



**Senate Council**  
**Minutes of the Friday, April 25, 2025 Meeting**

**Present:** Peter Meehan (Chair), Carol Ann MacGregor (Vice Chair), Carol Acton, Veronica Austen, Steven Bednarski, Honor Brabazon, Susan Brophy, Roberta Cauchi-Santoro, Andrew Deman, Maureen Drysdale, Jesse Hutchison, Scott Kline, Carlie Leroux-Demir, Carl Rodrigue, BJ Rye, Yuri Sangalli, David Seljak, Toni Serafini, Mark Spielmacher, Andrew Stumpf, Siobhan Sutherland, Bruno Tremblay, David Williams

**Guest:** Karen Radcliffe

**Recording Secretary:** Christine Schwendinger

**Absent:** Chris Burris, Carm De Santis\*, Fred Desroches, Alishau Diebold\*, Stephanie Gregoire\*, Norm Klassen, Diana Lobb\*, Clayton McCourt\*, Jane Nicholas, John Rempel, Students' Union, Anastasia Tataryn\*, Ryan Touhey, Cristina Vanin\*, Chad Wriglesworth, Nikolaj Zunic  
*\*regrets*

**On Sabbatical/Leave:** Michelle Atkin, Kieran Bonner, Tristanne Connolly, Alysia Kolentsis, Sylvia Terzian, Denise Whitehead

*Note: Eleven members joined the meeting via the online video conferencing platform, Zoom.*

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***Open Session***

**1. Territorial Acknowledgement and Prayer/Reflection**

V. Austen opened the meeting with a territorial and land acknowledgement followed by jointly reading with A. Deman a scene from the movie Glengarry Glen Ross (inserting the word "grading" where appropriate).

**2. Chair's Remarks**

It is the end of the Winter term and the Chair wished faculty the best as they finish grading.

**3. Agenda Review, Declare Conflicts, Additions, Changes**

No conflicts, additions, or changes to the agenda were declared.

**Motion:** To approve the agenda as presented.

**Moved:** A. Deman, **Seconded:** B. Tremblay, **Carried.**

**Consent Agenda**

**4. Minutes of the March 21, 2025 Senate Council Meeting**

**5. Governance Committee Report**

- a. Call for Nominations: 2025-2026 Committees

**Motion:** To approve by consent item 4 and to receive for information item 5 above.

**Moved:** S. Bednarski, **Seconded:** T. Serafini, **Carried.**

**Regular Agenda**

**6. Business Arising from the Minutes of the March 21, 2025 Meeting**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

## 7. Governance Committee Report

### a. *Academic Operations Manual*

- i. *Faculty Research Release Pool (FRRP)*: The new *FRRP* policy will return to the next meeting for a second reading.
- ii. *Cross Appointments*: The policy is coming forward as part of the review of the Academic Operations Manual and because some language changed in the renewal Collective Agreement (full-time unit) that requires updating in the policy.

**Motion 1:** To give the revisions to the *Cross Appointments* policy a first reading.

**Moved:** C. Rodrigue, **Seconded:** C.A. MacGregor, **Carried.**

The Research Officer explained that many of the changes to the following research policies have to do with the renewal Collective Agreement. For example, all applications for internal research support now need to be adjudicated at the same time. One member suggested that a deadline during the Reading Week for the Faculty Research Grant (FRG) would be most advantageous for people. However, a Committee on Research and Scholarship (CRS) member noted that although they agree the Reading Week period would be good, the CRS needs to leave time to adjudicate plus allow a possible FRG deadline extension. Regarding a member's suggestion for the CRS to perhaps adjust FRG budgets to allow a larger amount of funds available for the FRRP, allowing for a possible additional FRRP, the Research Officer noted that the CRS felt strongly that they did not want to open the door to adjusting people's budgets. The adjudication flows one way (there is no back and forth) and decisions on the FRG should not be dependent on what is to come.

- iii. *Additional Professional Development Fund (APDF) and Appendix: Application Form*:

**Motion 2:** To give the revisions to the *APDF* policy and accompanying appendix a first reading.

**Moved:** C. Rodrigue, **Seconded:** S. Bednarski, **Carried.**

- iv. *Aid to Scholarly Publications Fund (ASPF)*:

**Motion 3:** To give the revisions to the *ASPF* policy a first reading.

**Moved:** C. Rodrigue, **Seconded:** S. Bednarski, **Carried.**

- v. *Faculty Research Grant, Appendix A: Guidelines, Appendix B: Application Form, Appendix C: Progress Report (to be cancelled), Appendix D: Application Form (to become Appendix C)*:

**Motion 4:** To give the revisions to the *FRG* policy and accompanying appendices a first reading.

**Moved:** C. Rodrigue, **Seconded:** S. Bednarski, **Carried.**

- vi. *Standards for Renewal, Tenure, and Promotion*: The policy is being brought forward for a general review, no changes. Substantive changes are being considered for the *Standards for Continuing Appointments at the Rank of Lecturer* policy, based on the renewal Collective Agreement establishing the teaching stream. That policy is about continuing status, now permanency, but there is now opportunity for promotion to full (teaching stream). When making those updates, it made sense to look at our standards for the tenure stream, which have been working fairly well for us.

**Motion 5:** To waive the two-reading rule for the *Standards for Renewal, Tenure, and Promotion* policy. One reading is sufficient given that this is a review of the policy.

**Moved:** C. Rodrigue, **Seconded:** C.A. MacGregor, **Carried.**

**Motion 6:** To give the *Standards for Renewal, Tenure, and Promotion* policy the one reading and to approve the review of the policy for the Academic Operations Manual.

**Moved:** C. Rodrigue, **Seconded:** C.A. MacGregor, **Carried.**

## 8. Academic Committee Report

- a. *Psychology Course Change:* Changes to PSYCH 231: *The Psychology of Religious Experience* were prompted by the Department of Religious Studies requesting a cross-listing to the course (they are wanting more variety across their program). The instructor took the opportunity to revise the course title and description. The proposal will be taken to UGAG by the University of Waterloo (UWaterloo) Department of Psychology.

**Motion:** To approve the PSYCH 231 course change, to be effective September 1, 2026.

**Moved:** C.A. MacGregor, **Seconded:** M. Drysdale, **Carried.**

## 9. Vice President Academic and Dean Report

The Vice President Academic and Dean (VPAD) referred to her written report, highlighting a couple of items, and first adding another item.

Some good news. It will be announced that Dr. C. Wriglesworth has won the 2025 Distinguished Teacher Award. Congratulations to Wriglesworth. A number of our faculty have won this award in the past, but it has been a number of years. One of the valedictorians speaking at the Faculty of Arts' afternoon graduation ceremony on June 12, 2025 is a Sexuality, Marriage, and Family Studies student. The VPAD has been receiving nice emails about students receiving awards at the UWaterloo departmental levels, a student having their paper published, etc.

The UWaterloo Faculty of Arts reorganization discussion and vote will occur at next week's Arts Faculty Council meeting. Assuming that vote is affirmative, the motion will move forward to Senate.

Faculty were asked to RSVP for the SJU Celebration of Graduates on June 12, 2025, if not already.

## 10. President Report

The UWaterloo Associate Vice-President, Academic Operations and the Affiliated and Federated Institutions of Waterloo (AFIW) heads continue to meet regularly for ongoing relationship discussions, right now reviewing the service agreement (the UWaterloo/AFIW Memorandum of Understanding for the framework agreement has recently been signed). They are always looking for ways to work together and the President lobbies for SJU to be involved in various activities. Since the UWaterloo budget has been approved, the President wonders whether discussions in the next meetings will include the equity agreement.

Dean of Arts A. Tcheuyap will be welcomed as a member at large on our Board of Governors at his first Board meeting next Thursday. The President looks forward to working closely with him to continue to build the relationship between Arts and SJU.

The last Lectures in Catholic Experience will be held on May 15, 2025, with Fr. G. Boyle, SJ presenting, "Cherished Belonging: The Healing Power of Love in Divided Times." Fr. Boyle's work has been the Catholic Higher Education Reading Group's topic of discussion this year. He is a compelling speaker and we are expecting a full house.

SJU recently had its last Board meeting with Bishop Crosby, who will be retiring soon. There was a good discussion about SJU's mission and the future direction of the University. A Board retreat is being planned in July to focus on SJU's vision of being Canada's premier Catholic university in Canada, the networking and work needed to realize that goal, and to reflect/engage on who we are, what we do, why it is important, challenges we are facing, etc.

The President and the VPAD are working on what will be happening in the Registrar's office and hope to make an announcement in the coming weeks.

SJU will be hosting the National Synodal Gathering on June 15-18, 2025, and a number of delegates from across Canada will be coming to speak. The President feels hosting this conference at SJU is important as a legacy of Pope Francis, who had started the concept of synodality.

#### **11. Indigenization and Decolonization**

The next meeting of the Indigenous Advisory Circle (IAC) will be on June 11, 2025. The President is thankful to our community members who are supporting the Indigenous members on the Circle. The IAC is continuing to work on a draft of an Indigenous Strategic Plan for SJU.

May 5 is Red Dress Day, and this year it falls on the first day of students being back for the Spring term. The Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Working Group has been collaborating with Dr. A. Deman on displaying red dresses on our campus (donations of dresses welcome) and other details. Thank you to Deman for leading and carrying out this initiative in previous years to bring awareness of this meaningful day.

The UWaterloo Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Office is teaming with the UWaterloo Office of Indigenous Relations on a Red Dress Ceremony, May 5, 2025, 10:30 AM-1:30 PM, with a sacred fire, hanging of red dresses, and an Ojibway/Mohawk guest speaker.

#### **12. Announcements and Events**

There were no announcements.

#### **13. New Business**

There was no new business.

**Motion:** To adjourn the Open Session and move into Confidential Session.

**Moved:** B. Tremblay, **Seconded:** C.A. MacGregor, **Carried.**

April 25, 2025

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