

*University of Waterloo*  
**SENATE**  
*Minutes of the Tuesday, May 22, 2007 Meeting*

**Present:** David Johnston (Chair), Lois Claxton (Secretary), Ranjana Bird, Stephen Birkett, Steve Brown, Renjie Butalid, Jane Buyers, Amit Chakma, Ken Coates, Tom Coleman, Tara Collington, David DeVidi, George Dixon, Peter Douglas, Tom Duever, Sherry Dupuis, Mardon Frazer, Steve Hayle, Keith Hipel, John Honek, Dennis Huber, Beth Jewkes, Richard Kelly, Duane Kennedy, Ken Lavigne, Ian MacKinnon, Roger Mannell, Paul McDonald, Bruce Mitchell, Stephen Murphy, Jim Pankratz, Bill Power, Rashid Rehan, Metin Renksizbulut, Sharon Robertson, Kevin Royal, Deep Saini, Adel Sedra, James Skidmore, Russ Snyder-Penner, Aaron Stauch, Douglas Stebila, Donna Strickland, Susan Tighe, Geoff Wall, Kathleen Wilkie, Susan Wismer, Frank Zorzitto

Gail Cuthbert Brandt, Keith Chan, Jennifer Clapp, Chris Read, Susan Routliffe, Catharine Scott, Sean Van Koughnett, Bud Walker

**Absent:** David Barton, Neelmoy Biswas\*, Graham Brown\*, Sujeet Chaudhuri, Tristanne Connolly\*, John Crossley\*, Caustan De Riggs, Fraser Easton\*, Pierre Filion, Peter Forsyth, Alan George\*, James Gollnick, Mariela Gutiérrez, Bob Harding\*, Mary Hardy, Mark Haslett\*, Scott Kline, Mike Lazaridis\*, Robert Le Roy\*, Spencer McEwan\*, Elizabeth Meiering\*, John North\*, Henry Paetkau\*, Tracy Peressini, Catherine Rosenberg\*, Selva Selvakumar, Aly Sivji, Craig Sloss\*, Myroslaw Tataryn, Scott Taylor, Jenna Van Draanen\*, Johnny Wong, Michael Worswick

\*regrets

**OPEN SESSION**

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

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the April 16, 2007 meeting were approved as distributed.

**2. REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

**Recognition and Commendation.** Senate received this report, including the addendum [enclosed for absentees], for information. With respect to Canada's Top 40 Under 40, the President paid tribute to Senator Susan Tighe who, along with five other UW alumni, made this year's august list.

**3. REPORTS FROM THE FACULTIES**

Senate received these reports for information.

**4. OTHER BUSINESS**

**Committee and Council Appointments.** Senate approved the recommended appointments.

**Delegation of Authority.** Senate delegated approval of the roster of graduands to its Executive Committee.

Power and Kennedy. Carried.

**Regular Agenda**

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

**Graduate & Research**

- **New Centre.** Senate heard a motion to approve the recommended Centre for Global Governance

Research for an initial period of five years (June 2007 to May 2012).

Bird and Saini. Carried.

- ***New Programs.*** Senate heard a motion to approve the recommended Master of Biology program.

Bird and Dixon. Carried.

Senate heard a motion to approve the recommended Graduate Diploma in Biology.

Bird and Dixon. Carried.

- ***New Certificates.*** Senate heard a motion to approve the recommended Certificates in Design, Fire Safety and Green Energy (Mechanical & Mechatronics Engineering).

Bird and Sedra. Carried.

- ***Program Changes.*** Senate heard a motion to approve the recommended changes to the requirements for the Master's of Applied Environmental Studies program, effective September 2007.

Bird and Saini. Carried.

Senate heard a motion to approve the recommended changes to the course requirements for the Master's of Engineering program, effective May 1, 2007.

Bird and Sedra. Carried.

The remaining item in the report was received for information.

## **6. PRESENTATIONS**

***Capital Projects Update.*** Senate received this update (totalling \$258.4 million) for information.

***Housing Update*** [powerpoint slides: [www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/housing.may2207.pdf](http://www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/housing.may2207.pdf)].

Following the Director of Business Operations' comments on the statistics, services and living learning community, discussion focused on the Media & Mobility Network Project. This project is set to transform the media and communications technology environment in Housing, helping students become more effective, productive learners and serving to reduce stress/disruption that proliferation of technology can cause.

In discussion, Senate heard that the test site for this initiative is Housing and, if successful, the mobility network can be expanded across campus. Supported in the short term by Housing staff, the project is dependent on a major communications partner and an RFP has been issued to secure a service provider. There was encouragement to focus this initiative so that it provides students with an advantage in learning and in developing both academically and personally. The Dean of Arts gave his enthusiastic support, especially with respect to the research opportunities this provides, including analysis of the consequences/effects of embracing technology.

With respect to student accommodation, from the Director of Business Operations, that he is satisfied UW currently has enough spots for graduate students but, as enrolment increases, he will look to opportunities to partner with private developers for family housing. A large project underway with a

private developer off the main campus and not on UW land will add considerably to undergraduate bed inventory and offer a residence environment like those on campus. As to the relatively new initiative of housing some students (*viz.*, Accountancy) in academic clusters, these students are integrated in small pockets among students enrolled in other Faculties but enjoy the close-by support of those in their programs.

The Director was invited to provide an update in a year.

**7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**Graduate Student Growth** [[www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/growth.may2207.pdf](http://www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/growth.may2207.pdf)]. In speaking to the most recent statistics, the Dean of Graduate Studies advised that competition for students is becoming intense, with some universities providing large top ups; she encouraged colleagues to follow up with those to whom offers have been made but have not yet responded. With respect to the effect of graduate growth on the quality of experience, much of the growth is in course-based programs for which intensive mentoring is not required, however, efforts will be made to add TAs/ tutorials to address large classes. And with respect to increase in thesis-based graduates students, the Dean noted that at UW the graduate student:faculty ratio averages fewer than 4:1, lower than at most research intensive universities.

**8. REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

The President welcomed new and continuing Senators and invited the Registrar to update Senate on undergraduate admissions [[www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/admissions.may2207.pdf](http://www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/admissions.may2207.pdf)]. With kudos to all, the Registrar advised that UW is on target, with good quality candidates – no averages lower than 75% and in most cases well above that. An update will be provided at the June meeting of Senate.

**Environmental Scan** [[www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/es.may2207.pdf](http://www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/es.may2207.pdf)]

- **International Overview.** Waterloo was named the world's top "intelligent community" (largely because of its 'connectedness') on May 18 in New York City, beating out six other finalists.
- **National Overview.** The Federal Science & Technology Strategy was announced on May 17 at Perimeter Institute. With a focus on 'mobilizing science and technology to Canada's advantage,' and \$9.2 billion to be directed towards private research and development, it sets out to create: entrepreneurial advantage (decreased tax rate, networks of centres of excellence); knowledge advantage (natural resources, the environment, health, IT); and people advantage. The recently released AUCC: Trends in Higher Education: vol. 1 – Enrolment, shows that, over the last decade, full-time enrolment increased by 31%, full-time Master's and PhD enrolment by 57%, and international student numbers by 35.7%. Projections include a decline in the 18-21 age cohort starting in 2011 with enrolment still expected to grow between 9 and 18%.
- **Local Overview.** The Confucius Institute opened at Renison University College and *Out of the Shadow of Orthodoxy: Waterloo@50* was launched at the Friends of the Library lecture in April. June 23 is the date for Athletics' 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration and July 1, Canada Day, will see UW and the City of Waterloo jointly celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> and 150<sup>th</sup> anniversaries, respectively, in a daylong fête on UW's north campus.

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

**Executive Council 2007 Priorities** [[www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/priorities.may2207.pdf](http://www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/priorities.may2207.pdf)]. The Provost spoke to the priorities that were established at KB in an effort to move UW forward in achieving goals set out in the 6<sup>th</sup> Decade Report. The priorities focus on revenue generation (getting ready to raise \$100 million annually by 2017), graduate expansion, recruitment of international undergraduate students, expansion of enrolment in professional programs, various government funding initiatives (Centres of Excellence in Commercialization and three UW projects: IQC, Nano,

Auto), and smart projects, designed to create efficiencies which can help the bottom line (viz., Plant Operations' energy conservation initiatives) and which will be addressed by a task force management team.

#### 10. REPORTS FROM COUNCILS (B)

##### *Undergraduate*

- **Program Changes.** Senate heard a motion to approve the recommended changes to all Bachelor of Arts academic programs.

Chakma and Lavigne. Carried.

- **New Academic Plans.** Senate heard a motion to approve the recommended Applied Language Studies Option and Diploma.

Chakma and Lavigne. Carried.

- **Academic Plan Changes.** Having heard one Senator applaud the Faculty of Environmental Studies' decision to open the Geomatics Option to the Science and Aviation Plans in the Faculty of Science, and that the Faculty of Science Psychology students would also be interested in this option, Senate heard a motion to approve the recommended changes to the option.

Wall and Lavigne. Carried.

Senate heard a motion to approve the recommended changes to the Earth Sciences Honours Major academic plans.

Dixon and Lavigne. Carried.

- **Undergraduate Admission Requirements.** Senate heard a motion to approve the recommended admission requirements for Caribbean system applicants to Environmental Studies programs.

Wall and Lavigne. Carried.

- **Changes to Regulations.** Senate heard a motion to approve the recommended change to the minimum grade for the Faculty of Arts.

Lavigne and Coates. Carried.

Senate heard a motion to approve the recommended change to the degree requirements for the Faculty of Mathematics.

Coleman and Brown. Carried.

The remaining item in the report was received for information.

#### 11. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

Senate convened in Confidential Session.