

*University of Waterloo  
SENATE*

*Minutes of the Monday, January 17, 2005 Meeting*

**Present:** David Johnston (Chair), Lois Claxton (Secretary), Tanveer Ali, Jean Andrey, Emma Bardon, Kieran Bonner, Steve Brown, Nadir Budhwani, Amit Chakma, Antero Da Silva, George Dixon, Roydon Fraser, Alan George, James Gollnick, Jill Tomasson Goodwin, Paul Guild, Simon Guthrie, Mariela Gutiérrez, Mark Haslett, Keith Hipel, Dennis Huber, Janice Husted, Amy Jack, 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, Joseph Novak, Albert O'Connor, Henry Paetkau, Bill Power, Steve Prentice, Manoj Sachdev, Paul Schellenberg, Gerry Schneider, Adel Sedra, Thomas Seebohm, Mike Sharratt, Craig Sloss, Ralph Smith, Donna Strickland, Ed Vrscay, Ross Willard, Ian Williams, Becky Wroe, Frank Zorzitto

Gail Cuthbert Brandt, Tom Carey, Tom Coleman, Rick Haldenby, Bill Lennox, Catharine Scott, Jake Sivak, Gerry Sullivan, Laura Talbot-Allan, Bob Truman, Bud Walker

**Absent:** Rebecca Baxter\*, Ranjana Bird\*, Graham Brown\*, Christopher Burris, John Crossley, Ray Digby, Marlene Epp\*, Bob Harding\*, Conrad Hewitt, Michael Higgins\*, Ed Jernigan\*, Mike Lazaridis\*, David Matthews, Heather Murray, Arokia Nathan, Tracy Peressini\*, James Skidmore\*, Giuseppe Tenti, Tony Vannelli, Paul Wesson

\*regrets

The Chair introduced and welcomed Tom Coleman, Dean of Mathematics elect, and Jerry Thompson, whose role as Associate Vice-President, Strategic Initiatives will evolve over the next few months.

***OPEN SESSION***

***Consent Agenda***

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

Schellenberg and LeDrew.

***1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES***

The minutes of the November 15, 2004 meeting were approved as distributed.

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

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

***3. REPORTS FROM THE FACULTIES, RENISON COLLEGE AND ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY***

Senate received these reports for information.

***4. OTHER BUSINESS***

***Committee Appointments.*** Senate approved the appointments to the Distinguished Teacher Award, Award for Distinguished Teaching by a Registered Student, Finance and Scholarships & Student Aid Committees, as listed on the revised one-pager at Senators' places.

**COU Report.** Senate received this report for information.

The motion carried.

**Regular Agenda**

**5. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES/COUNCILS (A)**

**Graduate & Research Council.** Senate heard a motion to approve the establishment, for five years (January 2005 to December 2009), of the Centre for Computational Mathematics in Industry and Commerce.

Guild and Johnston. Carried.

Senate heard a motion to approve the establishment, for five years (January 2005 to December 2009), of the Research Institute for Aging.

Guild and Sharratt. Carried.

Senate heard a motion to approve that the Institute for Improvement in Quality and Productivity be removed from the Senate-approved list of centres and institutes.

Guild and George. Carried.

Senate received the remaining items in the report for information.

**University Committee on Student Appeals (UCSA).** Having heard that there are suggestions in the report on how Waterloo might be “proactive” in informing incoming students re: academic integrity and UW policy, Senate received this report for information.

**University Tenure & Promotion Advisory Committee (UTPAC).** Senate received this report for information.

The President expressed his gratitude to the Chairs and members of UCSA and UTPAC for their efficient and thorough work.

**6. PRESENTATION ON THEME AREAS (MACLEAN'S AND BEYOND)** [PowerPoint slides available at: <http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/maclean's.jan05.pdf>]

Following his presentation, which focussed on UW's performance in the *Maclean's* ratings over the past decade in matters relating to income/grants, grades and research, the Provost concluded by underlining what is apparent: more funding, greater research intensity and admission of more high quality students will move UW in the direction it aspires.

**7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**Effect of Increased Scholarship Funding on Confirmations.** Referring Senators to the Scholarships & Student Aid Committee report [pp A45-A52] which reflects the dramatic increase in the number of entrance scholarships awarded in 2004 over the previous years, the Registrar noted that, notwithstanding how important scholarships are in managing enrolment, it will take time for the

effects to become apparent. He commented on how the "President's strategy," introduced last year, would be adjusted based on feedback from recipients and that Faculties had agreed to a scholarship grid which would see a \$2000 scholarship with each offer of admission to a student with a 90 percent average or better; the scholarship could be upgraded depending on other available scholarship funding and where the student's average came in the 90 to 100 percent range.

**Report of the Provost's Task Force on Undergraduate Student Financial Support:**

**Recommendation B2.** The President noted that the recommendation under consideration, B2, is a budgetary matter on which Senate, if predisposed, could express its view.

Senate heard a motion to recommend that the Provost and the Board give favourable consideration to allocating graduate and undergraduate tuition fee set-aside funds in proportion to the total unmet need of each group.

Sloss and Guthrie.

Opinions expressed in support of the motion included: that a significant portion (\$5 million) of the set-aside remains unspent (in response, that this was accumulated prior to the guarantee of financial support); most of the additional funding for graduate students has been targeted to scholarships not bursaries and what is really needed, given the GSO ran out of bursary funding last year, is guaranteed minimum funding for graduate students; set-aside from tuition is to address needs and increasing the support from other sources decreases unmet need and the draw on this pot of money; the motion will not jeopardize meeting undergraduate unmet needs; the set-aside should be allocated on a needs-based not generation-based measure.

Opinions expressed against the motion included: that because "needs" of graduate students are ill-defined, all could be considered "needy" and such motion would channel funds raised from undergraduates to graduates; "total unmet needs" is a concept introduced by the government which, if applied to graduate students as to undergraduates, would result in graduates being eligible for less funding than currently; the large infusion of support to graduate students over the last several years, not just this one piece under discussion, has to be considered; further, there is desire to find more funding for graduate students but from appropriate sources.

The motion was defeated.

It was noted that the original motion [Recommendation B2] was not part of the motion endorsed by Senate at its November 15 meeting and, as a result, has no status.

**School of Architecture** [handout at Senators' places]. Senate heard a motion to recommend that the Board of Governors, at its February 1 meeting, approve the move of the School of Architecture from the Faculty of Environmental Studies to the Faculty of Engineering.

Chakma and Seebohm.

During discussion, Senators heard: from the Director of Architecture, that Architecture is not anticipating radical changes to its very strong program as it moves to Engineering but is looking forward to the benefits which would accrue to its curriculum, scholarship and research through increased collaboration, particularly with Civil Engineering; from the Dean of Engineering, that Architecture is within the Faculty of Engineering at many other schools and Engineering is pleased to welcome Architecture and looks forward to the synergies its addition will create; from the Provost,

that the remaining departments and school in Environmental Studies form a viable critical mass and now may come together to form a stronger Faculty; from the Dean of Environmental Studies, that the Faculty is taking advantage of this opportunity to rebuild and expects to put in place an academic structure with greater academic strength.

The motion carried, unanimously.

## 8. **REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

### **Environmental Scan**

- **Rae Review.** The findings of the Postsecondary Review are expected mid February in anticipation of the provincial budget in late March. COU has developed an advocacy plan and UW will respond primarily with grassroots political activity and editorial support.

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

**Kuwait.** The President introduced Bill Lennox, former Dean of Engineering, and Gerry Sullivan, former Professor of Chemical Engineering and current Governor, engaged by UW to do a feasibility study on UW locating a branch Engineering school in Kuwait. This is in response to an invitation from various organizations in Kuwait that Waterloo consider this initiative (as have a number of other schools who have already located there). Two overarching principles inform this feasibility study: that UW has and retains total academic control; that the quality of students admitted must conform to the "Waterloo" standard. Perceived benefits to UW include: participation in the global market place for education; raising UW's profile internationally; income; possibly a "feeder" for UW. Should UW/Faculty of Engineering wish to pursue this, submission must be made presently to MTCU.

In discussion, Senators heard: whether Kuwaiti students would spend time at UW is under discussion as is the type of "experiential learning" (possibly summer industrial internship rather than co-op) that would be delivered; faculty/staff engaged would be under UW's full direction, with UW also responsible for providing academic support; non-Engineering course requirements could be provided on-line.

The Chair invited the Dean of Engineering to report again at the February meeting of Senate.

**Director of Independent Studies.** Richard Holmes (Philosophy) has agreed to reappointment as Director of Independent Studies for a one-year term, July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005.

## 10. **REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES/COUNCILS (B)**

**Scholarships & Student Aid Committee.** Senate received this report for information.

**Undergraduate Council.** Senate heard a motion to approve the proposed Actuarial Science/Finance Option.

George and Kerton. Carried.

Having heard from the President of the Federation of Students that students, while recognizing it may be the only option, generally do not consider it a good one; from the Registrar, that this procedure could be invoked not just during the last week of classes but any time during the term if classes had

to be cancelled, Senate heard a motion to approve the proposed statement re: rescheduling of cancelled classes, as presented in the report, for inclusion in the Undergraduate Calendar and Examination Regulations & Related Matters.

Chakma and Guild. Carried.

Senate heard a motion to approve the proposed recommendations re: final examination management, as detailed in the report.

Chakma and Lavigne.

During the lengthy discussion on this matter, Senators heard: concerns that consultation/information available on options considered (e.g., alternative venues, variant length exam slots, a longer exam day) was insufficient prior to its coming to Senate for decision; concerns that a 2.5 hour final does not allow for adequate testing and the opposing view that it can if the exam is properly designed; broad support in Arts where many final exams are already 2.5 hours and more weight is given to mid-term results; the need for a policy that guarantees accommodation “not just strives” to accommodate; to reduce disruption, students should not be allowed to leave the exam hall before the exam ends.

And from the Registrar, in response: the proposal is driven primarily by the need to find more examination slots as a result of increasing enrolment; PAC and RCH will be the primary locations for exams since they are the most suitable venues for invigilation and create the least disruption should emergency evacuation be necessary; scheduling software requires exam periods of the same duration; requiring students to remain for the duration of the exam was considered but rejected during consultation; pedagogical literature now suggests that frequent testing rather than one major final provides better assessment.

The motion carried.

## **11. OTHER BUSINESS**

**Break-in.** Following from the recent break-in in Engineering, one Senator expressed concerns that such incidents were not generally made known to the community and suggested the interests of the UW community would be much better served were they informed.

The Board convened in confidential session.