

*University of Waterloo
SENATE
Minutes of the Monday, May 15, 2006 Meeting*

Present: David Johnston (Chair), Lois Claxton (Secretary), David Barton, Graham Brown, Brian Capstick, Amit Chakma, Tom Coleman, John Crossley, Kate Daley, Caustan De Riggs, George Dixon, Tom Duever, Fraser Easton, Peter Forsyth, Mardon Frazer, Alan George, Mary Hardy, Dennis Huber, Janice Husted, Beth Jewkes, Richard Kelly, Duane Kennedy, Bob Kerton, Scott Kline, Ken Lavigne, Robert Le Roy, Eric Logan, Harriet Lyons, Robert Mann, Roger Mannell, Atefeh Mashatan, David Matthews, Christine McWebb, Elizabeth Meiering, Bruce Mitchell, Stephen Murphy, Jim Pankratz, Bill Power, Marek Ratajczak, Gerry Schneider, Adam Schubert, Adel Sedra, Selva Selvakumar, James Skidmore, Craig Sloss, Douglas Stebila, Donna Strickland, Susan Tighe, Tony Vannelli, Johnny Wong, Michelle Zakrison, Frank Zorzitto

Gail Cuthbert Brandt, Jeff Henry, Peggy Jarvie, Lynn Judge, Catharine Scott, Bud Walker

Absent: Robert Allie*, Jean Andrey*, Claire Bazley*, Ranjana Bird*, Stephen Birkett*, Steve Brown, Tristanne Connolly, Sherry Dupuis*, Pierre Fillion, Roydon Fraser, James Gollnick*, Mariela Gutiérrez*, Bob Harding*, Mark Haslett*, Michael Higgins*, Tim Kenyon*, Mike Lazaridis*, Ciprian Mihalcea, Henry Paetkau*, Tracy Peressini, Catherine Rosenberg*, Deep Saini*, Aaron Stauch*, Myroslaw Tataryn*, Scott Taylor, Geoff Wall*

*regrets

OPEN SESSION

Consent Agenda

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

Lavigne and George.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the April 17, 2006 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/Council Appointments [revised report at Senators' places]. Senate approved the following appointments: Executive Committee – Tony Vannelli (Electrical & Computer Engineering) as the Engineering faculty representative, term to April 30, 2007; Finance Committee – Pierre Fillion (Planning) as the Environmental Studies faculty representative, term to April 30, 2007; Graduate & Research Council – Ashoo Anand (Planning) as the Environmental Studies graduate student representative, term to April 30, 2008; Committee on Student Appeals: Nikolaj Zunic (Philosophy) as the Federated University & Affiliated Colleges faculty representative, term to August 31, 2007, and Caitlin Cull (Political Science), Morgan Grainger (Software Engineering),

Kate Salmon (Arts, St. Jerome's University), terms to August 31, 2008, and Jonah Levine (Political Science), term to August 31, 2007, as undergraduate student representatives; Undergraduate Council – Mark Truchanowicz (Electrical Engineering) as the Engineering undergraduate student representative, term to April 30, 2007.

COU Report [moved, by the consensus of Senate, to the Regular Agenda]

Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates. Senate agreed to delegate approval of the roster of graduands to its Executive Committee.

The motion carried.

Regular Agenda

5. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There was no business arising.

6. **PRESENTATIONS**

Sixth Decade Plans

- **Applied Health Sciences** [powerpoint slides: www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/ahs.may15.pdf]. Building on the Applied Health Sciences 'mission' (improve health and quality of individual and community life through teaching and basic and applied research focussed on health promotion, illness and injury prevention; research on cellular to societal phenomena and processes; knowledge translation ranging from individual/clinical to population-level interventions), the Dean spoke to the Faculty's challenges and priorities (undergraduate recruitment, undergraduate teaching, graduate student growth, research intensity, student:faculty ratio, the importance of centres and institutes, space, staffing needs, debt retirement, fundraising, and linking with biomedical research at UW).

In response to questions, Senators heard: the success the Faculty has achieved as a result of its centres and institutes – a model the Provost strongly encouraged as applicable to other areas; its leadership in public health; how it has differentiated itself from programs in other institutions (e.g., research experience of undergraduates, co-op, centres/institutes, and the over arching distinguishing feature of 'health promotion'); its goal of increasing graduate enrolment to 20 percent of total enrolment in 10 years.

- **Engineering** [www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/eng.may15.pdf]. Speaking to Vision 2010, A Blueprint for Excellence in Engineering Education and Research, the Dean made clear that this strategic plan represents a commitment to improving quality as the Faculty aspires to be widely recognized as Canada's premier engineering school and counted among the leading engineering schools in North America. He described the process the Faculty adopted to arrive at the plan, and spoke to the priorities of the Vision and the goals and strategies it encompasses with respect to undergraduate and graduate students, faculty and staff, research, fundraising, fiscal matters, space, the Faculty image, and Women in Engineering.

In discussion, Senators heard: new programs are proposed only after the need for graduates has been assessed; Co-op is expending more resources to prepare students for their first two work terms which are the biggest employment challenges; a suggestion that changing the curriculum to make it more interesting to women might attract more female students and faculty, and the possibility of developing synergies with 'women in technology' initiatives across campus.

Academic Program Reviews. The Associate Vice-President, Academic spoke to the uniqueness of the programs reviewed and areas for improvement with their recurring themes [A41]. In response to a concern expressed that the Opportunities for Improvement for the Arts Non-major Program [2.1.4] seemed to be rejected in the Strategic Plan [2.1.5], Dean Kerton advised that notwithstanding budget cuts in the '90s, programs were preserved, and suggested the best way to resource the Arts Non-major program, since many of its students enrolled through Distance Education, would be to resource 'DE.' With respect to Religious Studies space issues, expanding graduate enrolment 'collided' with the search for space but the Colleges have helped in accommodation.

7. **REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

Environmental Scan [www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/scan.may15.pdf]. Following his welcome to new and re-elected Senators, the President provided: an overview of the May 2 federal budget (attempt to address fiscal imbalance, vulnerability of research funding, and silent on matching the province's \$100 million for IQC/PI); a provincial overview [graduate expansion (70 percent will be pro rata; 30 percent based on universities' applications)], including COU's strategy for follow-up on the federal budget and consultations on fiscal imbalance and PSE, and the representation to MTCU about the inequitable distribution in operating grants (2:1 universities:colleges when enrolment is currently at 73.1:26.9).

He commented on UW's priorities for 2006-07, as established at the recent annual executive retreat (graduate expansion, space, income diversification, international recruiting, expanding professional program capacity, and strengthening industrial partnership). He also spoke to celebrations which will help to mark UW's 50th anniversary and launch UW into the next half century, encouraging all to support and participate. The year 2007 will mark the finale of Campaign Waterloo, currently at \$311 million with a stretch goal of \$350 million and a super stretch goal of \$375.5 million.

In response to a question and arising from new tax provisions in the federal budget, Senators heard UW is looking how to channel more student income through scholarship which is now not taxable.

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

The Provost reported that, in response to UW's request for \$20 million, Regional Council had granted \$15 million over a number of years, leaving a \$3.5 to \$5 million gap which UW must fund. He expressed UW's appreciation for this support which will allow for the building of a shared clinic for Pharmacy and McMaster medical school. He also advised the official opening of the Accelerator Centre would be held on May 18 and that CBET would become part of the Engineering Faculty.

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

The Vice-President reported that as of March 31, 2006, the end of the federal government's fiscal year, overall tri-council funding to UW was up by 6.8 percent, CHIR funding was up by 8.7 percent and, although SSHRC funding had declined from \$1.5 million to \$750,000, 4A decisions increased from 14 to 22. He indicated that at the June meeting of Senate, he would report on UW's comparative results with other universities and on the Research Finance Task Force he has established.

10. **REPORTS FROM COUNCILS**

Graduate & Research

- **UW Centre for Mental Health Research.** Having heard that the term 'Co-op Research Intern' should be taken under advisement and that funding is in place for the three faculty positions

[A55], Senate heard a motion to approve the establishment of this Centre for five years (May 2006 - April 2011).

George and Kerton. Carried.

- **Electronic Thesis Submission.** Senate heard a motion to approve that the University thesis copy, in fulfilment of degree requirements, be submitted electronically, effective Spring 2007 convocation.

George and Power. Carried.

The remaining item in the report was received for information.

Undergraduate

- **New Plans** (Geography). Senate heard a motion to approve the following new plans: Bachelor of Environmental Studies, Honours Geomatics, Regular & Co-op/Biophysical Systems Specialization/Society, Environment & Economy Specialization.

Mitchell and Chakma. Carried.

- **Plan Name Changes** (Dean of Arts). Senate heard a motion to approve that the Three- and Four-year General Non-major academic plans be renamed the Three-year General Liberal Studies, Four-year General Liberal Studies.

Kerton and George. Carried.

- **Admission Requirements.** Senate heard a motion to approve the 2007 Undergraduate Admission Requirements as detailed in Attachment A.

Lavigne and Chakma. Carried.

- **Policy Changes** (Environmental Studies). Senate heard a motion to approve the recommended changes *re* minimum overall cumulative average for options, transfer credits for diploma plans, and Transfer Credit Policy as detailed on page A69 of the report.

Mitchell and Chakma. Carried.

The remaining items in the report were received for information.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

COU Report. In response to a question, the President advised that, notwithstanding the imperfections of the graduate student and *Maclean's* surveys, UW is supportive of both, will participate, and will try to work to improve the instruments. Further, absent other instruments and at a time when universities are asked to be more accountable, participation is seen as sensible.

Senate convened in confidential session.