

*University of Waterloo
SENATE
Minutes of the Monday, October 17, 2005 Meeting*

Present: David Johnston (Chair), Lois Claxton (Secretary), Tanveer Ali, John Andersen, Jean Andrey, Rebecca Baxter, Claire Bazley, Ranjana Bird, Stephen Birkett, Kieran Bonner, Amit Chakma, Tom Coleman, Antero Da Silva, Caustan De Riggs, George Dixon, Sherry Dupuis, Marlene Epp, Adam Felix, Jonathan Fishbein, Peter Forsyth, Roydon Fraser, James Gollnick, Paul Guild, Simon Guthrie, Mary Hardy, Mark Haslett, Jeff Henry, Michael Higgins, Keith Hipel, Dennis Huber, Tim Kenyon, Bob Kerton, Scott Kline, George Labahn, Ken Lavigne, Robert Le Roy, Ellsworth LeDrew, Paul Lehmann, Wing-Ki Liu, Harriet Lyons, Michael Makahnouk, Robert Mann, Atefeh Mashatan, Christine McWebb, Bruce Mitchell, Tracy Peressini, Bill Power, Catherine Rosenberg, Manoj Sachdev, Paul Schellenberg, Gerry Schneider, Adel Sedra, James Skidmore, Craig Sloss, Ralph Smith, Douglas Stebila, Myroslaw Tataryn, Geoff Wall, Ross Willard, Frank Zorzitto

Gail Cuthbert Brandt, Pam Charbonneau, Leanne O'Donnell, Catharine Scott, Bob Truman, Bud Walker

Absent: Matthew Austin, Graham Brown*, Steve Brown, Brian Capstick*, John Crossley*, Pierre Filion, Mariela Gutiérrez, Janice Husted*, Ed Jernigan*, Paul Koenderman*, Mike Lazaridis*, Roger Mannell*, Henry Paetkau*, Steve Prentice*, Michael Stone, Donna Strickland*, Scott Taylor, Johnny Wong

*regrets

OPEN SESSION

Consent Agenda

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

Schneider and Le Roy.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The September 19, 2005 minutes 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

Approval of Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates [lists of graduands available at Senate]. Senate approved the lists of candidates for degrees, diplomas and certificates as recommended by the Faculty Councils, the Dean of Graduate Studies and the Academic Board for Independent Studies, and authorized the Chair, the Registrar and the Dean of Graduate Studies to add to or change the lists of candidates for degrees, diplomas and certificates as approved at the meeting on October 17, 2005.

Capital Projects Update. Senate received this report for information.

Graduate & Research Council Appointment [at Senators' places]. Senate approved the appointment of Stan Fogel (St. Jerome's University), replacing Vera Golini, as the faculty representative from the Federated University & Affiliated Colleges, term to April 30, 2007.

The motion carried.

Regular Agenda

5. PRESENTATIONS

Faculty Recruitment Standards and Best Practices. Following the Provost's presentation [<http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/faculty.oct17.pdf>] in which he outlined the goals and objectives of faculty recruitment, in particular that recruitment of high quality faculty is the most important requirement for the pursuit of excellence and that UW's expectation of recruitment committees is that they recruit the very best, the Deans of Arts and Engineering and the Chairs of Physics and Combinatorics & Optimization spoke to their practices which have resulted in excellent appointments. In response to questions, Senators heard: of programs available (e.g., Executive NSERC chairs) and recent efforts to recruit from industry; that UW's salaries for senior academic staff are not competitive with US salaries; the potential impediment of mandatory retirement in US recruiting, especially at senior levels; kudos to Frances Hannigan (Co-ordinator, WatPort – New Faculty Recruitment & Support) for supporting new faculty as they settle into the community; and a caution of making a candidate's success in giving a "classroom lecture" the determining criterion on whether to appoint.

Living-Learning Project Report. Following Walker, Claxton and Charbonneau's presentation [<http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/living-learning.oct17.pdf>], Senators heard: a caution about a third party becoming involved in a faculty/student relationship (recommendation 7); that recommendation 8 may present a challenge in keeping cohorts together, lacks foreign language requirements and may not provide sufficient interaction with international students; that introducing civic/community stewardship for co-op students may be challenging given their schedules; of the success and probable expansion of the tutoring program (both for students in UW Place and off-campus students); and of the opportunity that recommended initiatives such as the Global Arts Community and Waterloo Think Tank would provide for students to improve life-skills and interact/work with students across Faculties.

6. REPORTS FROM COUNCILS

Graduate & Research. Senate received this report for information.

Undergraduate. Senate heard a motion to approve the new plan (Science and Business/Biotechnology), the changes to an existing plan (Biotechnology/Chartered Accountancy), the changes to degree requirements (Optometry), the modified plan reactivation (Biotechnology/Economics) and the plan inactivation (Science Teaching) as outlined in the report.

Dixon and Power.

In discussion, Senators heard: the Science Teaching option has "lost its appeal" but UW is exploring possibilities of different types of teaching programs with other partners; that Truman will meet with undergraduate students to explain/examine the system difficulties of charging the Arts course fee for

Engineers taking an Arts non-degree course on their co-op work term; the Biotech/Economics plan (unique largely because of the student-driven content of the workshops) was reinstated mainly because student demand, which had dropped off, ramped up.

The motion carried.

The remaining item in the report was received for information.

7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Performance Indicators Report. Senator Kenyon spoke to two suggestions: 1) “plotting incommensurable data on different graphs is good sense in any context, so the different Faculties’ data should probably be given on separate charts”; 2) “conditionalizing the data on national rates of application, success and funding levels would at least make it suitable for intra-Faculty comparisons over time.”

In response, Dean Sedra thanked him for his suggestions/observations and advised they would be taken into consideration by the Task Force; further, that the PIs represent a work in progress and that Senators could expect to see suggestions/recommendations reflected in next year’s report.

8. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Environmental Scan [PowerPoint slides: <http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/scan.oct17.pdf>]. The President’s comments on the federal scene included an update on AUCC’s advocacy (including appearance before the Finance Committee and consultation to promote graduate education, maintaining the momentum in university research and enhancing students’ international education experience), priorities (including launch of *Momentum* [new periodic public report on research], indirect costs of research commercialization and SSHRC transformation) and what it is monitoring (pre-election planning, lobbyists registration, aboriginal student outreach, quality assurance, workplace skills initiative and Canada-China science and technology partnership opportunities).

On the provincial scene he noted the major themes/highlights from the recent Throne Speech (including strengthening education and skills, improving health, fostering innovation, leveraging diversity, pledge to increase co-op and job placement opportunities and emphasis on bridging programs for foreign-trained professionals) and COU’s advocacy (tuition framework discussions and priorities for the 2006 provincial budget, including tuition framework, facilities renewal, research funding and graduate education).

In closing, he noted the following items of interest to UW: the Toronto Region Research Alliance (which includes the Region of Waterloo); the Shanghia Jiao Tong List¹; and, with the Dean of Mathematics, the tremendous success of the Bill Gates’ October 13 visit (including the broad and

¹UW has been rated among the world’s top 300 universities in the third annual Shanghai Jiao Tong list of higher education institutions. The 2005 list places the University of Toronto at 24th in the world, followed by UBC at 37, McGill at 67 and McMaster at 90. In the top 200 are Alberta, Queen’s, Calgary and Montreal. UW shares a spot in the 201-300 category with Dalhousie, Guelph, Laval, Manitoba, Ottawa, Saskatchewan, Victoria and Western. The rankings are based on such criteria as academic excellence, research and number of Nobel prize winners among alumni.

positive media coverage, gratitude to all who made the occasion such a success and the possibilities it creates for future initiatives, including with Microsoft Canada and working with Microsoft on outreach, particularly to high school students). Dean Coleman commented that Gates came because he is impressed by Waterloo students and he left impressed.

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

University Professor Nominations. Nomination material should be forwarded to the Provost before Christmas.

New Appointments. Alan George (Associate Provost, IST and former Dean of Mathematics) has been appointed Interim Vice-President, University Research for one year, January - December 2006. In announcing Tom Brzustowski's three-year appointment as senior advisor to IQC, with a focus on developing large interdisciplinary initiatives, the Provost noted that his appointment is part time (20 percent) and is concurrent with a recently announced Ottawa University appointment, also part time (60 percent).

10. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

Senate convened in confidential session.

LC:tad
October 19, 2005

Lois Claxton
Secretary of the University