

**SENATE  
Minutes of Meeting****Date:** Friday, April 11, 2014**Time:** 2:30 p.m. – 5:20 p.m.**Room:** Room 203, Anthony P. Toldo Building

**PRESENT:** Mr. Hussein Ahmed, Mr. Mohammad Alam, Dr. Abdul-Fattah Asfour, Dr. Fazle Baki, Dr. Ram Balachandar, Mr. Iftekhar Ibne Basith, Dr. Pierre Boulos, Dr. Camille Cameron, Dr. Rick Caron, Dr. Allan Conway, Dr. Michael Crawford, Mr. Rob Crawford, Dr. Beth Daly, Ms. Nicole DaSilva, Dr. Phil Dutton, Prof. D. Eansor, Mr. Mohamad El-Cheikh, Ms. Farah El-Hajj, Dr. Waguhi ElMaraghy, Dr. Anne Forrest, Dr. Laurie Freeman-Gibb, Dr. Maureen Gowing, Dr. Phil Graniero, Dr. Jill Grant, Dr. Mustapha Hamil, Mr. Basit Ishtiaq, Mr. Werner Keller, Dr. Michael Khan, Dr. Norman King, Dr. Ziad Kobti, Dr. Marlys Koschinsky, Dr. Charles Macdonald, Dr. Elena Maeve, Dr. Nancy McNevin, Dr. Rosanne Menna, Dr. Kevin Milne, Ms. Alice Miller, Dr. Mitra Mirhassani, Dr. Maureen Muldoon, Ms. Sharon Munro, Dr. Bob Orr, Dr. Linda Patrick, Ms. Erin Plumb, Dr. Karen Roland, Dr. Valerie Scatamburlo-D'Annibale, Dr. Alan Scoboria, Dr. Patrick Selmi, Ms. Mia Sisic, Dr. K. W. Michael Siu, Dr. Clayton Smith, Ms. Jennifer Soutter, Dr. Marijke Taks, Dr. Shelagh Towson, Dr. Christian Trudeau, Dr. Bruce Tucker, Prof. L. Walsh, Dr. Patricia Weir, Dr. Alan Wildeman (Chair), Dr. Nancy Wright, Dr. Xiaobu Yuan, Mr. Hussein Zarif, Dr. Shuzhen Zhao.

**REGRETS:** Dr. Yvette Daniel, Ms. Gwen Ebbett, Mr. Mike Houston, Dr. Ed King, Dr. Joanna Luft, Mr. Anthony Meloche, Dr. Derek Northwood, Mr. Brent Oneschuck, Dr. Katherine Quinsey, Dr. Antonio Rossini, Dr. Kemal Tepe, Prof. Larry Wilson.

**ABSENT:** Dr. Gerald Cradock, Dr. Gordon Drake, Ms. Marilyn Farough, Mr. Raed Kadri, Dr. Sudhir Paul, Rev. Thomas Rosica, Dr. Mehrdad Saif, Dr. Jang Singh.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Nancy Leavoy and Ms. Renée Wintermute (University Secretariat), Dr. Alan Wright.

**1 Approval of the Agenda**

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

Dr. P. Boulos/Dr. M. Gowing  
**CARRIED**

**2 Minutes of the meetings of March 14, 2014**

**MOTION:** That the minutes of meeting of March 14, 2014 be approved.

Prof. L. Walsh/Dr. L. Freeman-Gibb  
**CARRIED**

**3 Business arising from the minutes**Boycotts, Divestments and Sanctions (BDS) Referendum

- Concern was raised that the University should remain at arms length with respect to student politics to the extent possible and that any assistance should be at the invitation of the UWSA.
- In response to a question, it was noted that the full report on the investigation into UWSA processes related to the BDS referendum was submitted to the UWSA in confidence (due to privacy issues). It is the view of the University's lawyers that it would not add value to release even a redacted version, but it is up to the UWSA. In response, the President of the UWSA noted that it would not be releasing the report due to sensitive information that would impact named students and breach their privacy rights.
- The findings outlined in the President's open letter were lifted directly from the report.
- With regard to the March 4<sup>th</sup> letter from Richard Spencer regarding the vote, the President noted that the matter is being taken very seriously and that an open letter from the President of the University will be made public either later today or tomorrow.

- The letter from the President will make it clear that he is addressing the language and statements in the Spencer letter while upholding academic freedom and the ability of people to speak out.
- Members were disappointed that it has taken so long to publically respond to the letter and that Muslim students have been targeted.
- In response to the time delay in responding, it was noted that many issues needed to be considered and thought out carefully. The time delay will be addressed as well.
- It was noted that the President is working with the Muslim Student Association to determine the most important parts to be included in the letter.
- UWSA is working with CFS to post posters indicating that discrimination will not be tolerated; although it was noted that some poster have been ripped down.
- Members of the University community need to work collectively to set the tone or example against discrimination or hate actions and make the University a better place.

#### **4 Outstanding Business/Action Items**

##### **4.1 Political Science Degree Completion Programs for Graduates of Hebei Law and Politics College (HLPC) in China (See document Sa140314-4.1 for more details.)**

**MOTION:** That the Political Science General and Honours Degree Completion Programs for Graduates of Hebei Law and Politics College (HLPC) in China be approved in accordance with the submitted PDC program/course change forms.\*

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

Prof. L. Walsh/Dr. P. Dutton

##### **NOTED:**

- It was noted that Chinese names do not often easily translate to English. In response to questions about the institution with which the agreement is sought, it was noted that the College has a sound reputation. There are 12,000 students and 700 staff, specializing in law and civil service. The proposal seeks to admit a small number of qualified Chinese students who meet the University's entry requirements into a three-year or four-year Political Science program. The proposal fits with the goals of the Department and its International Relations stream, in particular.
- In response to a concern, it was noted that Hebei is comparable to an Ontario college.

##### **AGREED:**

- It was agreed that the actual Chinese name be incorporated into the motion to ensure that the motion reflects the appropriate College.

**Friendly Amendment to the Motion:** That the Political Science General and Honours Degree Completion Programs for Graduates of Hebei Law and Politics College (河北政法职业学院) in China be approved in accordance with the submitted PDC program/course change forms.

**CARRIED, as amended**

#### **5 Reports/New Business**

##### **5.1 Report from the Student Presidents (UWSA, OPUS, GSS)**

###### University of Windsor Students Alliance (UWSA)

- The BDS referendum was ruled out of order by the Chair because there were not 500 signatures.
- There is concern about inadequate student representation on Committees, come May 1. The UWSA is looking at ways to ensure representation. Administration is working with the students to restore UWSA.

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

- The annual awards banquet was held March 20, 2014. A number of awards were presented to part-time students, and some University of Windsor staff, faculty and administration.
- The Annual General Meeting was held March 25, 2014.
- The OPUS initiated "Rock of All Ages" concert, held April 3, 2014, celebrating the University of Windsor's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary was a success.

- OPUS will be initiating and partnering with the recruitment office in a marketing campaign to recruit part-time students. A tentatively scheduled part-time student open house will be held the evening of May 22 and the morning of May 24, 2014.

#### Graduate Students Society (GSS)

- The new GSS logo has been revealed.
- The GSS annual soccer tournament will be held on June 21, 2014.
- Mazaar's will open in the GSS space on May 1, 2014.

## **5.2 Report of the President**

### Strategic Mandate Agreement

The Strategic Mandate Agreement has been finalized with the Province and will be posted to the website along with a signed, condensed version.

### Promotion, Tenure and Renewal and EE/PA

A faculty member raised a concern with the President that promotion, renewal and tenure committee meetings have been held at which an Employment Equity and Procedures Assessor (EE/PA) was not available, although it is contrary to the bylaws. The faculty member believed that the President should rule the decisions of the committees, in these instances, null and void. The floor was open to Senate members for their input on this matter.

The availability of sufficient numbers of EE/PAs has been an issue for many years. The practice, where there is no EE/PA available, is that the meeting proceeds, recognizing that if there are any concerns there is always a Dean or a Dean's representative to provide an outside view on the Committee and if there continue to be concerns about procedure or a possible negative vote the meeting is adjourned and reconvened only when an EE/PA is available. This may cause significant delays but is viewed as necessary. Members argued that when no EE/PA is available after many attempts to find one, the only equitable thing to do for the candidate is to not delay his/her application further and to proceed in good faith.

Although the EE/PAs are dedicated, there are too few of them and too many committees. It was also noted that there is already equity and procedures expertise from among members on the Committees and that the new evaluation grid also provides a check and balance. It may be time to look at a different model, or to increase efforts and incentives to recruit and retain EE/PAs. The Acting Provost will start a review of models across Canada and will report back to the Senate in the early Fall.

It is not a logical conclusion or equitable to reverse all recent decisions due to the lack of an EE/PA. The faculty member's concern and request seems to be focused on the letter and not the spirit of the bylaw.

It was noted that the lack of a service ethic at the University may be the issue. A change in culture and greater recognition of service is needed, and by so doing, more individuals may be willing to become EE/PAs.

The issue of insufficient EE/PAs is a concern in appointments matters as well. Senators agreed by general consent that, while the issue of insufficient EE/PAs needs to be pursued and addressed, the practice, noted above, of proceeding with meetings after an effort has been made to obtain an EE/PA should continue until such time as it can be rectified or a new model implemented.

## **5.3 Report of the Academic Colleague**

*(See document Sa140411-5.3 for more details.)*

### Strategic Mandate Agreement (SMA)

- 18 of 20 SMAs have been finalized or are near to being finalized. Right now the SMAs are only impacting graduate allocation. However, the next round of SMA discussions will likely have a greater impact and we need to be prepared for this.

#### Online Initiatives

- The Ontario Centre for Excellence for Online Education needs to be looked at and monitored (what is its business plan and financial model?). The positive benefits include blended learning models and shared components as well as supporting small upper level classes that are otherwise unsustainable for individual universities.
- The cost effectiveness of DE and blended learning has been questioned. The experience in the US is that such courses can be more costly to run.
- It was noted that efficiency does not necessarily equal cost savings.

#### **5.4 Senate Student Caucus**

Nothing to report.

#### **5.5 Program Development Committee**

Nothing to report.

#### **5.6 Academic Policy Committee**

##### Update on English Language Proficiency Regulations

APC will be looking at English language requirements in relation to international recruitment, with a view to proposing policy changes as need in Fall 2014.

##### **\*5.6.1. Nursing Undergraduate Admissions Requirement**

(See document Sa140411-5.6.1 for more details)

**MOTION: That the following changes to Nursing's admission requirements be approved\*:**

##### Admission by Transfer

Please refer to the University of Windsor Undergraduate Calendar "Admission Requirements for Transfer Students"

Applications for transfer to Nursing are subject to a March 1 deadline for Fall Admission. Transfer is based on academic achievement and the availability of space, and a minimum ~~67%~~ **75%** cumulative average is required in order to be considered for a transfer to Nursing. In addition all Nursing applicants are required to submit the Applicant Profile form no later than March 1. It must be submitted directly to the University of Windsor, Office of the Registrar, Windsor, Ontario, N9B 3P4.

**\*CARRIED**

##### **5.6.2 Report on Semester Lengths and Fall Reading Week**

(See document Sa140411-5.6.1 for more details.)

**MOTION: That the Fall, Winter, and Combined Inter/Summer^ academic sessions be 13 weeks in length with 12 weeks of instruction and a one week break to be called "Reading Week".\*,\*\***

*\*Final exams may be scheduled on Sundays, and there may be years where there can be no two-day break between the end of classes and the beginning of exams.*

*\*\*For Law and Education, the Reading Weeks may occur at a different time to allow for professionally-related, external activities.*

*^This applies to courses that run from May to August. The proposal will not impact six-week courses, which will continue to be offered during both Intersession (May-June) and/or Summer session (July-August).*

Dr. R. Caron/Mr. R. Crawford

#### **NOTED:**

- It is noted that with the new policy there will be consistency across all terms. A correction was made to the sample Fall 2015 dates.

- APC understood that some felt that the survey was flawed in that it seemed to have a bias in favour of a Fall Reading Week. Members were informed that APC did not hold any such bias and gathered information from a variety of sources.
- Members thanked APC for the tremendous amount of work that went into reviewing this matter.
- Some members expressed concern that part of the rationale for the proposal is based on arguments of mental health and other stressors (over 85% of the respondents), but there is little evidence or literature to support this claim.
- In response, it was noted that APC did not base its recommendation on these types of arguments, although it did note them. Instead APC let the students speak for themselves. Over 2500 students participated and there are 250 pages of written statements from students on the issue.
- Concern was expressed that we are living in a global world where many universities in other countries have more than 12 weeks of classes per semester and that we are competing with these institutions. Students that are limited to 12 weeks of instruction may find it difficult to compete.
- In response, it was argued that the University of Windsor is also competing with other universities across Canada that do have a Fall Reading Weeks and students applying to different universities may consider whether there is a reading week in the Fall semester when deciding where to apply.
- There was concern expressed about the addition of a Fall Reading Week and its impact on the end of semester and the compressing of the exam schedule.
- It was noted that different students have different needs and may use the reading week as see fit.
- Other students may wish to have the semester end earlier to enjoy a longer holiday break.

**AGREED:**

- An exception for the timing of the reading week will be considered for Nursing in light of preceptors working hours. APC will review what other Nursing Schools that have reading weeks do and follow-up with Nursing prior to coming back to Senate with any recommendation.

**CARRIED**

**5.6.3 University Budget 2014-2015 – Tuition Fees**  
(see document Sa140411-5.6.3 for more details)

**NOTED:**

- A presentation on the proposed 2014-2015 tuition fees was provided.
- Various factors are considered when reviewing tuition fees, including the relative position of the University with others, the importance of being competitive, revenue generated by different fee structures, price sensitivity, retention, and new international recruitment models.
- Projected domestic first year enrolment has been revised to 3400 (from 3500) due to declines in applications across the province.
- APC Comments included:
  - While understanding current financial constraints, it is a continued concern that the significant and increasing financial burden on students, here and abroad, may impact students' ability to pursue or complete a university education.
  - Since the Province no longer provides matching contributions for donations, there is a need to work harder at fundraising. APC requested that, in future reports, more information be provided on fundraising efforts and bursaries to help offset the cost to students.
- Senate was urged to join students in their call to the government to reduce tuition fees and increase operating grants. It was noted that fee increases affect student morale and impact quality of life, as students need to work longer hours to pay for their education. In response it was noted that the COU Executive Heads and the Ontario Universities Students Association continue their efforts to get the message to the government.
- It was noted that the issue of increasing tuition fees needs to become an election issue.

- In response to a question regarding the fees for Masters in Engineering, it was noted that these are at the lower range at \$30,000 for professional programs, with many other Universities in the \$50,000 range.

**MOTION: That the meeting of the Senate continue past 5:00 o'clock p.m.**

Dr. A. Conway/Dr. C. Cameron  
**CARRIED**

## **5.7 Bylaw Business**

### **5.7.1 Revisions to the Mandate of Senate Steering Committee – Bylaw 3 and Bylaw 2**

*(see document Sa140411-5.7.1 for more details.)*

**MOTION: That the proposed revisions to bylaws 3 and 2 be approved:**

#### **Bylaw 3: Senate Standing Committees**

##### **1.2.3 Senate Steering Governance Committee**

[...]

##### **1.2.3.1 Membership (The total membership is ~~nineteen~~ **seventeen**):**

- President (Chair).
- Provost and Vice-President, Academic (**or designate**).
- ~~Vice Provost, Students and International.~~
- eleven regular faculty members, **at least half of whom shall be members of the Senate**, as follows:
  - one regular faculty ~~Senate~~ member from each of the Faculties of Business Administration, Education, Engineering, Law, Human Kinetics, Nursing, Science, and Graduate Studies.
  - two regular faculty ~~Senate~~ members from the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, one to be selected from Social Science disciplines and one to be selected from Arts/Humanities disciplines.
  - one librarian.
- **four** ~~five~~ students: ~~including at least~~ one graduate, one part-time undergraduate, two full-time undergraduates.

##### **1.2.3.3 Terms of Reference: The Senate ~~Steering~~ **Governance** Committee will ~~establish the agenda for each Senate meeting~~, advise Senate on academic governance matters (including bylaws, policies, ~~recommend to Senate candidates to serve on~~ and Senate committee **membership**), ~~recommend to Senate committees~~. Specifically it is responsible for:**

##### **~~1.2.3.3.1 reviewing and forwarding reports to the Senate, or referring them back to the appropriate Committee or to another body;~~**

##### **1.2.3.3.2 advising Senate on academic governance for the furthering of the objectives of the University;**

##### **1.2.3.3.3 ~~considering creating working groups or task forces to study issues not within the jurisdiction of a Senate standing committee.; membership on such task forces shall not be restricted to members of the Senate.~~**

##### **1.2.3.3.4 recommending areas for inquiry or investigation to the Senate and its Committees, as appropriate;**

##### **1.2.3.3.5 recommending to Senate candidates to serve on the standing committees of Senate. A report from the Equity Assessor serving on the Committee during deliberations shall confirm whether the Committee used its best efforts to ensure that all Senate standing committees have fair representation with respect to designated group membership and discipline;**

- 1.2.3.3.6 establishing a Special Appointments Subcommittee composed of the President (Chair), the Provost and Vice-President, Academic, four senior faculty representatives from different disciplines one student representative and a non-voting Equity Assessor, to recommend to the Senate ~~Steering~~ **Governance** Committee Honorary Degree recipients and Special Appointments. In the case of selection of Honorary Degree recipient's one member of the Board of Governors shall be added to the Subcommittee; in the case of selection of University Professors, two senior members of the teaching staff of other universities selected by the University of Windsor members shall be added to the subcommittee.
- 1.2.3.3.7 review the distribution and size of the Senate membership, in accordance with Bylaw 1.

## **Bylaw 2 – Senate Rules of Procedure**

### **E. Submission of Agenda Items**

1. **All reports, proposals and matters for inclusion on the Senate agenda shall normally come to the Senate through a Standing Committee or the President, as appropriate.** Notices of motion, Committee reports and all other materials for consideration by the Senate must be submitted to the University Secretariat **in accordance with the timelines set out by that Office.** ~~at least ten calendar days prior to the Senate Steering Committee meeting at which the issues are to be considered.~~ **No other matter shall be dealt with at any regular Senate meeting, unless the introduction of such matter is approved by a two-thirds majority of the Senate members present at such meeting or approved by the Chair in accordance with E2. Whenever possible, new matters should be considered at the next Senate meeting, providing the appropriate notice to members.**

Dr. R. Caron/Dr. B. Tucker  
**CARRIED**

#### **5.7.2 Discussion on Closed Committee Meetings**

This item was deferred to next meeting.

#### **5.8 Committee Membership**

##### **5.8.1 Senate Representatives on the Search Committee for the Associate Vice President Academic Affairs**

This item was deferred to next meeting.

#### **5.9 Report of Provost**

The Acting Provost is undertaking a review of a number of issues and is looking at delegating more authority to the Deans and simplifying procedures and processes.

#### **5.10 Report of Vice-President, Research and Innovation**

This item was deferred to next meeting.

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

Nothing to report

#### **7 Adjournment**

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

Ms. E. Plumb / Dr. C. Cameron  
**CARRIED**