University of Windsor

PDC261022M

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
Minutes of Meeting

Date: Thursday, October 22, 2026
Time: 2:30pm-4:00pm
Room: 209 Assumption Hall and MS Teams

PRESENT: Kyle Asquith, Darryl Danelon, Jess Dixon, Adriana Duquette, Henrique Géa, Nick Hector, Arunita Jaekel, Dave Johnston, Matthew Najem, Kenneth Ng, Jane Simanovski, Dora Strelkova, Chris Waters, Zuochen Zhang.

ABSENT: Amangel Bhullar (regrets),Bianca Lenarduzzi, Isabella Francis, Jessica Raffoul (regrets), Mahmmood Mohebshadedin, Jeremy Worth (regrets).

IN ATTENDANCE: Ken Montgomery (for Item 5.1-5.3); Marcelo Arbex, Phil Dutton (For item 5.8); Alison Zilli (Associate University Secretary), Renée Wintermute (University Secretary).

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1 Approval of Agenda

MOTION: That the agenda be approved.

Nick Hector/Jess Dixon

Items 5.5, 5.8, and 5.12 were unstarred

CARRIED, as amended

2 Minutes of Meeting of September 16, 2026
(See document PDC260916M for more details.)

MOTION: That the minutes of September 16, 2026 be approved.

Nick Hector/Kenneth Ng
CARRIED

3 Business Arising from the Minutes
Nothing to report.

5 Reports/New Business

5.1 Education – Minor Program Changes

a. **Education (Consecutive) – Minor Program Changes (Form C)**
b. **Education (Tech Studies) – Minor Program Changes (Form C)**
c. **Education (Concurrent) – Minor Program Changes (Form C)**
(See document PDC261022-5.1a-c for more details.)

MOTION : That the degree requirements for the Bachelor of Education (BEd) (Primary/Junior and Intermediate/Seniors), the Bachelor of Education (BEd) in Technological Studies/Diploma in Education – Technological Studies and the Concurrent Bachelor of Education programs be changed in accordance with the program/course change forms.^

^*Subject to approval of the expenditures required.*

Adriana Duquette/Dave Johnston

NOTED:

- The changes are in response to a government directive regarding moving to a 12-month teacher education program.
- The new modular approach will be monitored following its initial implementation, with opportunities to assess its effectiveness and make further refinements, as needed.
- In response to a question raised about the streams having different credit totals, it was noted that this was pedagogically intentional and the legislation requires a minimum of 45 credits.
- The pass/fail approach is not expected to negatively affect students pursuing graduate studies as the proposed model will use a 70% threshold for a passing grade.
- In response to a question regarding students who need to repeat a course, which may require an extension to their program timeline, it was noted that the 12-month legislative requirement only applies to the program structure and does not preclude individual student extensions.

AGREED:

- That the pass/fail language (which implies a 50% threshold) be changed to satisfactory/non-satisfactory to avoid confusion with existing grading conventions.
- That it be clarified that a grade of satisfactory corresponds to a minimum grade of 70%.
- That the Standing Required for Graduation Policy be reviewed to ensure consistency with the revised assessment terminology.

CARRIED, as amended

***5.2 Education -Summary of Minor Course and Calendar Changes (Form E)**

5.2a Appendix – Working Framework

(See document PDC261022-5.2-5.2a for more details.)

The document was received for information.*

***5.3 Sino-Canadian Transnational Education (TNE)**

5.3a Establishing Joint Programs in China

(See document PDC261022-5.3-5.3a for more details.)

The document was received for information.*

***5.4 Suspension of Admissions – Minor in Anthrozoology and IAS Minor Concentration**

(See document PDC261022-5.4 for more details.)

The document was received for information.*

5.5 Suspension of Admissions – Greek and Roman Studies (Honours, Combined, and Major Concentration) *(See document PDC261022-5.5 for more details.)*

AGREED:

- That the rationale for the suspension of admissions be included in the proposal.
- The document was received for information.

***5.6 Suspension of Admissions – MA in Communication, Media and Film**

(See document PDC261022-5.6 for more details.)

The document was received for information.*

***5.7 Suspension of Admissions – Master of Arts in Economics and Master of Applied Economic Policy (MAEP)** *(See document PDC261022-5.7 for more details.)*

The document was received for information.*

***5.8 Business (Graduate) – Minor Program Changes (Form C) (MBA-PAS)**
(See document PDC261022-5.8 for more details.)

MOTION: That the degree requirements for the Master of Business Administration Professional Accounting Specialization (MBA-PAS) be changed in accordance with the program/course change forms.^

^*Subject to approval of the expenditures required.*

CARRIED*

***5.9 Mechanical Engineering (BASc) – Minor Program Changes (Form C)**
(See document PDC261022-5.9 for more details.)

MOTION: That the degree requirements for the Bachelor of Applied Science in Mechanical Engineering programs (General, Aerospace, Automotive, Environmental, and Materials Options) (with/without Coop) be changed in accordance with the program/course change forms.^

^*Subject to approval of the expenditures required.*

CARRIED*

***5.10 Bachelor of Engineering Technology (BET) – Minor Program Changes (Form C)**
(See document PDC261022-5.10 for more details.)

MOTION: That the degree requirements for the Bachelor of Engineering Technology– General Stream and Mechanical Stream be changed in accordance with the program/course change forms.^

^*Subject to approval of the expenditures required.*

CARRIED*

***5.11 Business – Minor Program Changes (Form C)**
(See document PDC261022-5.11 for more details.)

MOTION 1: That the requirements for the Specialization in Business Analytics and Supply Chain Management be changed in accordance with the program/course change forms.^

MOTION 2: That the Specialization in Business Analytics and Supply Chain Management for Honours Business Administration and Computer Science only be discontinued.

^*Subject to approval of the expenditures required.*

***CARRIED**

5.12 BA and BSc General Programs – No Direct Admissions
(See document PDC261022-5.12 for more details.)

MOTION: With the exception of the concurrent programs with Education, that admission be offered only to the four-year honours programs in the Faculty of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences and the Faculty of Science, with the three-year general programs available for in-course students who may subsequently choose to graduate in three years.

Darryl Danelon/Matthew Najem

NOTED:

- The proposed amendment reflects a broader trend across postsecondary institutions, as it further encourages students to pursue honours degrees and maximizes enrolment reporting to the Ministry.
- Some members noted that three-year programs serve a diverse student population, with students choosing these degrees for a variety of reasons, including balancing university studies with employment, financial constraints, completing a degree within a shorter timeframe, and meeting the academic requirements for specific career pathways such as law, pharmacy, medicine, education, etc. Students specifically seeking a three-year degree may be reluctant to apply to an Honours program with the intention of transferring to a general program later.
- Some students have reported not fully understand the differences between a general and honours degree; interpreting "general" as broad-based four-year degrees rather than three-year degrees.
- Given faculty capacity and resource constraints, the risk associated with pursuing individual advising encouraging students to transfer into an honours program in order to increase four-year enrolment may be higher than requiring applicants to enrol in four-year programs and allowing them to transfer into a three-year program once registered.

AGREED:

- Recruitment materials will need to clearly communicate that the University continues to offer three-year general programs and that students can transfer into these programs at any time. This approach ensures that applicants do not inadvertently limit their future options by entering a three-year program at the outset, while placing them on a pathway toward a four-year degree and potential post-graduate study. Students should also be informed of the implications of transferring to a three-year degree on their future academic and career aspirations.
- Because admissions requirements to the General BA in Economics differ significantly from the Honours degree and because degree completion pathways are not direct entry into first year, these should also be exceptions.

FRIENDLY AMENDMENT: With the exception of the concurrent programs with Education, *the General BA in Economics, and degree completion pathways,* that there be no direct admission to the three-year general programs in the Faculty of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences and the Faculty of Science *for applicants through OUAC. The* general programs will remain available for in-course students *who may choose to, or be required to, move to a three year program*.

CARRIED, as amended

AGREED:

- A discussion ensued on whether this fell under the purview of PDC/Senate. It was agreed that this approach, initiated as a pilot last year, does not require any academic changes by Senate. Admissions requirements, program regulations, degree requirements, and standing for continuation or for graduation remain unchanged and therefore does not appear to fall under the mandate of Senate.

6 Question Period/Other Business

Nothing to report.

7 Adjournment

MOTION: That the meeting be adjourned.

Adriana Duquette/Jess Dixon

CARRIED