University of Waterloo
SENATE UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL
Minutes of the 11 May 2021 Meeting
[in agenda order]

Present: Katherine Acheson, Monica Barra, Gorvind Bharwani, Jason Blokhuis, Benoit Charbonneau, Harry Cheung, Victoria Chu, Jacob Chung, Martin Cooke, Vivian Dayeh, Daniel Davison, David DeVidi (chair), Leeann Ferries, Ahmad Kamal, Brendon Larson, Catherine Newell Kelly, Francis Poulin, Ethan Sue, Mary Sybersma, Kathleen Szajbely, Cristina Vanin, Chris Vigna, Rebecca Wickens (secretary), Richard Wikkerink, Stephanie Ye-Mowe

Resources: Jennifer Coghlin, Blair Clarance, Danielle Jeanneault, Amanda McKenzie, Angela Christelis

Regrets: Veronica Austen, Bruce MacVicar, Jeremy Pittman

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 introduced new members of council. Amanda McKenzie introduced Angela Christelis, Quality Assurance Coordinator.

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

2. **APPROVAL OF THE 13 APRIL 2021 MINUTES AND BUSINESS ARISING**
The minutes were approved without formal motion. There was no business arising from the minutes.

3. **CURRICULAR ITEMS FOR APPROVAL & INFORMATION**
Mathematics. Charbonneau provided a brief overview of the new courses and minor course changes, except MTHEL 199. There was a brief discussion about adding the new CS 136L as a prerequisite for CS 241, and the impact on students who had already taken CS 136. There was a motion to approve the new and changed courses as presented. Charbonneau and Ferries. Carried.

Charbonneau spoke to the proposed changes to MTHEL 199, noting: the shell was created last year to facilitate the rapid introduction of a preparatory course for the incoming class in Mathematics; with the experience gained over the 2020-2021 academic year, the Faculty would like to confirm the course description and details; the goal is to offer the course for free and without credit weight, which will facilitate registration for students in other Faculties and the double-degree program with Laurier; the Registrar’s Office has been consulted on the retroactive effective date. There was a motion to approve the proposed changes to MTHEL 199, effective 1 May 2021. Charbonneau and Blokhuis. Carried.

Charbonneau spoke to the changes to the applied mathematics minor, noting: it is being opened up to students in other Faculties; the course selection will be more flexible, consistent with other minors; the course requirements will enable success for students outside the Faculty of Mathematics. There was a motion to recommend that Senate approve the proposed modifications to the applied mathematics minor as presented, effective 1 September 2022. Charbonneau and Acheson. Carried.

Members heard: motions contained in sections 3.2-3.5 of the submission are intended to correct the erroneous creation of three specializations instead of one specialization with three themes; the Registrar’s Office has been consulted on the retroactive effective date. Discussion included: plans regarding current students impacted by this change; proposed edits to make the intent even more clear. There was a motion to recommend that Senate approve:
- the inactivation of the engineering specialization, fluids and heat, engineering specialization, communication and control, and engineering specialization, heat and mass transfer; and
- the creation of an engineering specialization with three theme areas;
as presented, effective 1 September 2019. Charbonneau and Poulin. Carried.

Charbonneau presented the changes to the computational fine art specialization, noting: the specialization was reorganized in consultation with Fine Arts to give more flexibility to students and ease scheduling challenges; one course was removed from the list, but the number of required units remains the same. In response to questions, Charbonneau agreed to check on the name of FINE 229 and the statement that the number of required courses is not changing.

Subject to any necessary correction to the name of FINE 229, there was a motion to recommend that Senate approve proposed changes to the computational fine art specialization, effective 1 September 2022. Charbonneau and Kamal. Carried. [Note: the text presented as “current text” for comparison purposes was not the most current text and did not reflect the previously approved inactivation of FINE 229 and resulting unit reduction. Therefore, the question regarding the name of FINE 229 is no longer a live issue because it will not appear in the new program text, and the comment that the number of required units for the current and revised specialization remains the same was accurate.]

Charbonneau provided an overview of the minor modifications in motions 3.7-3.14. There was a motion to approve the proposed minor modifications on behalf of Senate. Charbonneau and Bharwani. Carried.

Charbonneau updated members on the transition from the Math/English as a Second Language (ELAS) program offered with Conestoga College to the Bridge to Academic Success in English (BASE) program offered with Renison University College, noting the substantial work put in by the Registrar’s Office and personnel in the Faculty of Mathematics to make this happen for Spring 2021.

4. REGISTRAR’S OFFICE
Effective Dates Chart 2021-2022. Newell Kelly presented the annual update to the effective dates chart. There was a motion to accept the chart as distributed. Newell Kelly and Blokhuis. Carried.

Undergraduate Scholarships, Awards and Bursaries. This report was received for information.

5. STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE
DeVidi reported on strategic plan implementation, including: upgrading existing teaching and learning spaces and creating more flexible spaces; exploring opportunities regarding blended learning to capitalize on the strategies and materials developed for remote learning during the pandemic; the creation of a teaching innovation ecosystem, including an incubator for teaching innovation.

6. ACADEMIC PROGRAM REVIEWS
Academic Program Reviews – Status. This item was received for information.

7. OTHER BUSINESS.
There was no further business.

8. NEXT MEETING
The next meeting is Tuesday 15 June 2021 12:00 noon – 2:00 p.m. via Teams. [Note: the June meeting was cancelled. The next meeting is Tuesday 14 September 2021 12:30 – 2:00 p.m.]

2 December 2021
Rebecca Wickens
Associate University Secretary