senator Samuel, some personal reflections on her experiences on P.A.R.T., and from Tracelyn Cornelius, a staff member who is also a part-time student, about how she was inspired by the work to pursue further academic research and her PhD. In discussion: expressions of appreciation for the taskforce’s work, and in particular, to Samuel and Cornelius for sharing their personal stories; how several recommendations in the “educational environment and the development of learners” section of the report are meant to help address economic inequities and that work on these recommendations is underway; the availability of scholarship about “different” or “other” ways of knowing for those who are interested; the transparent accountability framework being put in place.

**Sustainability Update**
The chair invited Mat Thijssen, director of sustainability to speak to sustainability activities at Waterloo. Senators heard about: support offered by his office; the governance structure; core documents and ongoing reports; some high-level indicators; progress risks; actions. In discussion: costs, and striking a balance with respect to immediate expenses and long-term benefits; beneficial outcomes that will come from the integrated planning review of the budget model for these commitments; agreement that accelerating the pace of this work is important.

8. **REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, ACADEMIC & PROVOST**

Roster of Graduands
Senate heard a motion to delegate approval of the roster of graduands to the Executive Committee for its 6 June 2022 meeting.

Rush and Newel Kelly. Carried with one abstention.

**Policy 45 Exception**
Rush spoke to the report distributed earlier in the day regarding the recommendation from the Science Faculty Council to increase the membership of the upcoming Nominating Committee for the Dean of Science. Senate heard a motion to approve increasing the membership of the 2022 Nominating Committee for the Dean of Science by one to include seven regular faculty members.

Rush and Dalton. Following some discussion about how the policy can be revised, the question was called and the motion carried unanimously.

**General Update**
Rush provided Senate with a general update, including commentary about: the 2021 annual report from the library; a status update on the digital learning strategy; the teaching innovation incubator; the Wellness Collaborative; the budget and integrated planning review; the new Council of Academic Leaders.

In discussion: agreement to work with the student associations and the University colleges to ensure effective consultations occur with those groups for the digital learning strategy project.
9. REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, RESEARCH & INTERNATIONAL
Dean briefly reviewed the report distributed with the agenda and took the opportunity to offer kudos to Dr. Avery Broderick for his continued success with the Event Horizon Telescope Collaboration and the group’s recent revelation of the first image of the black hole at the heart of the Milky Way galaxy.

10. OTHER BUSINESS
There was no other business.

Senate convened in confidential session.

20 May 2022

Karen Jack
University Secretary