University of Waterloo  
SENATE UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL  
Minutes of the 12 May 2020 Meeting  
[in agenda order]  

Present: Katherine Acheson, Veronica Austen, Carly Benson, Kofi Campbell, Matthew Casale, Benoit Charbonneau, Victoria Chu, Martin Cooke, Daniel Davison, Vivian Dayeh, David DeVidi (chair), Leannn Ferries, Brendon Larson, Bruce MacVicar, Cathy Newell Kelly, Jeremy Pittman, Francis Poulin, Megan Town, Marlee Spafford, Cristina Vanin, Chris Vigna, Ina Wang, Rebecca Wickens (secretary), Richard Wikkerink

Resources & Guests: Blair Clarance, Jennifer Coghlin, Danielle Jeanneault, Amanda McKenzie, Jennifer Roberts Smith (3b), Alyssa Voigt

Absent: Rachel Almaw, Ayla Alves, Rachel Bruce *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. The chair reminded members of the protocols for discussion and voting via Teams.

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

2. APPROVAL OF THE 10 MARCH 2020 MINUTES AND BUSINESS ARISING
The minutes were accepted as distributed. Newell Kelly and Larson. Carried. There was no business arising.

3. CURRICULAR ITEMS FOR APPROVAL & INFORMATION
   Applied Health Sciences. Following an overview, there was a motion to approve the submission on behalf of Senate. Ferries and Vigna. Carried.

   Arts. Acheson took members through the new courses. There was a motion to approve the new courses on behalf of Senate. Acheson and Wang. Carried. Acheson spoke to the course changes and inactivations, including the rationales therefor. There was a motion to approve the course changes and inactivations on behalf of Senate. Acheson and Ferries. Carried.

   Acheson presented the new Communication Arts and Design Practice Program, highlighting: the program brings together the existing areas of research and study in the department; it fills a gap in the faculty of arts, which currently does not have a communications major; the approach and focus are unique in Canada. Discussion included: the process for approval and whether it is necessary to update materials such as the CVs of faculty members; the feasibility of running a program with small class sizes in the budget constrained environment; anticipated enrollment; expected demand for co-op positions; other experiential learning opportunities; the availability of minors in this area. There was a motion to recommend the approval of this program to Senate. Acheson and Spafford. Carried.

   Acheson provided an overview of the proposed, new specializations for students in Accounting and Financial Management, as well as the new communication design specialization proposed by the department of English Language and Literature. There was a motion to recommend the approval of these new plans to Senate. Acheson and Charbonneau. Carried.

   Following a brief overview of the major modifications outlined in Section 5 of the submission, there was a motion to recommend the approval of these major modifications to Senate. Acheson and Campbell. Carried. There was a motion to approve the minor modifications outlined in Section 6 of the submission on behalf of Senate. Acheson and Spafford. Carried. There was a motion to recommend the approval of plan inactivations set forth in Section 7 of the submission to Senate. Acheson and Larson. Carried.
Acheson presented the proposed changes to co-operative education regulations re: transfer credits, work term reports and PD courses, as well as course preface notes in French studies. Wikkerink indicated that he and Acheson are having discussions regarding calendar text for the work term report section, but the outcome of that discussion will not impact the decision before council. There was a motion to recommend the approval of the regulations set forth in Section 8 of the submission to Senate. Acheson and Austen. Carried.

Acheson took members through the proposed articulation agreement with University of Essex, noting: it is a 3+2 agreement (outgoing); the agreement was initiated by St. Paul’s; honours arts students taking a human rights minor will be eligible for consideration. Discussion included: the pros and cons of this program for Waterloo; enrollment expectations; the origins of the agreement. Following discussion, there was a motion to recommend the approval by Senate of the admissions and progressions requirements outlined in the articulation agreement with the University of Essex. Acheson and Spafford. Carried with one abstention and one against.

**Environment.** Larson spoke to: a new course which was withdrawn at the February meeting pending consultation with arts; a revised course which is cross-listed with a course presented as part of the applied health sciences submission. There was a motion to approve the new and revised courses on behalf of Senate. Larson and Poulin. Carried.

**Mathematics.** Charbonneau presented a proposed, new course intended to help incoming students impacted by the closure of high schools due to COVID-19 to prepare for university-level mathematics, noting: approval by the Registrar’s Office for a 1 May 2020 effective date; intention that students be able to take the course in the summer or early fall; students in programs offered by other faculties with mathematics requirements will be able to enrol; the course will carry a 0.25 credit weight; there will be no additional cost if the student is enrolled in four courses; the course will not be mandatory; subject to approval, the academic and logistical details will be addressed at the mathematics planning committee. There was a motion to approve the course on behalf of Senate. Charbonneau and Wang. Carried.

Charbonneau gave an overview of the remaining new and revised courses, and minor modifications outlined in the mathematics submission. There was a motion to approve these items on behalf of Senate. Charbonneau and Poulin. Carried.

**Science.** Spafford presented the course changes (noting a minor typographical error in a course code in the rationale for CHEM 370) and the minor modification to the honours biology, microbiology specialization to correct an error in the 400-level course requirements. There was a motion to approve the course changes on behalf of Senate. Spafford and Charbonneau. Carried.

Spafford spoke to the major modification, indicating: it is related to the accounting and financial management changes approved as part of the submission from arts. Spafford presented the plan inactivations, noting that they are due to sustained low enrollment. There was a motion to recommend that Senate approve the major modification and plan inactivations as presented. Spafford and Acheson. Carried.

**Renison University College.** Campbell spoke to: the request to rescind previously approved changes to SWREN courses that are cross-listed with SDS courses following consultation with SDS; changes to SWREN courses cross-listed with arts courses, which were revised under the arts submission. There was a motion to approve the course changes and request to rescind previous changes on behalf of Senate. Campbell and Acheson. Carried.

Campbell spoke to the proposed minor modifications to the bachelor of social work, including pathways into the program and calendar language related thereto. There was a motion to approve the minor modifications on behalf of Senate. Campbell and Ferries. Carried.
Decision-Making Process for Adjustments for Spring-Fall 2020. The chair spoke to the document, highlighting: the research and consultation leading to its development; the intention to give members an opportunity to review, comment and vote on the recommendation after the meeting. In response to questions, the chair clarified that the process described in the document is already used for temporary changes; council will receive an update on temporary changes approved in spring-fall 2020 (similar to item 4b). Members discussed the need, long-term, for greater consideration of the academic mission in the emergency response plan.

4. Registrar’s Office
Effective Dates 2020-2021. This report was received for information.

Summary of Winter 2020 Faculty Rule Changes. Newell Kelly presented the report, highlighting: the consultation process and temporary changes made to assist students impacted by the pandemic in Winter 2020; changes with effect beyond Winter 2020 which require approval. Following a clarification of the changes to the term dean’s honours list for mathematics and 50% rule, there was a motion to recommend the approval of items 3 and 7 of the report to Senate.

5. Other Business.
There was no other business.

6. NEXT MEETING
The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 9 June 2020, 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m. via Teams.

2 June 2020

Rebecca Wickens
Associate University Secretary