

*University of Waterloo*

*SENATE*

*Minutes of the Monday, April 18, 2005 Meeting*

**Present:** David Johnston (Chair), Lois Claxton (Secretary), Tanveer Ali, Emma Bardon, Ranjana Bird, Kieran Bonner, Steve Brown, Nadir Budhwani, Amit Chakma, Roydon Fraser, Alan George, Jill Tomasson Goodwin, Paul Guild, Simon Guthrie, Mariela Gutiérrez, Mark Haslett, Conrad Hewitt, Dennis Huber, Janice Husted, Katherine Johnston, Bob Kerton, George Labahn, Ken Lavigne, Robert Le Roy, Ellsworth LeDrew, Paul Lehmann, Wing-Ki Liu, Harriet Lyons, Robert Mann, Liam McHugh-Russell, Bruce Mitchell, Heather Murray, Albert O'Connor, Henry Paetkau, Tracy Peressini, Bill Power, Steve Prentice, Paul Schellenberg, Adel Sedra, Thomas Seebohm, Mike Sharratt, Craig Sloss, Ralph Smith, Donna Strickland, Ross Willard, Ian Williams, Becky Wroe, Frank Zorzitto

Gail Cuthbert Brandt, Tom Carey, Jeff Henry, Laura Talbot-Allan, Bob Truman, Bud Walker

**Absent:** Jean Andrey, Rebecca Baxter\*, Graham Brown\*, Christopher Burris, John Crossley\*, Antero Da Silva, Ray Digby, George Dixon\*, Marlene Epp, James Gollnick, Bob Harding\*, Michael Higgins\*, Keith Hipel\*, Amy Jack\*, Ed Jernigan\*, Mike Lazaridis\*, David Matthews, Arokia Nathan\*, Joseph Novak, Manoj Sachdev, Gerry Schneider, James Skidmore\*, Giuseppe Tenti, Tony Vannelli, Ed Vrscey, Paul Wesson

\*regrets

***OPEN SESSION***

***Consent Agenda***

Senate heard an omnibus motion to approve or receive for information by consent items 1-3 [below].

***1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES***

The minutes of the March 28, 2005 meeting were approved as distributed.

***2. REPORT OF THE CHAIR***

***Recognition and Commendation.*** Senate received this report for information.

***3. REPORTS FROM THE FACULTIES AND RENISON COLLEGE*** [Renison College report at Senators' places]

Senate received these reports for information.

Bird and Guild. Carried.

***Regular Agenda***

***4. ELECTIONS TO SENATE COMMITTEES / COUNCILS AND TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS***

It was noted that an elected member of Senate cannot serve on more than one of the Executive, Long

Range Planning or Finance Committees; given the current slate of names, it was understood that if no further nominations were forthcoming, the membership on the committees / councils and on the Board of Governors would be by acclamation.

Following each call for additional nominations from the floor, Senate heard a motion to acclaim the membership as printed on the ballot and as follows:

**Executive Committee, 2005-06.** S. Dupuis (Applied Health Sciences), J. Skidmore (Arts), C. Rosenberg (Engineering), J. Andrey (Environmental Studies), F. Zorzitto (Mathematics), R. Le Roy (Science), J. Crossley (Federated University & Affiliated Colleges), C. De Riggs (undergraduate student, Environmental Studies / Independent Studies), P. Lehmann (undergraduate student, Arts), M. Makahnouk (President, Graduate Student Association).

Chakma and George. Carried.

**Honorary Degrees Committee, 2005-06.** S. Prentice (Applied Health Sciences), M. Gutiérrez (Arts), K. Hipel (Engineering), G. Wall (Environmental Studies), G. Labahn (Mathematics), R. Mann (Science), G. Brown (Federated University & Affiliated Colleges), C. Bazley (undergraduate student, Applied Health Sciences), A. Felix (undergraduate student, Mathematics), S. Guthrie (graduate student, Science).

Chakma and George. Carried.

**Scholarships & Student Aid Committee, 2005-06.** A. Gilbert (Applied Health Sciences), C. McWebb (Arts), E. Jernigan (Engineering), M.L. McAllister (Environmental Studies), S. Brown (Mathematics), S. Taylor (Science), T. Peressini (Federated University & Affiliated Colleges), T. Ali (undergraduate student, at-large), C. Bazley (undergraduate student, Applied Health Sciences), C. De Riggs (undergraduate student, Environmental Studies / Independent Studies), J. Henry (alumnus, Engineering).

Chakma and George. Carried.

**Undergraduate Council, 2005-07.** L. Jessup (Applied Health Sciences), E. Carvalho (Arts), I. McKenzie (Environmental Studies), W. Cherry (Mathematics) (2005-06), M. Fenn (Affiliated Colleges), R. McCloy (undergraduate student, Applied Health Sciences), M. Hurd (undergraduate student, Engineering), S. Hastings (undergraduate student, Environmental Studies / Independent Studies) (2005-06), M. DeMarinis (undergraduate student, Mathematics).

Chakma and George. Carried.

**Graduate & Research Council, 2005-07.** R. McCarville (Applied Health Sciences), J. North (Arts), S. Michaels (Environmental Studies), R. Smith (Science), V. Golini (Federated University & Affiliated Colleges), C. Sloss (graduate student, Mathematics).

Chakma and George. Carried.

**University Committee on Student Appeals, 2005-07.** R. Johnston (Applied Health Sciences), D. Stashuk (Engineering) (2005-06), C. Mitchell (Environmental Studies), R. Andre (Mathematics), W.-K. Liu (Science), J. Wahl (Federated University & Affiliated Colleges), R. Baxter (undergraduate

student, Science), D. Saleh (undergraduate student, Science), C. Robertson (graduate student, Science).

Chakma and George. Carried.

**Long Range Planning Committee, 2005-06.** J. Husted (Applied Health Sciences), H. Lyons (Arts), M. Sachdev (Engineering), P. Fillion (Environmental Studies), P. Schellenberg (Mathematics), D. Strickland (Science), H. Paetkau (Federated University & Affiliated Colleges), A. Felix (undergraduate student, Mathematics), S. Guthrie (graduate student, Science).

Chakma and George. Carried.

Succeeding each of the following calls for additional nominations from the floor, Senate heard a motion to add:

**Finance Committee, 2005-06:** Jeff Henry's (alumnus, '04 Engineering) name to the ballot.

Wroe and McHugh-Russell. Carried.

Excepting the alumni representative, Senate acclaimed the membership as printed on the ballot and as follows: S. Prentice (Applied Health Sciences), T. Kenyon (Arts), G. Schneider (Engineering), M. Stone (Environmental Studies), J. Wong (Mathematics), W. Power (Science), M. Higgins (Federated University & Affiliated Colleges), M. Austin (undergraduate student, at-large), C. Sloss (graduate student, Mathematics).

Chakma and George. Carried.

Jeff Henry was later elected (Da Silva received 15 votes, Henry received 27 votes) to the alumni representative seat.

**Board of Governors, 2005-07:** Ralph Smith's name to the ballot, thereby filling the vacant faculty seat listed on the ballot.

Bird and Lyons. Carried.

Senate acclaimed the membership as follows: W. Power (Science), J. Skidmore (Arts), R. Smith (Science), John Andersen (President, Federation of Students) (2005-06), J. Fishbein (undergraduate student, Engineering), P. Lehmann (undergraduate student, Arts) (2005-06), M. Makahnouk (President, Graduate Student Association) (2005-06).

Chakma and George. Carried.

## 5. **REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

**Honorary Degrees at Spring Convocation** [news release available at the back of the room]

**Environmental Scan.** The Chair commented briefly on:

- **Rae Review:** a recent letter / speech from McGuinty indicating the importance of higher education and research is seen as a positive sign that the government may "breathe some life into

Rae" with an infusion of new funds for the post-secondary sector.

- **Mandatory Retirement:** legislation is expected to be introduced this year and COU will be requesting a three-year phase-in period.
- **Federal Government:** Minister Volpe (Immigration & Citizenship) recently announced a pilot program which should encourage / attract foreign students to Canadian post-secondary institutions.
- **2005 Alberta Budget** [handout at Senators' places]: provides for very large increases in post-secondary spending over the next three years and raises hope that the McGuinty government will do likewise.
- **National Learning and Innovation Act** [handout at Senators' places]: originally drafted by the President to establish a national presence in education and innovation, he expressed his hope that this would eventually become legislation in Canada, similar to legislation already enacted in almost every federal jurisdiction in the world.

## 6. PRESENTATIONS

**Graduate Student Association.** The President of the GSA spoke to accomplishments of the Association over the last year (on-line election services, on-line survey tool, dental plan) and suggested that services to graduate students will have to be expanded (e.g., expansion of the Grad House as a venue for faculty / student socializing; improvement of health services) as enrolment increases. His overall suggestions included: the need for a comprehensive review (and then once every decade) of all student services provided through the GSA, Federation of Students and UW to account for where student money is being spent and assess the merits of the services; academic support services which could improve students' academic performance (e.g., Writing Clinic) should have a greater focus; transparency should be increased so students know how their non-tuition fees are being spent. In conclusion, he expressed appreciation for the congeniality and "open doors" that have characterized his working relationships.

**Federation of Students** [<http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/feds.apr05.pdf>]. The President of the Federation of Students reviewed the broad spectrum of services offered through the Federation of Students as well as the 12 different services funded by the Student Services Fee. She commented on how expeditiously the needed services for Architecture (Cambridge) were determined once the appropriate players met, services which will be operational by September 2005, a year after Architecture relocated. In response to the observation that the level of service provided by the International Student Office warrants review, the Associate Vice-President, Academic noted that this matter is under advisement and will be addressed, and that while international student enrolment has increased substantially, the staff complement in the office has not.

## 7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

**Admissions Update** [<http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/admissions.apr05.pdf>]. The Registrar advised that the application picture has stabilized: UW OSS first-choice applications are up by 10.3 percent and non-OSS first choice by 1.2 percent compared to 2.4 percent and -1.4 percent respectively across the system; admission offers total 7997 to date compared to 6872 last year; 2257 scholarship offers have been made, compared with nil last year. He noted that in the future, UW

would like to offer a “transcript” of financial aid (i.e., the total financial package available to the individual student) to students either concurrent with the admissions offer or as soon as possible thereafter.

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

*Appointment of the Director of the Waterloo Centre for the Advancement of Co-operative Education (WatCACE).* The Provost advised that Gary Waller was taking over as Director of WatCACE following James Downey’s retirement last month.

**9. REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, UNIVERSITY RESEARCH**

The Vice-President did not report.

**10. REPORTS FROM THE COUNCILS**

*Graduate & Research Council*

- *Wetlands Research Centre.* Senate heard a motion to approve the removal of this Centre from the Senate-approved list of centres and institutes.

Guild and Bird. Carried.

- *Guidelines for the Establishment and Guidelines for the Review of Centres / Institutes.* The Vice-President, University Research drew Senators’ attention to the revisions / additions to these Guidelines.
- *Doctoral Thesis – Completion Award, 2005-06.* Following the Dean of Graduate Studies’ comments on the award, set up initially as a one-year experiment starting May 1, 2005, Senate heard: the award is based on both merit and need; 20 awards are available and while the \$5,000 is granted for one term, students will be allowed two terms to complete the degree; the “pot” of \$100,000 was made possible by a \$25,000 contribution from the GSA with the remainder from the Office of the Provost and the Graduate Studies Office.
- *Award of Excellence in Graduate Supervision.* Following the Dean’s comments and encouragement to both faculty and students to support the initiative and make nominations, Senate heard: concerns that graduate students (most have experience with only one supervisor) do not have sufficient experience to make an objective assessment; a suggestion that the GSO could prepare a questionnaire *re* supervision so that over time graduate supervision could be tracked, chairs could better assess performance, and the profile of graduate supervision raised. In response, from the Dean: the terms of reference provide that a nomination made by a student must be supported by a senior colleague, requires a detailed report, and must be accompanied by letters from former students; further, and key to this initiative, is diligence in seeking good nominations.

In closing, from the Provost, that the Dean should take the comments under advisement with a view to what improvements may be made.

The remaining items in the report were received for information.

**Undergraduate Council and Graduate & Research Council.** Senate heard a motion to approve the establishment of the UW Undergraduate Research Internship Program (UW-URI) as described in the report.

Bird and Power.

The Dean of Graduate Studies commented that no other Canadian university has launched a similar university-wide initiative, that this initiative came at the urging of the undergraduate students who wanted formal recognition of undergraduate research experience and saw the QAF as a vehicle to expedite this, and that the award is not tied to financial need. Senators also heard several questions concerning: equal credit weights for different modules; that students holding an NSERC award can also qualify for this program; that research experience, a very different learning experience from course learning, nevertheless qualifies as a course credit. In response, that this matter has had full discussion at all levels, as appropriate, including consideration of similar questions.

The motion carried.

## 11. OTHER BUSINESS

**Strengthening Our Global Connections** [<http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/global.apr05.pdf>]. The Associate Vice-President, Academic reviewed the highlights of the report including what has been achieved with respect to the “Beyond Borders” recommendations as well as the three themes that inform the new set of recommendations: integration of internationalization, heightened visibility for internationalization activities, and investment of new resources into internationalization. In the discussion that followed, Senators heard: the role of language departments in an international summer school would require a good deal of discussion / deliberation; the constraints in hiring additional staff for the International Student Office [page A45] should be discussed both in terms of support from the Student Services Fee as well as in conjunction with the planned Federation of Students’ initiative to expand its services to international students; the bursary program takes effect May 1, will be adjudicated through Student Awards, is available for students already enrolled in the program but is limited to students participating in CIDA approved organisations (for safety); this initiative provides UW an opportunity to reassess its language requirements, its diagnostics and its support – to ensure UW is seen as a “better” destination for foreign students; how to best feature internationalization on UW’s website should be looked into, as should how to better integrate international students into decision-making processes.

**Adieu et Merci.** To Senators whose terms come to an end April 30 and especially to Ian Williams, retiring in September 2005, having chaired Senate Scholarships & Student Aid Committee for 19 years.

## CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

## 12. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the March 28, 2005 meeting were approved as distributed.

Mann and Zorzitto. Carried.

Senate adjourned at 6:39 p.m.