

**SENATE
Minutes of Meeting**

Date: Friday, February 11, 2011

Time: 2:30-4:30pm

PRESENT: Mr. Ahmed Abou Gharam, Dr. Philip Adamson, Dr. Imran Ahmad, Dr. Talal Al-Hayale, Dr. Yunbi An, Dr. David Andrews, Dr. Robert Arnold, Dr. Abdul-Fattah Asfour, Dr. Vladimir Bajic, Dr. Ram Balachandar, Dr. Robert Boucher, Dr. Lori Buchanan, Dr. Rick Caron, Ms. Krystal Chan, Mr. Ian Clough, Dr. Allan Conway, Dr. Gordon Drake, Ms. Gwen Ebbett, Prof. Bruce Elman, Dr. Jamey Essex, Dr. Jim Frank, Dr. Bob Gaspar, Dr. Martin Girash, Dr. Leo Groarke, Dr. Paul Henshaw, Dr. Kai Hildebrandt, Dr. Leslie Howsam, Dr. H. Jacobs, Dr. Arunita Jaekel, Dr. Jennifer Johrendt, Dr. Marlys Koschinsky, Dr. Dietmar Lage, Dr. Anna Lanoszka, Dr. Brent Lee, Mr. Marty Lowman, Dr. Charles Macdonald, Dr. Roman Maev, Mr. Greg Marcotte, Ms. Laine McGarragle, Dr. Kevin Milne, Dr. Pamela Milne, Prof. Emir Mohammed, Ms. Sharon Munro, Ms. Zeina Nassereddine, Dr. Bob Orr, Ms. Kim Orr, Dr. Wansoo Park, Dr. Linda Patrick, Dr. Alan Phipps, Ms. Erin Plumb, Dr. Katherine Quinsey, Dr. Dale Rajacich, Ms. Ayesha Raza, Dr. Pat Rogers, Mr. Birendra Sapkota, Ms. Mary Schisler, Dr. Frank Simpson, Dr. Jang Singh, Ms. Gayathri Sivakumar, Dr. Clayton Smith, Dr. Kara Smith, Dr. Edwin Tam, Dr. Bruce Tucker, Dr. Mike Weis, Dr. Alan Wildeman (Chair), Prof. Larry Wilson, Dr. James Winter, Dr. Nader Zamani, Dr. George Zhou.

REGRETS: Prof. Jeffery Berryman, Ms. Samantha Clarke, Dr. Alan Hall, Mr. Tory James, Dr. Cecil Houston, Dr. Ed King, Dr. Jagdish Pathak, Rev. Dr. Paul Rennick, Ms. Stephanie Saad, Dr. Robert Schurko.

ABSENT: Dr. Brent Angell, Mr. Abdel Babker, Dr. Ranjana Bird.

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms. Sandra Aversa, Ms. Jane Boyd, Prof. Kathryn Edmuns, Dr. Christie Ezeife, Mr. Stephen Fields, Mrs. Holly Ward, Mr. Stephen Willetts, Dr. Alan Wright, Ms. Renée Wintermute and Ms. Alison Zilli (University Secretariat).

1 Report of the Senate Steering Committee

1.1 Approval of the agenda (Unstarring agenda items)

Item 5.4.1 was **WITHDRAWN**.

MOTION: That the agenda be approved.

Essex/Koschinsky
CARRIED, as amended

2 Minutes of the meeting of January 14, 2011.

MOTION: That the minutes of meeting of January 14, 2011 be approved.

FRIENDLY AMENDMENT: RE: Item 5.7 (Study Group Discussion): It was agreed that the following sentence be inserted immediately before the paragraph beginning, “ *The view was expressed that if we do not know the reasons for losing international students at the end of their first year of study, then we are presenting Study Group, or anyone else, who might undertake the level-one instruction of international students, with “a mission impossible”. Have we learned anything new, since the previous discussion about why the retention of international students beyond level one is poor? In response, it was noted that the matter is currently under investigation. It is encouraging that retention has improved greatly, compared to several years ago.*”

Tucker/Weis
CARRIED, as amended

3 Business arising from the minutes

Nothing to report.

4 Outstanding Business/Action Items

Nothing to report.

5 Reports/New Business

5.1 Report from Student Caucus (UWSA, OPUS, GSS)

University of Windsor Students Alliance (UWSA)

Members were informed that the UWSA is in the process of creating a policy relating to outside banking in order to provide greater flexibility to clubs doing transactions. Members were also informed that two UWSA students represented the University of Windsor on the Standing Committee for Finance and Economic Affairs for the Provincial budget. It was noted that one of the issues is to work towards increasing facilities for international students. It was also noted that UWSA is seeking advice from Senators and Faculty members who would be willing to meet with the UWSA to provide business strategies and marketing advice to change the *Thirsty Scholar* pub into a revenue generating venture. Given that the *Thirsty Scholar* is a valuable service to students, UWSA would like to revitalize the business.

Senators were informed that a student is being personally sued by the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS), which is extremely concerning to UWSA. It was noted that the student being sued was involved in collecting signatures on a petition which called for *right to vote* on membership within the CFS (whether it is to stay or leave the organization). As a result, UWSA will be indemnifying the student. Senators were urged to convey cautionary information to faculty and staff regarding CFS' lobbying tactics.

A Senator asked if the Drop Fee Coalition and The Student Movement Newspaper were the same organization as the Canadian Federation of Students. Several Senators explained that CFS is a separate organization and that The Student Movement and the Drop Fees Coalition are local organizations made up of University of Windsor students.

Organization of Part-Time University Students (OPUS)

In response to a student concern raised regarding the perception that Senate Student Committee meetings are often cancelled, that student concerns are not being addressed and, that very few reports come forward to Senate, it was agreed that clarification regarding these comments/issues will be addressed at the next Senate meeting as well as information on how students can bring their concerns forward to Student Committee.

Graduate Students Society (GSS)

Members were informed that GSS recently distributed scholarships to graduate students in financial need and good academic standing. GSS extended sincere appreciation to all Faculties, Departments, Offices and individuals that contributed to the scholarship fund. It was noted that a banquet will be held on March 11, 2011 in recognition of these generous donations.

Senators were informed that a 'rally' to protest GA funding was covered by various local news channels including the CBC and Windsor Star. It was noted that the main concern is that students were 'promised' a certain amount of funding though graduate assistantship but many of these students have experienced a significant reduction in GA hours. In response, the President noted that the University is in the process of determining how to resolve this situation in order to meet the needs of graduate students.

Members were informed that GSS is in the process of negotiating a lease agreement for the Grad House.

5.2 Report of the President

Aquatic Research News

Members were informed that University of Windsor ecologist Dr. Hugh MacIsaac, a professor at University of Windsor's Great Lakes Institute for Environmental Research, will lead a \$6.5 million network involving some of the nation's top scientists devoted to finding solutions to the growing problem of aquatic invasive species in Canada's rivers, lakes and coastal waters. The project will be funded by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC), in partnership with Fisheries and Oceans Canada and Transport Canada.

Council of Ontario Universities

It was noted that there have been various discussions generated around the importance of post secondary education, accessibility, tuition fees and whether the province is developing a five year plan to replace the current one which is coming to an end..

Associate VP, Academic Affairs

Congratulations were extended to Dr. Bruce Tucker who has agreed to another term as Associate Vice-President, Academic Affairs.

Office of the Vice-Provost, Students and International

The Office of the Vice-Provost, Students and International is in the process of moving to its new location in the CAW Student Centre. An opening ceremony will be held in mid-March. All are welcome to attend.

Study Group

Based on a wide number of factors, including many that lie outside the purview of Senate, the President requested that the Study Group motion be removed from the agenda. These broader considerations lie outside the academic debate that would have occurred at this meeting. The President noted that every major decision affecting this institution has to be made through a number of lenses: 1) Is this in the best interests of our students?; 2) Do we have the staff and facilities to support a Study Group partnership?; 3) Will it unify our campus to pursue a new, innovative idea that will further our vision for this university?; 4) From the perspective of Senate's purview over academic matters, will a Study Group partnership align with our collective aspirations for student success?; and, 5) From the standpoint of the business of the University, is this a good approach?

The President noted that many of these issues are not unlike the ones that had to be considered when a Fall reading week was contemplated. There were a range of institutional issues in that decision with respect to institutional resources, staffing, *etc.*

Members were reminded that the Study Group motion came forward through the normal process to bring it to a vote at Senate. The President noted that valuable discussions and ideas were brought to surface as a result of that process, and thanked all those involved in the discussion and debate. The President also extended his gratitude to those who spent a great deal of time and worked so hard to explore the Study Group possibility in preparation for Senate, particularly those departments and Deans that saw an opportunity, and Dr. Bruce Tucker, who worked tirelessly on everyone's behalf to try to find solutions to a complex opportunity.

Nevertheless, members were informed that following careful consideration of all of the issues listed, the President concluded that even if the motion were to stay on the agenda and be passed by Senate, he would not sign a contract with Study Group, now or ever.

The President stressed that the University must continue to identify ways to attract more domestic and international students or the institution will "flat-line". The University must find ways of increasing revenue and build upon the growing interest in the University of Windsor from Ontario and International students.

The University of Windsor remains committed to the strategic priority of international students and continues to work to ensure that they have a smooth transition and are successful in their academic careers. Members were informed that the Spring issue of VIEW magazine features the importance of attracting and supporting international students and explains how they enrich the campus culture and the Windsor community.

The floor was open for comments and questions.

The opinion was expressed that the Study Group proposal should have been democratically voted on by Senators to be approved or defeated, rather than being withdrawn from the agenda. In response it was noted that it is Senate that decided to remove the proposal at the beginning of the Senate meeting when it voted in favour of the amended agenda.

The opinion was also expressed that not having Study Group go forward was the “right decision for the university” and can be seen by many as being a victory. In response to a question raised as to whether Study Group will come back to Senate in the future, it was reiterated by the President that it will not come back to Senate.

In response to a question raised, it was noted that there were a number of questions, outside of academic issues, for which adequate resolutions were not being found.

It was expressed that the Ontario Government’s goal of increasing international enrolment by 50 per cent while still maintaining spaces for Ontario students is “too narrow of a focus” to meet the University’s goal of internationalization. In order to help students succeed and to really pursue the continued internationalization of the University, the University should leverage and embrace international expertise on campus in a consultative way through research collaborations, by building stronger networks, by including international foci into programs and course, etc., in addition to focusing on international enrolments. In response, it was noted that the University’s Strategic Plan does address these much broader issues which are extremely important.

In response to a question raised, it was noted that the International Students’ Centre helps students seeking advice on the application process, visa/immigration process and various other international student issues. It was further noted that international student issues and concerns can be forwarded to the Vice-Provost Students and International, Dr. Clayton Smith.

In response to a question raised, it was noted that there currently is no aggressive international marketing and branding campaign. However, there is a Working Group that is focusing on marketing in Ontario.

5.3 Report of the Academic Colleague

Nothing to report.

5.4 Program Development Committee

5.4.1 University of Windsor Degree Completion Programs for Study Group Foundation Diploma Graduates *(See document Sa110211-5.4.1 for more details.)*

This item was WITHDRAWN. See 5.2 above.

5.4.2 Bachelor of Computer Science – (Honours Applied Computing) Degree Completion Program

(See document Sa110211-5.4.2 for more details.)

MOTION: That the *Bachelor of Computer Science (Honours Applied Computing) (with and without Co-op) Degree Completion Program, for Graduates of St Clair Three-Year Diploma in Computer Systems Technology – Networking or Equivalent Three-Year College of Arts and Applied Technology Diploma Program*, be approved.

Mohammed/Ahmad

In response to a question raised, it was noted that the planned student enrolment in the co-op component is five students.

CARRIED, as amended

5.4.3 Bachelor of Computer Science - (General) Degree Completion Program

(See document Sa110211-5.4.3 for more details.)

MOTION: That the *Bachelor of Computer Science (General) Degree Completion Program, for Graduates of St Clair Three-Year Diploma in Computer Systems Technology – Networking or Equivalent Three-Year College of Arts and Applied Technology Diploma Program*, be approved.

Ahmad/Weis

CARRIED

5.4.4 Honours Labour Studies – New Program Proposal
(See document Sa110211-5.4.4 for more details.)

MOTION: That the *Honours Labour Studies New Program Proposal* be approved.

Buchanan/Quinsey

In response to a question raised, it was noted that students will now have the option of taking a three-year general degree or a four-year honours degree.

CARRIED

***5.4.5 Program/Course Changes**

***a) FASS**

(See document Sa110211-5.4.5a for more details.)

MOTION: That the *FASS Program/Course Changes* be approved.*

*CARRIED

***b) Kinesiology**

(See document Sa110211-5.4.5b for more details.)

MOTION: That the *Kinesiology Program/Course Changes* be approved.*

*CARRIED

***c) History**

(See document Sa110211-5.4.5c for more details.)

MOTION: That the *History Program/Course Changes* be approved.*

*CARRIED

***d) Psychology (Graduate)**

(See document Sa110211-5.4.5d for more details.)

MOTION: That the *Psychology (Graduate) Program/Course Changes* be approved.*

*CARRIED

***5.4.6 Summary of Minor Course and Calendar Changes Business**

***a) Business**

(See document Sa110211-5.4.6a for more details.)

The document was received for information.*

***b) Labour Studies**

(See document Sa110211-5.4.6b for more details.)

The document was received for information.*

***c) Nursing**

(See document Sa110211-5.4.6c for more details.)

The document was received for information.*

***d) Psychology**

(See document Sa110211-5.4.6d for more details.)

The document was received for information.*

***e) Psychology - Graduate**

(See document Sa110211-5.4.6e for more details.)

The document was received for information.*

***f) Social Work**

(See document Sa110211-5.4.6f for more details.)

The document was received for information.*

5.5 Academic Policy Committee

Nothing to report.

5.6 Senate Student Committee

Nothing to report.

5.7 Report of the Provost

Graduate Review Committee - Survey

Members were reminded that February 14th, 2011 is the last day for responding to the graduate survey which pertains to current perceptions of strengths and weaknesses in the area of graduate studies. The goal is to receive a minimum of 800 confidential and anonymous responses which will help in planning the future direction of graduate studies. It was noted that participants will be eligible for one of four \$50 gift certificates from the University of Windsor Bookstore.

Searches

Members were informed that the searches for the Dean of Education, Dean of Engineering, Dean of Human Kinetics, Dean of Graduate Studies and Dean of Law are currently underway. Each of the searches are at various stages of the process.

Admission and Recruitment

A small group comprised of Dr. Edwin Tam, Dr. David Bussiere and Dr. Katherine Quinsey has been charged with assisting the Provost in reviewing admissions and recruitment.

5.8 Report of Vice-President, Research

Nothing to report.

6 Question Period/Other Business

Nothing to report.

7 Adjournment

MOTION: That the meeting be adjourned.

K. Smith/Quinsey
CARRIED