

SENATE
Minutes of Meeting

Date: Friday, March 12, 2021

Time: 2:30pm-5:00pm

Room: Virtual (MS Teams)

PRESENT: Mohammed Abdulaziz, Jalal Ahamed, Abdo Alfakih, Sirinart Ananvoranich, Reem Bahdi, Fazle Baki, Chris Baillargeon, Jeff Berryman, Judy Bornais, Pascal Calarco, John Cappucci, Greg Chung-Yan, Cheryl Collier, Joel Cort, Edward Cruz, Scott Cowan, Linden Crain, Herman Dayal, Beth Daly, Biane Deghaiche, Jess Dixon, Gordon Drake, Phil Dutton, Mitch Fields, Brent Furneaux, Chris Fredette, Emily Fraser, Marcello Guarini, Robert Gordon (Chair), Chris Greig, Lorraine Grondin, Alice Grgicak-Mannion, Adrian Guta, Mustapha Hamil, Nick Hector, Chris Houser, Andrew Hubberstey, Ofelia Jianu, Ziad Kobti, Douglas Kneale, Bruce Kotowich, Phebe Lam, Mark Letteri, Debbie Sheppard-LeMoine, Sheri Lowrie, Diana Marion, Tiffany Martindale, Carlin Miller, Ken Montgomery, Maureen Muldoon, Sathish Pichika, Jody Ralph, Steven Rehse, Helga Reidel, Anotonio Rossini, Victor Sevillano Canicio, K. W. Michael Siu, Jennifer Soutter, Andrzej Sobiesiak, Bonnie Stewart, Julie Smit, Maureen Sterling, Edwin Tam, Nurlan Turdaliev, Nancy Ursel, Chris Waters, Sue Williams, Patricia Weir, Peter Zimmerman.

ABSENT WITH REGRETS: Lisa Baggio, Candy Donaldson, Jake Rondot.

ABSENT: Edy Haddad, Mitul Kansodariya, Pedro Kanati, Ed King, Norman King, Ruth Kuras, Aman Patel, Mehrdad Saif, Ester Van Eek.

IN ATTENDANCE: Jennie Atkins, Abeer Asif, Sandra Aversa, Daniella Beaulieu, Petar Bratic, Christopher Busch, Darryl Danelon, Jasleen Dayal, Vincent Georgie, Paramjot Gogia, Mitchell Hajnal, Beverley Hamilton, Gillian Heisz, Ryan Kenney, Anna Kirby, Erika Kustra, Rita LaCivita, Adam Mulcaster, Renée Trombley, Rosemary Zanutto; Danny Anger (University Secretariat), Renée Wintermute (University Secretary), Alison Zilli (University Secretariat).

1 Approval of Agenda (Unstarring agenda items)

MOTION: That the agenda be approved.

J.Bornais/J. Soutter
CARRIED

2 Minutes of the meetings of February 12, 2021

MOTION: That the minutes of the meeting of February 12, 2021 be approved.

L. Crain/J. Dixon
CARRIED

3 Business arising from the minutes

Nothing to report.

4 Outstanding Business/Action Items

4.1 Associate Vice President-Enrolment Management – Designation as Academic Position
(See document S210312-4.1 for more details)

MOTION: That the Associate Vice-President, Enrolment Management (AVP-Enrolment) be designated an academic position governed by Senate which reports to the Provost and Vice President, Academic.

B. Daly/J. Soutter

Senators were reminded that at the February 12th, 2021 Senate meeting, a Notice of Motion was brought forward for a Senate bylaw to be established to govern the Associate Vice-President, Enrolment Management position. The motion reflects the belief that the mandate of the position is exclusively academic in nature and therefore should be governed by Senate. A discussion ensued.

On the one hand, it was argued that since the University Act (Section 27, c) stipulates that Senate has power to: “determine standards of admission to the University, courses of study, and qualifications for degrees”, this supports the notion that enrolment and recruitment matters should fall under the purview of Senate. It was also argued that since the focus of the AVP-Enrolment Management is to develop recruitment strategies and initiatives for the University, then this position should fall under the purview of Senate. It was further argued that it is dangerous to have a leadership position responsible for the success (or failure) of the University’s enrolment and not have it be accountable to a governing body. Overall, concern was expressed regarding the issue that the position has no direct accountability to Senate. Concern also was expressed pertaining to the question of whether Senate’s oversight is limited to academic staff appointments or includes appointments of staff (academic or non-academic) into senior positions with responsibilities that primarily impact the academic mission.

In response, members were reminded that after a lengthy discussion and a review of the University of Windsor Act (Section 27, a), the Senate Governance Committee took the position that Senate can only “make regulations regarding the academic qualifications for appointment and promotion for academic staff of the University”, and therefore a bylaw to govern the AVP Enrolment Management position would not be appropriate.

In response to the rationale for the proposal, it was argued that Senate determines the standards of admission to the University, courses of study and qualification for degree, not the AVP Enrolment. It was also argued that the sole focus of the AVP-Enrolment is not to develop recruitment strategies and initiatives for the University. It was clarified that the Academic Deans are charged with determining enrolment targets and this direction is then forwarded to the AVP Enrolment Management and non-academic staff to meet these specific enrolment targets. The AVP Enrolment Management does not perform any academic duties and is not responsible for teaching and research.

Following debate, a request was made to vote on the motion by secret ballot.

MOTION: That the voting be by secret ballot.

J. Soutter/A. Grgicak-Mannion
CARRIED

The main motion was voted on and **CARRIED**.

MOTION: That the ballots be destroyed.

C. Fredette/A. Grgicak-Mannion
CARRIED

5 Reports/New Business

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

University of Windsor Students Alliance (UWSA)

Members were informed that the UWSA-hosted Afrofest was a successful week-long celebration of African Heritage Month consisting of various cultural and educational activities celebrating the contributions made by peoples of African descent to the world. Members were also informed that the achievements of women from around the globe were celebrated on International Women’s Day, March 8, 2021.

Graduate Students Society (GSS)

It was noted that the GSS Executive elections have been completed and final results will be posted shortly.

Organization of Part-Time University Students (OPUS)

Members were informed that OPUS celebrated black history month and African Canadian Heritage with guest speakers Linda McCurdy and John Elliot.

5.2 Report of the President

Strategic Planning

Members were informed that work on strategic planning is underway with an intern researching best practices and gathering examples of approaches and strategies from other institutions. This will be followed by a meeting with Dr. Dru Marshall, Provost at the University of Calgary, who is known for expertise in strategic planning with a focus on equity, diversity and inclusion. Academic Excellence, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, Indigenization, Community Engagement, and Internationalization will be key components of the University's strategic plan and the plans that flow from it..

KPMG Economic Impact Study

According to the Impact Study, the University of Windsor is one of the largest employers in the Windsor Essex area with over 600 faculty and over 2500 employees. It was noted that over \$205 million dollars in salaries and benefits are paid to employees, 90% of whom reside in the local area, and that the University has a total economic impact of \$602 million in Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

Post-COVID Think Tank

A virtual 'Speakers Series' will be hosted in partnership with the City of Windsor to bring together experts and community members to explore the implications of the pandemic on society, the economy, work and our lives. This will include some short keynotes and "TED-type" talks which will be open to the public. The plan is to launch the Think Tank in April 2021.

Provost and VP Academic

Members were informed that Dr. Kneale will be transitioning from his role May 1, 2021. After consultation with Senate, a recommendation for Interim Provost and Vice President Academic will be shared with Board of Governors and announced shortly. Gratitude was extended to Dr. Kneale for his leadership and contributions to the University of Windsor.

Institutional Financial Sustainability

An overview was provided on the current fiscal pressures that are common at all Ontario Universities. Some of the challenges that universities are facing in terms of financial stability is that in 2019-2020, tuition for domestic students was reduced by 10% followed by a freeze in tuition in 2020-2021. In addition, there has been no change in the government operating grant, though there is continued pressure to meet performance requirements under SMA3. Although there was limited one-time COVID-19 funds offered by Province, Federal support has only been provided by way of student employment incentive.

Ongoing challenges remain for the University regarding international enrolment due to border restrictions, visa timelines, etc. Also, ancillary operations have been significantly impacted on long-term basis by changes in on-campus presence. It was noted that prioritizing financial stability and strong governance models for financial matters has been at the forefront of all budget planning and forms the basis of the budget strategy. Details of the proposal to transition to a full Activity-Based Budgeting Model were provided. The model will give more control to Faculties and help incentivize diversification of enrolment and program offerings.

5.2.1 COVID-19 – Update

Senators were reassured that the University continues to do everything it can to protect the health and safety of the campus community. The majority of Intersession/Summer 2021 courses will continue to be taught primarily online, while Fall 2021 will be a combination of online, face-to-face

and hybrid. It was noted that decisions will ultimately be determined by Public Health considerations and capacity. In terms of reported on-campus cases, it was noted that there has been a total of 31 confirmed on-campus cases with all 31 of them resolved.

5.2.2 Addressing Anti-Black Racism and Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion – Update

Members were reminded that there are ongoing actions to combat anti-Black racism on campus including the establishment of an Anti-Black Racism Taskforce, the establishment of an Anti-Black Racism Initiatives Fund; an Anti-Oppressive Pedagogies Teaching Leadership Chair; and a Black Scholars hiring initiative. The University of Windsor has also established \$250,000 for a new scholarship initiative that will support Black students. The University is committed to matching the first \$125,000 donated and the scholarships will be available to entering and continuing students in both undergraduate and graduate programs. To date, over \$160,000 has been fundraised for a total fund of \$285,000.

Senators were informed that new Student Experience Leadership Grants have been established to provide funding for students to undertake activities that will advance the cause, awareness, and advocacy of dismantling anti-Black racism on campus or in the broader community. There will be five grants of up to \$10,000 .

5.3 Report of the Academic Colleague

It was noted that the Academic Colleagues have been discussing current situations in their institutions in relation to enrolment, infrastructure, and online education. The reopening of the institutions and perspectives on the future of education were discussed in relation to moving out of the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Alison Flynn joined the colleagues for a conversation on the topic of “Online Learning: Lessons Learned and the Future of Education after the Pandemic.” Dr. Flynn listed access to technology, internet service, and working space as material obstacles that students face, but family and work obligations at home can also limit students’ access to online courses. It was stressed that it is important to build community in online courses and prioritize consideration of mental health and wellness throughout the curriculum.

5.4 Senate Student Caucus

Senate Student Caucus, through its co-Chairs, continues to reach out to educate students on how to access mental health resources to help alleviate some of the challenges fueled by our current online learning environment.

5.5 Program Development Committee

***5.5.1 Political Science – Request for Waiver of Course**

(See document S210312-5.5.1 for more details)

MOTION: That the Request for Waiver of Course Deletions for the following courses, be approved:

POLS-3790. Politics and Culture

POLS-4120. Canadian Federalism

POLS-4400. Remaking North America: Geographic Perspectives on US-Canada Politics

***CARRIED**

***5.5.2 Communication, Media, and Film -Request for Waiver of Course Deletion**

(See document S210312-5.5.2 for more details)

MOTION: That the Request for Waiver of Course Deletions for the following course, be approved: CMAF-3610. Public Relations Today: Issues and Practices

***CARRIED**

***5.5.3 Languages, Literatures, and Culture – Request of Waiver Course Deletions**
(See document S210312-5.5.3 for more details)

MOTION: That the Requests for Waiver of Course Deletions for the following courses, be approved:

- ARAB-1100. Introduction to Arabic I
- ARAB-2100. Intermediate Arabic I
- ARAB-2110. Intermediate Arabic II
- FREN-3500. French Literature Middle Ages and Renaissance
- ITLN-4000. Proficiency in Italian
- ITLN-4010. Proficiency in Written Italian
- SPAN-4000. Proficiency in Spanish

***CARRIED**

***5.5.4 Program/Course Change**

- *a) MBA/JD Business (Graduate) – Minor Program Changes (Form C)**
(See document S210312-5.5.4a for more details)

MOTION: That the degree requirements for the MBA/JD program be changed according to the program/course change form.^

^Subject to approval of the expenditures required.

***CARRIED**

- *b) Business (Graduate) – Minor Program Change (Form C)**
(See document S210312-5.5.4b for more details)

MOTION: That the degree requirements for the MBA program be changed according to the program/course change form.^

^Subject to approval of the expenditures required.

***CARRIED**

- *c) PhD Physics – Minor Program Changes (Form C)**
(See document S210312-5.5.4c for more details)

MOTION: That the admission and degree requirements for the PhD Physics program be changed according to the program/course change form.^

^Subject to approval of the expenditures required.

***CARRIED**

- *d) MSc Physics – Minor Program Changes (Form C)**
(See document S210312-5.5.4d for more details)

MOTION: That the admission and degree requirements for the MSc Physics program be changed according to the program/course change form.^

^Subject to approval of the expenditures required.

***CARRIED**

***e) BFA in Acting – Minor Program Changes (Form C)**

(See document S210312-5.5.4e for more details)

MOTION: That the degree requirements for BFA in Acting be changed according to the program/course change form.^

^Subject to approval of the expenditures required.

***CARRIED**

***f) Computer Science – Minor Program Change (Form C)**

(See document S210312-5.5.4f for more details)

MOTION: That the degree requirements for the Bachelor of Computer Science (General) for University Graduates and Bachelor of Computer Science (Honours Applied Computing) for University Graduates be changed according to the program/course change form.^

^Subject to approval of the expenditures required.

***CARRIED**

***g) Chemistry and Biochemistry – Minor Program Change (Form C)**

(See document S210312-5.5.4g for more details)

MOTION: That the degree requirements for the Minor in Biochemistry be changed according to the program/course change form.^

^Subject to approval of the expenditures required.

***CARRIED**

***h) Bachelor of Forensic Science – Minor Program Changes (Form C)**

(See document S210312-5.5.4h for more details)

MOTION: That the degree requirements for the Bachelor of Forensic Science be changed according to the program/course change form.^

^Subject to approval of the expenditures required.

***CARRIED**

***i) FAHSS (Digital Journalism) – Minor Program Changes (Form C)**

(See document S210312-5.5.4i for more details)

MOTION: That the Combined Honours Digital Journalism in English, Combined Honours Digital Journalism and English and Creative Writing, Combined Honours Digital Journalism and Political Science, and, Combined Honours Digital Journalism and Communication, Media, and Film be discontinued effective Spring 2021.^

^Subject to approval of the expenditures required.

***CARRIED**

***j) Business (Graduate) – New Course Proposal (Form D)**

(See document S210312-5.5.4j for more details)

**MOTION: That the following course addition be approved:[^]
BUSI-8070. Financial and Managerial Accounting**

[^]Subject to approval of the expenditures required.

***CARRIED**

5.6 Academic Policy Committee

5.6.1 Centre for Teaching and Learning Annual Report (2019-2020)

(See document S210312-5.6.1 for more details)

A presentation highlighting the work of the Centre for Teaching and Learning (CTL) over the past year was provided. The Centre for Teaching and Learning provides leadership and expertise in pedagogy and educational technology to enhance teaching and learning.

Over the past year, CTL workshops drew over 1800 registrants (903 unique participants). In addition to offering departmental events and retreats, CTL hosted workshops, teaching dossier academies, and half courses. CTL staff conducted hundreds of individual consultations with members representing every Faculty on campus on topics such as curriculum development, learning outcomes, teaching dossiers, and research. In support of Indigenizing curriculum and pedagogy, CTL has hired an Indigenous Curriculum and Pedagogy Coordinator, hosted Indigenous workshops, and designed an online Foundation Series. In support of learning outcomes, the curriculum mapping tool (CuMA) has continued to grow with a searchable repository for all learning outcomes submitted to Senate. Windsor has achieved the SMA2 Mandate to map 50% of its programs.

The Centre continues to increase its offerings of the Faculty-sponsored GATAcademy as well as workshops so that teaching assistants and graduate assistants have the opportunity to participate in professional development.

Some challenges this past year have included: sustaining capacity to support remote teaching during the COVID pandemic; securing financial support from external sources to help fiscal constraints; and, sustaining initiatives as two positions (originally conceived of as permanent) are temporary.

Future actions include the following: 1) continue to support remote teaching; 2) facilitate increased awareness and support for Indigenization of the curriculum; 3) support anti-Black racism initiatives; 4) support curriculum development; 5) data governance and learning analytics; 6) support Blackboard; 7) support effective teaching through sustainable core programming; 8) support and promote the scholarship of teaching and learning; and, 9) support experiential learning.

The floor was open for comments/feedback.

The Centre for Teaching and Learning was commended for its extensive work in fostering a strong the culture of teaching and learning and supporting efforts of all educators. This was particularly evident during the transition to the online environment.

The document was received for information.

In response to a question raised about high-tech virtual classrooms, it was suggested that an interactive demonstration be provided to Senators at a future meeting.

***5.6.2 BCS (Honours Applied Computing) for University Graduates and BCS (General) for University Graduates – Admission Requirement Revisions** *(See document S210312-5.6.2 for more details)*

MOTION 1: That the proposed revisions to the admission requirements for the Bachelor of Computer Science (General) for University Graduates be approved; and,

MOTION 2: That the proposed revisions to the admission requirements for the Bachelor of Computer Science (Honours Applied Computing) for University Graduates be approved.

***CARRIED**

***5.6.3 Policy on Graduate Faculty Designation – Revision**
(See document S210312-5.6.3 for more details)

MOTION: That the proposed revisions to the Policy on Graduate Faculty Designation be approved.

***CARRIED**

5.7 Senate Governance Committee

Nothing to report.

5.8 Report of the Provost

Update on Searches

Members were informed that there are searches in various stages for the Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, Dean of the Faculty of Human Kinetics, Dean of the Faculty of Law, and the University Librarian. Senators were reminded that that Dr. Cheryl Collier has been appointed Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences (FAHSS), effective July 1, 2021. Members were also informed that Dr. Phebe Lam has been appointed the Acting Associate Vice-President Student Experience, effective March 22, 2021.

Fall 2021

Members were informed that as the Fall semester is approaching, the University is working to maximize opportunities for students to have on-campus experiences with a continued focus on health and safety. It was noted that there will be opportunities for students to study abroad commencing Fall. It was noted that the benefits of studying abroad can enhance a student's educational experience as well as increasing future career prospects.

Carnegie Community Engagement Classification

Members were reminded that the University of Windsor is one of sixteen Canadian post-secondary institutions taking part in the Canadian Pilot of the Carnegie Community Engagement Classification. It was noted that the Canadian Pilot Cohort (CPC) has begun working to identify existing collaborations and community engagement initiatives with the goal of enhancing University-Community partnerships to create solutions to emerging and complex challenges. A Steering Committee was established at the University of Windsor to gather information on what the University is doing in terms of community engagement and in December a comprehensive list was submitted in collaboration with community partners.

5.9 Report of Vice-President, Research and Innovation

Climate Action Fund

Senators were informed that a \$125,000 grant from Climate Action Fund was granted to Dr. Anneke Smit in the Faculty of Law. Through this funding, students from the University's Faculty of Law will arrange two conferences seeking to educate young people and community builders on legal and policy issues involved in municipal climate action.

Climate Week at UWindsor

Members were informed that the first ever UWindsor Climate Week which consisted of activities on climate action and research at the University of Windsor with its community partners was a success. It was noted that the need for cutting-edge research on climate change intersects all disciplines and encourages innovative, collaborative and interdisciplinary approaches. It was noted that 9 local institutions presented progress reports on climate action planning. It was noted that there are future plans for the University to establish a net zero emissions goal and to reduce the overall campus carbon footprint.

6 Adjournment

MOTION: That the meeting be adjourned.

C. Baillargeon/L. Crain
CARRIED