SC230322M



SENATE STUDENT CAUCUS Minutes of Meeting

Date: Wednesday, March 22, 2023

Time: 2:34-3:08am

Room: Room 203, Anthony P. Toldo Health Education Centre & MS Teams

Committee Members: Laila Albalkhi (co-Chair), Dave Andrews (Chair), Dora Cavallo-Medved, Ehab Elsaid, Sarah Glassford, Shae Harasym, Jennifer Johrendt, Muthukeerhana Kaliappan, Donna Patterson, Ruth Kuras, Jody Ralph, Andrew Ward.

Absent: Kamika Kechego, Sarah Khan, Phebe Lam (regrets), Bianca Lenarduzzi, Alice Nelson (regrets), Lauren Pupulin (regrets), Hussein Samhat (regrets), Christine Vanderkooy (regrets).

In Attendance: Rob Gordon, Dennis Jackson; Danny Anger (Senate Governance Officer), Renée Wintermute (University Secretary)

1 Approval of Agenda

MOTION: That the agenda be approved.

J. Johrendt/A. Ward CARRIED

2 Minutes of the meeting of January 23, 2023

MOTION: That the minutes of the meeting of January 23, 2023, be approved.

J. Johrendt/S. Glassford CARRIED

3 Business arising from the minutes Nothing to report.

4 Outstanding business

Nothing to report.

5 Reports/New Business

5.1 Report of the Student Co-Chair

NOTED:

- In 2022/2023 SSC continued monitoring the anonymous feedback form. The forum saw a decrease in popularity from previous years and there was a shift in focus from seeking feedback to proactively providing information to student groups.
- The Co-Chair was able to help resolve issues brought to them by meeting with the parties concerns. There were no issues brought forward requiring SSC consideration.
- The 'Did You Know' campaign (a poster highlighting academic bylaws aimed to increase awareness and understanding) will be distributed before finals begin. There are two versions: one for undergraduate and another for graduate students.

5.2 UWindsor Strategic Plan – Strategic Priority: Ensuring a High Quality, Relevant Teaching, Learning and Student Experience for Everyone

(See document SC230322-5.2 & 5.2a for more details.)

NOTED:

- A summary of the University of Windsor's final proposed Strategic Plan "Aspire, Together for Tomorrow" was provided to members, with focus on the strategic priorities as it relates to students.
- At the March Senate meeting, the Aspire Strategic Plan received strong endorsement by Senators and will be forwarded to the Board of Governors for approval at its March meeting.

Discussion on Campus Safety:

- The University is working closely with the City of Windsor and the Windsor Police Service to better support the health and safety of students and staff in the downtown campus. The city is implementing a broader safety plan with the aid of a safety consulting firm, Strategic Corp.
- Discussions have started with aiding in transportation from main to downtown campus.
- It was noted that the University has recently implemented an alarm bell safety tool, but students are not aware of its existence and functions. It was suggested that once the University implements new safety measures, that they are marketed to the University community.
- It was noted that the "Flip the Script" program should be more active throughout the campus and more marketing should be provided to students on the benefits and accessibility of the program.
- In response to a question raised regarding the collaboration of UWindsor and St. Clair College to aid in safety in measures, it was noted that the UWSA is working closely with student bodies from St. Clair College to bring forward any issues with regards to safety in the downtown campuses.
- In response to a question raised regarding increasing cybersecurity measures and whether there is a plan in place, it was noted that the next step is to provide intensive training/education for members across the campus community to mitigate cyber risks.

5.3 Draft Student Perceptions of Teaching - Pilot Form

(See document SC230322-5.3 for more details.)

NOTED:

- A comprehensive overview was provided on the mandate of the SET Task Force and the review of the Student Evaluations of Teaching (SETs). An extensive consultation process which included focus groups and pilots were conducted, as well as continued analysis and feedback from faculty and students.
- The proposed draft survey instrument, which will be renamed *Student Perception of Teaching (SPT)*, includes a variety of questions pertaining to instructor delivery, grading expectation and feedback, positive learning environment, facilitation of learning, workload and difficult, student motivation, global questions, and student learning questions.
- Once approved, it is proposed that a continuous improvement approach be established through a Steering Committee which will monitor SPT use and review any issues that arise.
- In response to a question raised regarding repetition in questions, it was noted that words are slightly modified to differentiate questions, though the initial pilot was very small. With the roll-out of the new form, the Steering Committee will be able to assess whether questions should be revised or removed.
- In response to a concern raised around bias and that instructors are not being accurately assessed, it was noted that the Steering Committee will be assessing responses for bias and proposing changes as needed, as well as developing a mechanism to remove inappropriate responses.
- In response to a question raised regarding smaller classes and whether those classes can be subject to SPTs, it was noted that the Task Force will investigate this further but the intent is to continue with the current policy allowing classes of 3-5 to complete SPTs, no breakdown will be reported by student characteristic/demographic data at all.
- In response to a concern raised regarding whether the SPT should be provided to students in a written document (as previously done) or electronic format, it was noted that the Task Force is recommending an

online form and reviewing the most effective way to ensure maximum student participation, one of which would require that instructors provide 15 minutes at the beginning of a class to complete the survey.

AGREED:

• A clear statement on the purpose and the usage of information for renewal, promotion and tenure, and its implementation in the case of smaller class sizes should precede the survey.

5.4 Report on Student Affairs and Life on Campus

Student Experience

(See document SC230322-5.4 for more details.)

NOTED:

• The Associate Vice-President, Student Experience provided an in-depth written report regarding student affairs and life on campus, including ongoing and upcoming initiatives, events, and challenges.

Campus Services

NOTED:

- The new Director of Ancillary Operations was introduced. Ancillary Operations (also referred to as Campus Services) oversees the Campus Bookstore, Print Shop, UWIN Card Office, Food, Catering, and Conference Services, and Parking Services.
- Campus Services are excited to be teaming up with the BIDE Institute and Office of Student Experience to distribute menstrual cups and products across campus to students.

6 Question period/Other Business

Nothing to report.

7 Adjournment

MOTION: That the meeting be adjourned.

J. Ralph/D. Cavallo-Medved

CARRIED