

University of Waterloo

SENATE

Minutes of the Monday, February 28, 2005 Meeting

Present: David Johnston (Chair), Lois Claxton (Secretary), Tanveer Ali, Emma Bardon, Ranjana Bird, Kieran Bonner, Steve Brown, Amit Chakma, John Crossley, Antero Da Silva, Marlene Epp, Roydon Fraser, Alan George, Jill Tomasson Goodwin, Paul Guild, Simon Guthrie, Mark Haslett, Conrad Hewitt, Michael Higgins, Keith Hipel, Katherine Johnston, Bob Kerton, George Labahn, Ken Lavigne, Robert Le Roy, Wing-Ki Liu, Harriet Lyons, Robert Mann, Liam McHugh-Russell, Bruce Mitchell, Heather Murray, Albert O'Connor, Steve Prentice, Paul Schellenberg, Gerry Schneider, Thomas Seebohm, Mike Sharratt, Craig Sloss, Ralph Smith, Donna Strickland, Ian Williams, Frank Zorzitto

Gail Cuthbert Brandt, Tom Carey, Adam Felix, Bruce Lumsden, Catharine Scott, Laura Talbot-Allan, Gerry Thompson, Bob Truman, Bud Walker

Absent: Jean Andrey*, Rebecca Baxter*, Graham Brown*, Nadir Budhwani, Christopher Burris, Ray Digby*, George Dixon, James Gollnick, Mariela Gutiérrez*, Bob Harding*, Dennis Huber, Janice Husted*, Amy Jack*, Ed Jernigan*, Mike Lazaridis*, Ellsworth LeDrew, Paul Lehmann, David Matthews, Arokiya Nathan, Joseph Novak*, Henry Paetkau*, Tracy Peressini*, Bill Power*, Manoj Sachdev, Adel Sedra*, James Skidmore*, Giuseppe Tenti, Tony Vannelli, Ed Vrscay, Paul Wesson, Ross Willard, Becky Wroe

*regrets

Consent Agenda

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

Lavigne and Guild.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the January 17, 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 ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY

Senate received these reports for information.

4. OTHER BUSINESS

COU Report. Senate received this report for information.

The motion carried.

Regular Agenda

- 5. PRESENTATION RE ENROLMENT PLANS** [powerpoint presentation available at: <http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/enrolment.feb05>]

The Registrar spoke to the plans as addressed in his presentation and in response to questions noted

that: non-OSS application numbers are consistent with last year's [update to follow in March]; offers in the highly competitive programs have not been made but all Faculties may be in a position to make limited offers within the next month or so; Science applications are down generally across the province, Mathematics applications have been affected by the Computer Science meltdown and Engineering applications at UW are up, contrary to the provincial trend. With respect to the new release of Quest, the Registrar noted that improvements include: more intuitive navigation; timetable presentation in grid format; financial bills presented in better detail and in a format more expediently delivered to the "bill payer."

The Registrar offered to update Senate in March.

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Kuwait. The Provost advised that UW's due diligence revealed absence of a sufficiently large pool of qualified students (perhaps only 30 to 40 students, not enough of a critical mass) to proceed and the project was being shelved. The possibility of a smaller project with Kuwait University remains and UW's efforts are now more likely to turn to establishing linkages with institutions in India and China.

7. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Environmental Scan

- **Federal Budget** [powerpoint presentation available at: <http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/scan.feb05>]. In his review of the 2005 federal budget, the President expressed concerns that the research and talent agenda in place since 1998 has now been crowded out by other initiatives, and reflected that hard work will now be necessary to ensure the momentum built up over the last few years is retained and the research and talent initiatives kept before the government.
- **Rae Review** [two documents at Senators' places: *If you live in Ontario...there's something you need to know* (COU) and briefing notes *re* Rae Review; powerpoint presentation available at: <http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/scan.feb05>]. The President spoke to the recommendations as reflected in his presentation and noted that the \$1.3 billion that Rae is recommending is incremental to the 2005-06 provincial funding. The Vice-President, University Relations described the concerted efforts UW has taken / is taking, collectively with COU and independently, to ensure funding allocation in the upcoming provincial budget; post-budget activities will include lobbying for co-op funding at UW and increased tax credits for co-op employers. The President urged Senators to use the template which will be distributed to them to write to the Premier, copied to their MPPs, urging adoption of Rae's recommendations to reinvest in higher education, thereby demonstrating a groundswell of support for such reinvestment.

In response to an observation that the briefing notes distributed to Senators by the VPUR were silent on UW's position on tuition fees, Senate heard that these notes focussed on what UW would like the provincial budget to address and that UW's position on fees and financial assistance remains as approved by the Board of Governors.

- **Hagey Lecture.** Renowned scientist Ursula Franklin will present the Hagey Lecture on Wednesday, March 2 at 7:30 p.m. in the Humanities Theatre.

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

University Professorship Designations. The Vice-President was pleased to announce the following

2005 University Professorship designations: Terry McMahon (Chemistry), Cam Stewart (Pure Mathematics) and Robert Jan Van Pelt (Architecture).

Associate Provost, Information Systems & Technology. The Vice-President was pleased to announce the appointment of Professor Alan George to this position for a two-year renewable term, effective July 1, 2005.

Operating Budget. The Provost informed Senate that advice he has received from the Finance & Investment Committee of the Board and from the Senate Finance Committee, given the projected \$9.5 million shortfall for the coming year, is to try to manage by a 3% expenditure reduction, such reduction to be attenuated with one-time money from other sources.

9. REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, UNIVERSITY RESEARCH [powerpoint presentation available at: <http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/research.feb05>]

Following the Vice-President's update *re* Canada Foundation for Innovation program, it was suggested that he report at a subsequent meeting on the upcoming CFI round of submissions and UW's attempt to be proactive.

10. REPORT OF THE GRADUATE & RESEARCH COUNCIL

Senate received this report for information.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

Appointment of the Chancellor Nominating Committee. Senate heard a motion to appoint its Executive Committee as the Chancellor Nominating Committee.

Schneider and Seebohm. Carried.

Senate Vacancies. It was noted that the move of the School of Architecture from Environmental Studies to Engineering on May 1 would necessitate the resignation of one ES (Architecture) Senator and a subsequent by-election.

Reading Week. One Senator from Mathematics commented on the "accommodations" made by some of his faculty colleagues to extend the Faculty's official two-day break to a full week.

12. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The January 17, 2005 confidential minutes were approved as distributed.

Chakma and Mann. Carried.

Senate adjourned at 5:44 p.m.