

## SENATE

*Minutes of the Monday, March 26, 2007 Meeting*

**Present:** David Johnston (Chair), Lois Claxton (Secretary), Robert Allie, Jean Andrey, David Barton, Stephen Birkett, Steve Brown, Brian Capstick, Amit Chakma, Ken Coates, Tom Coleman, Tristanne Connolly, Antero Da Silva, Kate Daley, Tom Duever, Sherry Dupuis, Pierre Filion, Mardon Frazer, Alan George, James Gollnick, Mary Hardy, Mark Haslett, Dennis Huber, Beth Jewkes, Duane Kennedy, Tim Kenyon, Scott Kline, Ken Lavigne, Robert Le Roy, Eric Logan, Robert Mann, Roger Mannell, Atefeh Mashatan, David Matthews, Paul McDonald, Christine McWebb, Bruce Mitchell, Jim Pankratz, Bill Power, Sharon Robertson, Deep Saini, Adel Sedra, Selva Selvakumar, James Skidmore, Craig Sloss, Russ Snyder-Penner, Aaron Stauch, Douglas Stebila, Donna Strickland, Myroslaw Tataryn, Scott Taylor, Susan Tighe, Geoff Wall, Michelle Zakrison, Frank Zorzitto

Mubarak AL-Mutairi, Adam Arnold, Neelmoy Biswas, Gail Cuthbert Brandt, Gary Bruce, Stefan Buettcher, Linda Carson, Steve Furino, Peggy Jarvie, Ed Jernigan, Barbara Moffatt, Catharine Scott, Mark Seasons, Aly Sivji, Brandon Sweet, Bob Truman, Muhammed Ali Ulku, Bud Walker, Wei-Chau Xie

**Absent:** Claire Bazley, Ranjana Bird\*, Graham Brown, John Crossley, Caustan De Riggs, George Dixon\*, Fraser Easton\*, Peter Forsyth, Roydon Fraser, Mariela Gutiérrez\*, Bob Harding\*, Richard Kelly, Mike Lazaridis\*, Harriet Lyons\*, Elizabeth Meiring, Ciprian Mihalcea, Stephen Murphy\*, Henry Paetkau\*, Tracy Peressini, Marek Ratajczak, Rashid Rehan, Catherine Rosenberg\*, Gerry Schneider, Adam Schubert, Johnny Wong

\*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**

Senate approved the minutes of the February 26, 2007 meeting, subject to the following additions: “first choice” before “OSS applications are up ~14% . . .” [item 5, Enrolment Plans]; “In response to a question about the status of interdisciplinary program regulations, Senate heard that they are being reviewed by Senate Undergraduate Council” [item 10, Academic Program Reviews].

**2. REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

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

**3. REPORTS FROM THE FACULTIES**

Senate received these reports for information.

Sloss and Zakrison. Carried.

**Regular Agenda****4. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS**

**Exceptional Teaching by a Student Awards Committee.** The Associate Dean of Graduate Studies (in the absence of the Chair of the Committee) announced and introduced the recipients of the awards: Mubarak AL-Mutairi (Systems Design Engineering), Adam Arnold (Civil & Environmental Engineering), Stefan Buettcher (Computer Science), Muhammed Ali Ulku (Management Sciences). A round of applause followed.

**Distinguished Teacher Awards Committee.** The Chair of the Committee announced and introduced the recipients of the awards: Gary Bruce (History), Steve Furino (Mathematics, St. Jerome’s University), Barbara Moffatt (Biology), Wei-Chau Xie (Civil & Environmental Engineering). A round of applause followed.

**Undergraduate Council**

- **Bachelor of Knowledge Integration, Honours Regular (BKI).** In introducing the motion to approve this new academic program/degree, the Dean provided context. The program evolved from Waterloo Unlimited, a high school enrichment program which attracts bright students with broad interests, run out of the Provost's office. As the program was looking for a 'home' and its scope was congruent with Environmental Studies interests, ES seized the opportunity to make this a flagship program for the Faculty which is demonstrably integrated (viz. the confluence of the sciences and social sciences and its culture). As distinguished from Arts and Science programs offered elsewhere, the BKI program will provide for an integrated degree where students acquire knowledge from various fields and integrate it to solve problems. With respect to the name of the degree, which has resonated with those consulted, it reflects most closely what the program teaches students to do: integrate knowledge; further, its unique name is a strength, allowing ES to highlight its specialization and providing a point of differentiation for UW – which will be focused on in marketing.

Senate heard a motion to approve this new academic program/degree as described in Attachment #1 of the report.

Saini and Andrey.

In discussion, Senators heard, with respect to course requirements: the courses for language requirements (to allow students to work in the field) are not in current offerings and will be worked out with language departments whose heads have been consulted; the concerns re: STAT 202 and ENV5 278 will be resolved. Senators also heard: enrollment is based on demand at other universities offering similar programs; similar to other programs, expectation is that cut off for admissions will be much higher than the minimum requirements; while the program focuses on required first- and second-year courses, 13.5 units are at the 200 and above level with a fourth-year research project forming the capstone requirement; contrasted to the Integrated Studies degree, a three-year program developed for and tailored to the student by the student and his/her advisor, the BKI is structured, with a strategic foundation, but will also provide students with an academic advisor because of the broad range of choices available; consistent with the broad range of interests these students are expected to have, the range of courses available to them is kept broad and flexible (viz. students are not required to choose a Math/CS set of courses). And, from one Senator, the observation that the breadth of curricular opportunity/integration fundamental to this program is what all Faculties should strive to achieve in their programs, to the extent possible.

Following from the concerns expressed by one Senator with the appropriateness of the name of the degree, Senate heard a motion to refer the pending motion back to Senate Undergraduate Council for consideration.

Stebila and Logan. The motion was lost.

The main motion carried.

- **Bachelor of Environmental Studies, Honours International Development.** Senate heard a motion to approve this new plan as described in Attachment #2 of the report.

Saini and Andrey.

In introducing discussion, the Dean spoke to the rationale informing this program, including that it is built on the fine international work which the Faculty is engaged in, that it would be the only program of its kind to be rooted in an Environmental Studies Faculty, and that it provides for

good synergies with St. Paul's living/learning community.

In discussion, Senators heard that concerning the language courses, consultation has occurred with heads of language departments and specialized courses (possibly Spanish and Swahili) of quality and at the university level will be developed to prepare students to work effectively in the field and will be completed before the student goes on his/her two-term field placement. Students who do not pass the language courses will have the option of deferring field work pending completion of language requirements or transferring into another program. Noting that international field placements are the limiting factor, the expectation is to start with 25 students, ramping up in three or four years to a first-year intake of 80.

Comments concerning specific courses included: consultation with Accountancy re: INDEV 202; strike GEOG 426 (a required third-year course); whether Management Sciences can accommodate this program.

The motion carried.

- ***Transfer Credit for Advanced Placement Courses (Environmental Studies), Failed – Required to Withdraw (Science)***. Senate heard a motion to approve the proposed changes to regulations, effective September 1, 2007 and September 1, 2008, respectively.

Saini and Chakma. Carried.

- ***Undergraduate Research Internship (Statistics & Actuarial Science)***. Senate heard a motion to approve the Undergraduate Research Internship as described in the report.

Power and Coleman. Carried.

The remaining item in the report was received for information.

***University Committee on Student Appeals***. In his brief remarks, the Chair of Committee noted: 2.8 percent (same as last year) of all undergraduates are reported to be involved in an academic offence; what constitutes group work/collaboration varies across campus and needs to be clarified; the importance of responding to offences/grievances in a timely and fair manner; the work of the Academic Integrity Committee, chaired by Bruce Mitchell; with appreciation to all who are participating, the revision to Policies 70/71 is expected to be presented to Senate later this year.

In response to a question of how to distinguish between collaboration and excessive collaboration, the reply that the professor determines this and has a duty to advise his students.

The Chair thanked Professor McBoyle for his work and asked him to convey Senate's thanks to members of his Committee.

***Finance Committee*** [powerpoint slides: [www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/budget0708.mar2607.pdf](http://www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/budget0708.mar2607.pdf)]. Senate heard a motion to recommend approval of the 2007-08 operating budget, as presented, to the Board of Governors.

Chakma and Sloss.

In providing background for the 2007-08 budget, the Provost, speaking to his powerpoint presentation, noted in particular: the \$10.6 million gap between incremental revenue and revenue required and the options available to balance the budget; the gap (ranging from 1 to 3.6 percent) between the 4.5 percent annual increment needed in grants and fees and the actual UW has realized/

will realize (2005-06 to 2009-2010); the structural challenges, including that there is no inflation adjustment to the provincial grant, UW's salary settlements, and the increasing costs of benefits. While UW has addressed these challenges through undergraduate growth and increased revenue through income diversification, increase in productivity, which can be achieved by working smarter, eliminating duplications and low value activities, is also required. The Provost offered that he will be inviting project proposals for one-time funds leading to increased productivity, and that assistance is available through Human Resources to assist units in examining their work flow and processes.

The Provost then briefly reviewed Senate Finance Committee's report and, in response to questions, commented that the operating budget does not reflect PSE funding announced in the recent federal and provincial budgets and that expenditure reduction is often most effectively addressed by not filling open positions.

The motion carried.

**5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There was no business arising.

**6. REPORT OF THE CHAIR** [[www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/es.mar2607.pdf](http://www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/es.mar2607.pdf)]

**Environmental Scan**

- **National Overview.** Highlights of the federal budget, which is challenging to analyse, include \$50 million for Perimeter Institute, \$800 million (to grow by 3 percent annually) in dedicated PSE transfer, \$510 million for CFI through 2012, \$85 million for the granting counsels (not enough to keep up with the volume of proposals), \$15 million for indirect costs of research (short of the 40 percent target).
- **Provincial Overview.** The provincial budget has no significant new initiatives which will help universities (the focus is on poverty relief/children, anticipating the October election) save for the flow through of federal funds which will occur in 2008-2009.
- **Local Overview.** At the President's invitation, the Dean of Arts advised Senate that UW, in partnership with WLU, would be hosting 'The Learned's' in 2012; the funding received from the McConnell Foundation for the Centre for Social Innovation which UW will house, in part; and that UW continues to investigate the possibility of a campus in Stratford (the City of Stratford Council's first priority) but which rests on being able to secure sufficient funding.
- **Graduate Growth.** The Associate Dean of Graduate Studies advised Senate that UW is 25 percent of the way to meeting its fall 2007 admission targets of 675 Master's and 116 Doctoral students, and noted that applications need to be dealt with with vigilance and alacrity. He offered to chart the data and provide to Faculties as well as to report regularly to Senate.

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

**University Professorship Designations.** The Provost announced the 2007 University Professorship designations: Ken Davidson (Pure Mathematics), Keith Hipel (Systems Design Engineering), Jake Sivak (Optometry).

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

The Vice-President advised that he recently received some very positive but still confidential information re: awards which he hopes to report on in April.

Senate convened in Confidential Session.