University of Waterloo
SENATE UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL
Minutes of the 10 March 2020 Meeting
[in agenda order]

Present: Katherine Acheson, Veronica Austen, Benoit Charbonneau, Victoria Chu, Martin Cooke, Daniel Davison, Vivian Dayeh, David DeVidi (chair), Leeann Ferries, Brendon Larson, Amanda Morin, Cathy Newell Kelly, Marlee Spafford, Cristina Vanin, Chris Vigna, Rebecca Wickens (secretary), Dan Wolczuk

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

Guest: Ina Wang (for Gavin Orok)

Absent: Joe Barcellos, Carly Benson, Rachel Bruce, Kofi Campbell*, Matthew Gerrits, Bruce MacVicar*, Gavin Orok*, Jeremy Pittman*, Richard Wikkerink *regrets

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 11 FEBRUARY 2020 MINUTES AND BUSINESS ARISING
Subject to the following correction under 3.c. “presented two three new courses…” , the minutes were accepted as distributed.

Jeanneault informed members that the addition of departmental consent for certain SWREN courses (3.d.) is under review and may need to be rescinded, because the courses are cross-listed and the other courses do not require departmental consent.

3. CURRICULAR ITEMS FOR APPROVAL & INFORMATION

Mathematics. Charbonneau presented related course and plan changes (1.1-1.3, 2.1-2.8 of the mathematics submission) together, noting that the decision to inactivate ACTSC 371 and replace it with ACTSC 372 in several plans triggered the listed plan changes, as well as the creation and addition of MATBUS 371 (in place of ACTSC 372) to mathematics/business administration and information technology management plans. Members heard that ACTSC 371 will remain in the calendar until 1 September 2023 to allow for transition. There was a brief discussion re: the process for changes which do not take effect for two or more years. There was a motion to approve 1.1-1.3, 2.1-2.8 of the mathematics submission on behalf of Senate. Charbonneau and Davison. Carried.

Charbonneau presented items 1.4 and 2.9 of the mathematics submission together, noting the removal of a suffix from a course code and the addition of clarifying language on the math/teaching page re: plan combinations.

Support was expressed for the clarification made re: plan combinations. There was a motion to approve 1.4 and 2.9 of the mathematics submission on behalf of Senate. Charbonneau and Wolczuk. Carried.

Science. Members heard: the proposed changes are in response to a review by physics & astronomy of the delivery and format of courses and labs; the increase in contact time for labs will give students more time to reflect and do a good job on their lab reports. There was a clarifying question re: the changes to contact time. There was a motion to approve the new, revised and inactivated courses, as well as the minor plan modifications on behalf of Senate. Spafford and Acheson. Carried.

Spafford informed members it was recently discovered that the catalogue report attached to the September 2019 submission omitted course descriptions for three of the courses listed in the body of the submission; however, the proposed changes were related to those approved for other courses in the report for which descriptions and rationales were provided. There were no questions or concerns.
4. NEW UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS, AWARDS AND BURSARIES.
Members expressed concerns regarding the differentiators and language used in awards criteria that are exclusionary to certain groups, e.g. gendered language, programs being singled out from others in the same Faculty, focus on full-time students.

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

Two-year Progress Report – Science and Aviation, Geography and Aviation. Discussion included: pros, cons and barriers to seeking accreditation; plans to address resource-related challenges; ability to meet large demand for the program; and the recommendation re: collaborating with other programs. Following discussion, there was a motion to approve the report on behalf of Senate. Charbonneau and Spafford. Carried.

6. OTHER BUSINESS.
There was no other business.

7. NEXT MEETING
The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 14 April 2020, 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m. in NH 3318. [Note: this meeting was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The next meeting is 12 May 2020, 12:00 noon – 2:00 p.m. via Teams.]