

SENATE  
Minutes of Meeting

**Date:** Friday, February 10, 2012

**Time:** 2:30pm-5:00pm

**Room:** 203 Toldo

**PRESENT:** Mr. Ahmed Abou Gharam, Dr. Brent Angell, Dr. Ranjana Bird, Dr. Pierre Boulos, Dr. Lori Buchanan, Dr. Camille Cameron, Mr. Andre Capaldi, Dr. Rick Caron, Ms. Krystal Chan, Dr. Beth Daly, Dr. John Deukmedjian, Dr. Ken Drouillard, Dr. Philip Dutton, Ms. Hagar Elsayed, Dr. Joel Gagnon, Dr. Leo Groarke, Dr. Paul Henshaw, Dr. Cecil Houston, Dr. Maureen Irish, Dr. Arunita Jaekel, Dr. Michael Khan, Dr. Ed King, Dr. Marlys Koschinsky, Dr. Dietmar Lage, Dr. George Lan, Dr. Martha Lee, Mr. Marty Lowman, Dr. Charles Macdonald, Prof. Cyndra MacDowall, Ms. Sheila MacKinnon, Dr. Roman Maev, Mr. Greg Marcotte, Mr. Anthony Meloche, Dr. Kevin Milne, Dr. Pamela Milne, Dr. Radu Neculau, Dr. Derek Northwood, Dr. Chike Okecheku, Ms. Kimberley Orr, Dr. Katherine Quinsey, Dr. Dale Rajacich, Dr. Antonio Rossini, Dr. Mehrdad Saif, Mr. Mary Schisler, Dr. Esaignani Selvarajah, Dr. Victor Sevillano, Dr. Jang Singh, Dr. Clayton Smith, Ms. Jennifer Soutter, Mr. Vajo Stajic, Mr. Tareq Moohammad Supon, Dr. Marijke Taks, Dr. Edwin Tam, Mr. Kannappan Thiagarajan, Ms. Nadia Timperio, Dr. Shelagh Towson, Dr. Bruce Tucker, Prof. Lionel Walsh, Dr. Mike Weis, Dr. Alan Wildeman, Dr. Larry Wilson, Dr. Shijing Xu, Dr. Nader Zamani, Mr. Omar Zghal.

**REGRETS:** Dr. Irene Carter, Dr. Carol Davison, Dr. Gordon Drake, Ms. Gwen Ebbett, Ms. Marilyn Farrough, Dr. Anna Lanoszka, Dr. Brent Lee, Ms. Sharon Munro, Dr. Linda Patrick, Rev. Thomas Rosica, Dr. Robert Weaver, Dr. Patricia Weir, Dr. Shuzhen Zhao.

**ABSENT:** Mr. Hassan Chaudhry, Dr. Allan Conway, Mr. Tory James, Dr. Norman King, Ms. Elizabeth Long, Dr. Rajesh Seth, Dr. Sang-Chul Suh.

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** Ms. Sandra Aversa, Dr. Nihar Biswas, Ms. Jane Boyd, Mr. Chris Busch, Dr. Thecla Damianakis, Ms. Renée Wintermute, Ms. Alison Zilli

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Ms. Renée Wintermute and Ms. Alison Zilli (University Secretariat).

**1 Report of the Senate Steering Committee**

**1.1 Approval of the agenda**

Item 5.4.1a was unstarred.

**MOTION: That the agenda be approved.**

Walsh/Dutton  
**CARRIED, as amended**

**2 Minutes of the meeting of January 13, 2012**

**MOTION: That the minutes of meeting of January 13, 2012 be approved.**

Thiagarajan/Koschinsky  
**CARRIED**

**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's Student Alliance (UWSA)

Members were informed that the nomination period for the UWSA Winter General Elections is coming to a close. It is anticipated that the new Executive will be announced in early March.

The University of Windsor's Students' Alliance recently announced that there will be a referendum for mandatory bus passes. It is anticipated that the bus passes will increase usage and provide students with more affordable and accessible transportation to the University.

It was noted that, to date, there have been over 180 applications submitted online for the UWSA-nominated teaching awards.

#### Organization of Part-Time University Students (OPUS)

Members were informed that OPUS recently held two meetings geared to part-time students where they invited guest presenters to speak on a variety of topics. It was noted that one of the most interesting speakers was Diane Rawlings, Department head of Residence Services, who provided part-students with helpful information about life in residence. Of interest is that meal plans are available for all students to opt into, not just students in residences.

#### Graduate Student Society (GSS)

Members were informed that GSS is offering scholarships to graduate students who are in financial need and in good academic standing. Members were also informed that GSS sent their five-year strategic plan forward to their Council and is continuing to look at creating a new framework for the Grad House. The society has engaged the graduate student population by hosting a "handbook cover" contest with a cash prize for the winner.

## **5.2 Report of the President**

The President noted that applications are up from last year which is a reflection of the ongoing and innovative recruitment efforts. Further, the percentage of students that selected Windsor as their first choice is up significantly. It is encouraging that students are expressing greater interest in attending the University of Windsor.

Senators were reminded that the President has invited members of Senate to forward him names of Senators who would be ideal candidates to sit on the Search Committee for the Chancellor of the University. Once the candidates are chosen, the Search Committee will be struck to consider the renewal/successor of Mr. Ed. Lumley whose term concludes in April 2013.

It was noted that Glenn Murray, the Ontario Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities recently travelled to the University of Windsor to discuss the new 30 per cent tuition grant for university and college students. All eligible students were strongly encouraged to register online for the grant. At the presentation, the Minister was extremely enthusiastic about the strength of post-secondary sector, but also recognized that there are currently no additional monies to invest.

Senators were informed that the Drummond report, which will be released on February 15, 2012 by the Ontario government, is rumored to be an extremely lengthy document that will report on the provincial economy, including a need for greater efficiency at universities.

Members were reminded that the Auditor General will be embarking on an audit on how universities evaluate teaching. It is anticipated that three or four universities will be chosen by the Auditor for an initial audit. The only university chosen to date is the University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT).

Members were informed that there has been a great deal of discussion at the government level regarding the notion that post-secondary education needs to be more flexible for students. It is being proposed that this can be done by moving away from a standard four-year undergraduate degree and compressing it into a three-year program by offering classes year round and allowing students to earn more credits online. Although making completion of degrees shorter *may* be more affordable for students and the university (depending how the tuition framework is determined), there is concern about how this will impact the quality of the education and the student experience. Members were also informed that there has been some discussion about universities moving to a "flat-fee" tuition structure for all arts and science programs.

The floor was open for comments.

It was expressed that it may be extremely difficult to compress a four-year degree into three-years given that students in programs, such as dramatic art learn, grow and improve upon their skills through hands-on studio practice which involves a great deal of time and practice, and personal growth. By removing one year of development, students may not have the same level of experience as they would with an additional year of learning.

It was noted that the Bologna process which set out a common framework of standardized three-year bachelor degrees and compressed graduate degrees appears to have worked well for the European countries that are part of this process.

### 5.3 Report of the Academic Colleague

Nothing to report.

### 5.4 Program Development Committee

#### \*5.4.1 Program Course Changes

##### a) Graduate

*(See document Sa120210-5.4.1a for more details.)*

**MOTION: That the Graduate Program/Course changes be approved.\***

*\*Subject to approval of the expenditures required.*

Walsh/King

Concern was raised regarding that it is sometimes difficult for graduate students to find Advisory Committee members. In response, it was noted that the proposed revision provides a mechanism for ensuring quality control measures for students in the Masters and PhD programs. It was further noted that the policy does provides flexibility for graduate students to have advisory committee members from cognate disciplines provided that they meet the required criteria.

Abstentions: 2

**CARRIED**

##### \*b) Science

*(See document Sa120210-5.4.1b for more details.)*

**MOTION: That the Science Program/Course changes be approved.**

*\*Subject to approval of the expenditures required.*

**\*CARRIED**

##### \*c) Inter-Faculty

*(See document Sa120210-5.4.1c for more details.)*

**MOTION: That the Inter-Faculty Program/Course changes be approved.\***

*\*Subject to approval of the expenditures required.*

**\*CARRIED**

##### \*d) FASS

*(See document Sa120210-5.4.1d for more details.)*

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

*\*Subject to approval of the expenditures required.*

**\*CARRIED**

##### \*e) FASS – New Course Proposals

*(See document Sa120210-5.4.1e for more details.)*

**MOTION: That the *FASS New Course proposals* be approved.\***

*\*Subject to approval of the expenditures required.*

**\*CARRIED**

**\*f) Law**

*(See document Sa120210-5.4.1f for more details.)*

**MOTION: That the *Law Program/Course changes* be approved.\***

*\*Subject to approval of the expenditures required.*

**\*CARRIED**

**\*5.4.2 Correction – Program Name Change for Masters Program in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics**

*(See document Sa120210-5.4.2 for more details.)*

The document was received for information. \*

**\*5.4.3 Summary of Minor Course and Calendar Changes**

**\*a) Biochemistry**

*(See document Sa120210-5.4.3a for more details.)*

The document was received for information. \*

**\*b) Computer Science – Graduate**

*(See document Sa120210-5.4.3b for more details.)*

The document was received for information. \*

**\*c) Mechanical, Automotive and Materials Engineering**

*(See document Sa120210-5.4.3c for more details.)*

The document was received for information. \*

**\*d) Social Work – Graduate**

*(See document Sa120210-5.4.3d for more details.)*

The document was received for information. \*

**\*e) Communication, Media and Film**

*(See document Sa120210-5.4.3e for more details.)*

The document was received for information. \*

**\*f) Women’s Studies**

*(See document Sa120210-5.4.3f for more details.)*

The document was received for information. \*

**\*5.4.4 Request for Waiver of Course Deletion Form (24-310 Reader’s Theatre)**

*(See document Sa120210-5.4.4 for more details.)*

**MOTION: That the *Request for Waiver of Course Deletion Form (24-310 Reader’s Theatre)*, be approved.\***

*\*Subject to approval of the expenditures required.*

**\*CARRIED**

#### 5.4.5 Education Curriculum Changes

*(See document Sa120210-5.4.5 for more details.)*

**MOTION: That the curriculum changes to the Pre-Service BEd program approved in 2010-2011 to take effect 2011-2012 be rescinded and the 2010-2011 Pre-Service BEd program (prior to the changes) be re-activated for the 2012-2013 academic year.**

Walsh/Daly

The proposal to revert back to the Fall 2010-2011 Education curriculum will eliminate the significant increase in expenditures resulting from the implementation of the current curriculum. In addition to being costly, faculty members in Education feel that the 2011-2012 curriculum change has been extremely problematic and burdensome. In response to a question raised, it was noted that the Ontario government will likely be moving to expand the BEd program from a one-year to a two-year program. All other provinces in Canada have two-year Education programs.

**CARRIED**

#### 5.4.6 Bachelor of Applied Science in Mechanical Engineering Degree Completion Programs for Diploma of Engineering Program Graduates of Saint Mary's University

*(See document Sa120210-5.4.6 for more details.)*

**MOTION: That the proposed Bachelor of Applied Science in Mechanical Engineering Degree Completion programs (General Option Program, Automotive Option Program, Materials Option Program and Environmental Option Program) for Diploma of Engineering program graduates from Saint Mary's University be approved. \***

*\*Subject to approval of the expenditures required.*

Walsh/Zamani

The degree completion program will allow students to transfer from Saint Mary's University pre-engineering diploma program to the University of Windsor in order to complete a BASc Mechanical Engineering degree in either general, automotive option, materials option or environmental option. It was noted that the regulations to require a C- or better for transfer credit purposes is in line with University policy.

In response to a concern raised, it was noted that students can already be admitted to the full engineering program at Dalhousie University. This agreement will provide an alternative pathway for students who may prefer to attend university in Ontario as Saint Mary's University attracts and admits international students into its pre-engineering program.

In response to a question raised, it was noted that the proposal originated from discussions at an international recruitment event (St. Mary's shares the same recruitment firm as Windsor) where St. Mary's indicated an interest in exploring new options for students graduating from its engineering program.

Concern was raised by members regarding the issue that the program is already being advertised on Saint Mary's University's website. In response, it was agreed that the Dean of Engineering contact the institution to work out appropriate communications.

Abstention: 1

**CARRIED**

#### 5.4.7 Bachelor of Applied Science in Civil Engineering Degree Completion Program for Diploma of Engineering Program Graduates of Saint Mary's University

*(See document Sa120210-5.4.7 for more details.)*

**MOTION: That the proposed Bachelor of Applied Science in Civil Engineering Degree Completion program for Diploma of Engineering program graduates from Saint Mary's University be approved. \***

*\*Subject to approval of the expenditures required.*

Walsh/Henshaw

In response to a question about whether students have to spend two years in a pre-engineering diploma program at Saint Mary's University before they are eligible to transfer to Windsor to complete their engineering degree, it was clarified that this particular agreement is geared to students who have completed the pre-engineering diploma program and want to complete their degree in Ontario. It was stressed that there is nothing that restricts students from transferring to Windsor earlier and requesting transfer credit or coming directly to Windsor for their full degree.

Abstention:2  
**CARRIED**

## **5.5 Academic Policy Committee**

### **\*5.5.1 Policy for Exemption from the Foundations of Academic Writing I and II - Revision**

*(See document Sa120210-5.5.1 for more details.)*

**MOTION: That the Policy for Exemption from the Foundations of Academic Writing I and II - Revision be approved. \***

**CARRIED\***

## **5.6 Senate Student Committee**

Nothing to report.

## **5.7 Report of the Provost**

Early numbers indicate that applications are up, which speaks positively to how Windsor is being regarded by students in the province. It was noted that in comparison with last year's applications, first choice applications for Windsor was up by 10.5% and 2<sup>nd</sup> choice by 11%, which is very encouraging.

In response to a question raised regarding how we compare with other institutions, it was noted that it varies across Ontario with some institutions being up in applications, while others are maintaining similar applicant numbers. It was also noted that the OUAC website posts some preliminary statistical reports that can be accessed online.

Members were reminded that Decanal searches for the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, the Faculty of Education and the Faculty of Graduate Studies are all in different phases of the process.

Senators were informed that 80 applications were received for the Strategic Research Fund and it is anticipated that the results of the funding allocations will be determined by April.

Members were informed that the Outstanding Scholars program is currently in the process of being restructured and expanded so that in the future, it is open to students in all disciplines. The program, which provides high achieving undergraduate students with scholarship and professional training and mentorship, is currently only available to students in low enrolment programs. As of Fall 2013, the program will be open to students in all first-entry programs. It was noted that current students will be grandfathered under the rules in force at the time of their admission to the Outstanding Scholars program.

In response to a question raised as to how students apply to the program, it was noted that this is an automated process based on a student's average. Once accepted as an Outstanding Scholar the student is paired with a faculty mentor. The funding amount will likely remain the same but the spots will be evenly distributed across the Faculties to ensure equity.

## **5.8 Report of Vice-President, Research**

### **5.8.1 Strategic Research Plan**

*(See document Sa120210-5.8.1 for more details.)*

**MOTION: That the University of Windsor's Strategic Research Plan be approved.**

Bird/Dutton

Members were reminded that the feedback provided by Senators at the meeting in December 2011 was brought back to the Committee and incorporated into the final report.

A discussion ensued.

In response to a question as to why the statement about “discipline-specific metrics used by external peer review bodies” was moved to just under the "Faculty Member Oriented Metrics" heading, it was noted that this was an amendment that was agreed upon at the Senate meeting in December. This particular statement was moved to recognize that peers in the creative and visual arts do not measure their work based on journal or book publications, but instead on exhibits, shows, and performances. Performance metrics commonly used by external peer review groups to identify creative activity is much different in the arts in comparison to the social sciences or sciences

In response to a question raised, it was noted that the full membership of the SRP Committee was included to recognize the involvement and contributions of all members who contributed to drafting the document, which commenced in late 2010. It would not be appropriate to remove some members and not others.

It was stressed that the document sets out an overarching framework of what is strategically important in terms of research for the university. It was further stressed that the broad-based plan can be applied across all areas as it includes a vision, mission, and areas of strategic research priorities.

It was expressed that the strategic nature of the plan is diluted by its broad-based applicability. It was further expressed that it may be hard for the University to have a competitive edge or advantage over other universities based on the generality of the document.

In response to the above comments, it was stressed that this is a university-wide document and the direction and specifics should be determined by the individual Faculties, in the context of the plan. The thematic areas came from a number of strengths that the University possesses and includes inter-/cross-disciplinary approaches. It was noted that any strategic research plans from Ontario universities were reviewed and some of them were even broader in nature than the proposed plan. This plan recognizes and takes into consideration the need for areas to decide on the direction that is best for them. The Strategic Research Plan is intended to be a living, dynamic plan that can be revisited and augmented regularly to address any issues that are necessary during its life cycle. If the plan were written to be detail-oriented and too prescriptive than it would be very difficult for Faculties to work within its framework.

The goal is to have a working document for the Tri-Council agencies which are increasingly asking applicants to submit their institution's strategic research plan to place the grant applications in a broader institutional research context. It was also noted that delaying the report could have an effect on future grant applications.

There was general agreement that this is a good working framework for the University.

**FRIENDLY AMENDMENTS:**

1. That the last sentence under “Faculty Member Oriented Metrics” be revised to read “*Artistic creativity originally as measured by external peer recognition*”, and that the sentence be moved to after the first bullet.
2. That the following sentence “Performance, exhibits, and their impact” be added as the fourth bullet under the section titled “Faculty Member Oriented Metrics”.
3. That the implementation steps action steps which are currently in Appendix C be moved into the body of the document under the section “Implementing the Strategic Plan”.
4. That the Appendices be renamed “Schedules”.

**CARRIED, as amended**

The Vice President, Research extended her appreciation to Senators for their feedback and support.

## **5.9 Committee Membership**

### **\*5.9.1 Student Committee – Library Member**

*(See document Sa120210-5.9.1 for more details.)*

**MOTION: That Senate accept the name of Ms. Sharon Munro as the Faculty of Science representative on Student Committee.**

**\*CARRIED**

### **\*5.9.2 Program Development Committee – Science**

*(See document Sa120210-5.9.2 for more details.)*

**MOTION: That Senate accept the name of Dr. Barb Zielinski as the science faculty member representative on the Program Development Committee.**

**\*CARRIED**

## **5.10 Bylaw Business**

### **5.10.1 Bylaw 22 and Bylaw 23 Review**

Members were informed that Bylaw 22, *Committees and Procedures for Renewal, Promotion and Tenure*, and Bylaws 23a *Criteria for Promotion* and 23b, *Criteria for Tenure* are going to begin to be reviewed by the Bylaw Review Committee and that there will be extensive consultations. Once ready, a draft version of the proposed changes will be brought back to Senate for discussion and feedback. Given their complexity, it is anticipated that the revision process will be lengthy.

## **6 Question Period/Other Business**

Senators were informed that well-renowned Canadian artist Iain Baxter & currently has a major retrospective exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art in Chicago which will be travelling directly to the Art Gallery of Ontario.

## **7 Adjournment**

**MOTION: That the meeting be adjourned.**

Boulos/Walsh  
**CARRIED**