University of Waterloo
SENATE UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL
Minutes of the 13 April 2021 Meeting
[in agenda order]

Present: Katherine Acheson, Veronica Austen, Monica Barra, Rachel Bruce, Benoit Charbonneau, Victoria Chu, Martin Cooke, Vivian Dayeh, Daniel Davison, Abigail DeSouza, David DeVidi (chair), Jaskaran Dhillon, Leeanne Ferries, Ariel Gans, Brendan Larson, Bruce MacVicar, Cathy Newell Kelly, Jeremy Pittman, Francis Poulin, Megan Town, Cristina Vanin, Chris Vigna, Stephanie Ye-Mowe, Angela Wang-Lin, Rebecca Wickens (secretary), Richard Wikkerink

Resources: Blair Clarence, Jennifer Coghlin, Danielle Jeanneault, Amanda McKenzie

Guests: Darren Charters, Steve Fortin, Richard Kelly, Bruce Frayne, Blake Phillips, Michael Wood

Regrets: Kofi Campbell

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 9 FEBRUARY 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
Arts. Acheson spoke to a few minor modifications to the submission – the text for AFM 291 on page 15 is superseded by the revised text for that course on pages 33-34; the effective date for CI 300/SPAN 300 should be 1 September 2022.

Acheson took members through the first submission for the Faculty of Arts re: the proposed Bachelor of Sustainability and Financial Management, starting with an overview of the new program, rationale for its creation, and guests invited to respond to questions. Acheson then presented new SFM courses. There was a motion to approve the new courses on behalf of Senate. Acheson and Barra. Carried. Acheson spoke to course changes. In response to a question, members heard: it is preferable that students take AFM 321 after AFM 274; for some programs, this is not possible due to scheduling, so those students are permitted to take the courses concurrently. There was a motion to approve the course changes on behalf of Senate. Acheson and Charbonneau. Carried. Following approval of the new and revised courses necessary for the proposed plan, the requirements of the plan were presented. Discussion included: the relationship between the new plan and Environment and Business, including the different foci of the plans and whether the plans will compete for students. Following discussion there was a motion to recommend that Senate approve the proposed new Bachelor of Sustainability and Financial Management as presented, effective 1 September 2022. Acheson and Larson. Carried.

Acheson presented the second submission from the Faculty of Arts. There was a motion to approve the new courses on behalf of Senate. Acheson and Barra. Carried. There was a motion to approve the revised courses on behalf of Senate. In response to a question, members heard that location designations are under discussion. Acheson and Vanin. Carried. There was a motion to approve the course inactivations on behalf of Senate. Acheson and Charbonneau. Carried. Members heard that Social Development Studies is proposing to update rules around transfer credits to accept unspecific SDS-coded credits, which is consistent with the approach of other arts programs and provides more flexibility for students. There was a motion to recommend that Senate approve the proposed change to the Social Development Studies plans as presented, effective 1 September 2022. Acheson and Barra. Carried. Following presentation of the minor modifications, there was a motion to approve the proposed changes on behalf of Senate. Acheson and Larson. Carried. Acheson presented the regulatory changes,
highlighting: a proposed change to the list of invalid multiple-plan combinations to permit Liberal Studies to be combined with majors outside of the Faculty of Arts, while still restricting its combination with other stand-alone arts majors; for simplicity, to include Liberal Studies as a major wherever academic rules and regulations apply to both disciplinary majors and students in Liberal Studies plans and note exceptions where there are any; updates to breadth requirements to include Indigenous entrepreneurship and sustainability and financial management codes in the transdisciplinary studies list; moving honours economics and honours mathematical economics students to the same co-op sequence as arts and business, noting the rationale for the proposed change and consultations that have taken place. There was a motion to recommend that Senate approve the revised regulations as presented. Acheson and Ferries. Carried.

**Engineering.** Davison presented the engineering submission for approval as an omnibus motion, noting: a course offered as a special topic which is being made permanent; a course in law that is being inactivated due to low interest; other minor and housekeeping changes to courses and plans. There was a motion to approve the engineering submission on behalf of Senate as presented. Davison and Cooke. Carried. Members received the Fall 2020 report on temporary calendar deviations due to the pandemic for information.

**Environment.** Following an overview, there was a motion to approve the proposed new courses on behalf of Senate. Larson and Barra. Carried. Larson presented course changes, noting the revisions in support of the new Bachelor of Sustainability and Financial Management. There was a motion to approve the course changes on behalf of Senate. Larson and Austen. Carried. Larson presented the new Bachelor of Science in Climate and Environmental Change program, noting the unique strengths, consultations and support for the new program, and positive comments from the external assessors. There was a motion to recommend that Senate approve the new Bachelor of Science in Climate and Environmental Change as presented, effective 1 September 2022. Larson and Poulin. Carried. Larson spoke briefly to the course subject name change from Environmental Studies to Environment. There was a motion to approve that change on behalf of Senate, effective 1 September 2022. Larson and Ferries. Carried.

**Science.** Following a brief overview, there was a motion to approve the course changes on behalf of Senate. Barra and Larson. Carried. Barra presented the minor modification to the chemistry minor to make it open to students in all plans. There was a motion to approve the proposed minor modification on behalf of Senate. Barra and Ferries. Carried. Barra spoke to the proposed changes to the admission requirements for the Doctor of Pharmacy program, driven by a review undertaken by the School of the prerequisites for admission, similar changes made by competitor programs, and the intention of introducing more flexibility to increase diversity of student applicants. In discussion, it was noted that the Faculty of Mathematics had not been consulted on changes impacting their offerings, but, given the need to move this forward, there was not a request to table the item until that consultation could take place. There was a motion to approve the minor modification to the admission requirements for the Doctor of Pharmacy program, effective 1 September 2022. Barra and Acheson. Carried, with one against and one abstention. Members received the Fall 2020 report on temporary calendar deviations due to the pandemic for information.

### 4. REGISTRAR’S OFFICE

**Awards of Excellence.** Following an overview by Newell Kelly wherein she noted the unintentional omission of an academic standing when the award was originally approved, there was a motion to approve the addition of the academic standing “Eligible” in the Faculty of Health to the criteria for the Term Distinction award retroactive to 1 September 2020. Newell Kelly and Ferries. Carried.

### 5. ACADEMIC PROGRAM REVIEWS

The chair noted that item 5d is being pulled from the agenda for revision and will return to a later meeting. There was a brief discussion re: the role of the Dean under the current and new review process.

**Academic Program Reviews – Status.** This item was received for information.

**Handling of Final Assessment Reports & Two-Year Progress Reports.** This item was received for information.
Final Assessment Report – Liberal Studies. Reviewers noted that the report was well-written, and recommendations, in particular, re: the capstone course, were addressed well. Discussion included the impact of the pandemic on timelines. Following discussion, Acheson stepped out for the motion. There was a motion to approve the report on behalf of Senate. Charbonneau and Barra. Carried.

Final Assessment Report – Sexuality, Marriage & Family. Members commented favorably on the responsiveness of the department and how recommendations were addressed. In discussion: members noted the recommendation re: the name change in the context of the overlap between the acronym for this program and the proposed Bachelor of Sustainability and Financial Management; there were questions about the addition of new resources and how this recommendation has been impacted by the pandemic; it was noted that the family life educator certification is an external credential. Following discussion, Vanin stepped out for the motion. There was a motion to approve the report on behalf of Senate. Austen and Charbonneau. Carried.

6. OTHER BUSINESS.
Members inquired about starting the meetings at 12:30 p.m. and whether there are plans for return to in person meetings in the Fall. The secretary will look into these items and report back.

7. NEXT MEETING
The next meeting is 11 May 2021 from 12 noon – 2:00 p.m. via Teams.

5 May 2021

Rebecca Wickens
Associate University Secretary