

*University of Waterloo
SENATE
Minutes of the Monday, June 21, 2004 Meeting*

Present: David Johnston (Chair), Lois Claxton (Secretary), Tanveer Ali, Jean Andrey, Emma Bardon, Rebecca Baxter, Ranjana Bird, Kieran Bonner, Nadir Budhwani, Amit Chakma, Antero Da Silva, Hsiao D'Ailly, Roydon Fraser, Jill Tomasson Goodwin, Paul Guild, Simon Guthrie, Mark Haslett, Michael Higgins, Dennis Huber, Amy Jack, Ed Jernigan, Bob Kerton, George Labahn, Ken Lavigne, Robert Mann, Geoff McBoyle, Liam McHugh-Russell, Bruce Mitchell, Joseph Novak, Albert O'Connor, Henry Paetkau, Bill Power, Steve Prentice, Manoj Sachdev, Paul Schellenberg, Gerry Schneider, Adel Sedra, Thomas Seebohm, Mike Sharratt, James Skidmore, Craig Sloss, Ralph Smith, Giuseppe Tenti, Tony Vannelli, Ed Vrscay, Ian Williams, Becky Wroe, Frank Zorzitto

Gail Cuthbert Brandt, Tom Carey, Frederick Desroches, Tom Duever, Sally Gunz, Lynn Judge, Bob Truman

Absent: Graham Brown, Steve Brown, Christopher Burris, John Crossley, Ray Digby*, George Dixon*, Christian Dufournaud, Marlene Epp*, Alan George*, James Gollnick*, Mariela Gutiérrez, Bob Harding*, Conrad Hewitt, Keith Hipel*, Janice Husted, Katherine Johnston*, Mike Lazaridis*, Robert Le Roy*, Paul Lehmann*, Wing-Ki Liu*, Harriet Lyons*, David Matthews*, Ray McLenaghan*, Heather Murray, Arokia Nathan, Donna Strickland, Paul Wesson, Ross Willard

*regrets

OPEN SESSION

Consent Agenda

Senate heard an omnibus motion to approve or receive for information by consent items 1-4 [below].

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the May 17, 2004 meeting were approved as distributed.

2. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Recognition & Commendation. Senate received this report for information.

3. REPORTS FROM THE FACULTIES

Senate received these reports for information.

4. OTHER BUSINESS

COU Report. Senate received this report for information.

Ali and Seebohm. Carried.

Regular Agenda

5. PRESENTATIONS

University Research. The Vice-President, University Research elaborated [PowerPoint slides available

at: <http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/research.pdf>] on his report [p. A22] re: “some immediate actions toward increased research intensity.”

In discussion, Senators heard: that “encouraging” chairs and Deans to inform new hires on the priority of research would be more operative than “enforcing performance standards for scholarship” [Prescription 2, p. A22]; the one percent allocation of the academic base budget based on research intensity represents a “notional” (budget permitting) target which would be allocated to Faculties based on research criteria agreed upon by the Provost and Deans and variable by discipline; determination to award “excellence” funds in areas not yet “at the mark” is made by the Provost in consultation with Deans; UW’s failure to secure CFI funding in the last round of submissions was the result of submissions which failed to garner support at the peer review stage and creation of grant facilitator positions should ensure more robust submissions; time (e.g., course relief) is needed for faculty to prepare successful grants and also to launch a research program and demonstrate success within a year.

The Vice-President, University Research will be invited to report further on progress.

Graduate Studies. The Dean of Graduate Studies provided an update [PowerPoint slides available at: <http://www.grad.uwaterloo.ca/Presentations/SenateJune2004.pdf>] to her January 19/04 Senate presentation [<http://www.grad.uwaterloo.ca/Presentations/SenateJanuary2004.pdf>] on “growth and direction” in Graduate Studies.

The Provost observed that while progress has been made in expanding graduate student recruitment, UW is only now “catching up” to pre-1996 (SERP) levels.

6. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There was no business arising.

7. **REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

Environmental Scan

- **Rae Review of Ontario System of Higher Learning.** The Chair provided a PowerPoint presentation [available at: <http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/rae.pdf>] on this item. He added that, the following day, he would be in Toronto, along with other COU Executive Heads, to discuss the new panel led by former Ontario premier, Bob Rae, which is reviewing the province’s colleges and universities. Also, that he is hoping for a long-term financial commitment from the province to result from the review and that UW will likely present its brief to the panel before October.
- **Federal Election (June 28).** The Chair expressed his disappointment at the lack of attention to post-secondary education matters in the debates of the federal political party leaders. AUCC has issued an open letter calling on the parties “to highlight the role that higher education and university research play in building a prosperous, healthy and forward-looking country” but this does not seem to be a priority, as does health care, taxes and foreign policy.
- **Tribute.** The Chair paid tribute to Geoff McBoyle, attending his last Senate meeting as Dean of Environmental Studies. He added that Dean McBoyle has been a superb leader of his Faculty and is a wonderful teacher and statesman for the University. As of July 1, Professor Ellsworth DeDrew will serve as interim Dean. The Environmental Studies Nominating

Committee will reconvene early September.

- **Spring Convocation (June 16-19).** More than 3,700 students graduated and eight honorary degrees were awarded at Spring Convocation. The Chair commented on the light attendance and stressed the importance of a good academic procession/turnout at convocation ceremonies. He asked Senators to keep both the Fall [Oct. 23] and Spring [June 15-18] Convocation dates in mind.

8. **REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, ACADEMIC & PROVOST**

Vision for the Sixth Decade and Priority Areas for 2004-05. The Provost commented [PowerPoint slides available at: <http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/sixth.pdf>] on the vision for UW and priority areas identified at this year's Executive Council annual retreat at Kempenfelt Bay. He noted the change in the Sixth Decade Planning timetable which Senate had approved but, in the event, proved too aggressive. Requests for formal planning activity will not be distributed before the fall.

In discussion, Senators heard: with the double cohort now accommodated and since the province is strapped for funds, universities will be under pressure to take fewer students and sustain the financial penalty; while some students may be admitted with averages below 75 (the student's entire file is reviewed and must present a compelling case), UW's goal is to raise the admission standard – difficult in the current year when the Ontario system is “down” by 12,000 applications; kudos to all admission committees for their efforts in bringing UW's first-year admissions in very close to target.

Downtown Kitchener Health Sciences Campus/School of Pharmacy. The Downtown Kitchener Health Sciences Campus business case was endorsed by Kitchener City Council on June 14 and Council will be asked to vote on the proposal at its meeting on June 29. The business case includes the City's investment of \$30M for construction of the campus, anchored by a satellite School of Pharmacy, and transfer to UW of a piece of land for the campus at the corner of King and Victoria Streets. The proposed campus still requires the approval of the Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges & Universities and Ministry of Health & Long-term Care.

9. **REPORTS FROM SENATE COUNCILS**

Graduate & Research Council. Understanding that UW's proposed program is broader than McGill's (focus is on aging), Senate heard a motion to approve the doctoral program in Aging, Health and Well-being (Applied Health Sciences).

Bird and Sharratt. Carried.

The remaining items in the report were received for information.

Undergraduate Council

- **Admission Requirements 2005.** Senate heard a motion to approve the proposed revisions to the Undergraduate Admission Requirements for 2005 which were approved by Senate on April 19/04.

Lavigne and McHugh-Russell. Carried.

- **Legal Studies (Honours, Four-Year General, Joint Honours) (Arts / St. Jerome's University).** Senate heard a motion to approve these new academic plans.

Higgins and Bonner. Carried.

- **Nanotechnology Engineering (Engineering).** Having heard concerns expressed by the Chair of Physics about his department's not being consulted during the development stage of this plan and the apparent overlap of proposed Nanotechnology courses with current Physics offerings, and with the understanding that these concerns would be addressed in the coming months by the Faculty of Science, working with Engineering, Senate heard a motion to approve this new academic plan.

Sedra and Power. Carried.

- **Number of INCs a Student May Have While Carrying a Full Course Load (Mathematics).** Senate heard a motion to approve the proposed policy changes.

Chakma and Guild. Carried.

- **Professional Development Programs (Arts / Arts Special Programs, Cultural Management).** Senate heard a motion to approve the proposed new professional development program offerings: Certificates of Completion and Specialist Diplomas.

Kerton and Guild. Carried.

The remaining item in the report was received for information.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

Guidelines for Academic Program Reviews. Senate approved the proposed Guidelines for Academic Program Reviews having heard that Undergraduate Council is discussing how best a unit can self-assess relative to others (e.g., nationally, internationally, with objectivity, to averages) and how G10 data could be effectively deployed in such assessment, and that a subsequent addition [last para., Section D, p. A99] to the guidelines has been requested: "The Office of the AVPA will consult with the unit due for an undergraduate program review to determine whether a combined review is in order. If the unit wishes to proceed in this manner, the chair of the unit will contact the Dean of Graduate Studies in order to secure OCGS approval for an augmented appraisal. Once approval is obtained, the Graduate Studies Office will co-ordinate the selection of external reviewers and the arrangement of their site visits."

Chakma and McBoyle. Carried.

Senate convened in confidential session.