

**University of Waterloo
SENATE**

Minutes of the Monday, October 15, 2007 Meeting

Present: David Johnston (Chair), Lois Claxton (Secretary), David Barton, Graham Brown, Steve Brown, Jane Buyers, Amit Chakma, Sujeet Chaudhuri, Ken Coates, Tom Coleman, Tara Collington, John Crossley, Caustan De Riggs, George Dixon, Peter Douglas, Tom Duever, Peter Forsyth, Mardon Frazer, Keith Hipel, John Honek, Dennis Huber, Beth Jewkes, Richard Kelly, Duane Kennedy, Scott Kline, Ken Lavigne, Robert Le Roy, Ian MacKinnon, Roger Mannell, Paul McDonald, Spencer McEwan, Elizabeth Meiering, Bruce Mitchell, Stephen Murphy, Jim Pankratz, David Perrin, Bill Power, Rashid Rehan, Metin Renksizbulut, Kevin Royal, Deep Saini, Adel Sedra, Selva Selvakumar, James Skidmore, Craig Sloss, Donna Strickland, Myroslaw Tataryn, Jenna Van Draanen, Geoff Wall, Susan Wismer, Johnny Wong, Michael Worswick, Frank Zorzitto

Meg Beckel, Gail Cuthbert Brandt, Geoff McBoyle, Catharine Scott, Brandon Sweet, Bob Truman, Bud Walker

Absent: Stephen Birkett*, Neelmoy Biswas*, Renjie Butalid, Tristanne Connolly*, David DeVidi*, Sherry Dupuis, Fraser Easton, Pierre Fillion, Alan George*, James Gollnick, Mariela Gutiérrez*, Bob Harding*, Mary Hardy, Mark Haslett*, Steve Hayle*, Mike Lazaridis*, Terry McMahon*, John North*, Henry Paetkau*, Tracy Peressini, Sharon Robertson*, Aly Sivji*, Russ Snyder-Penner*, Aaron Stauch*, Douglas Stebila*, Scott Taylor, Susan Tighe, Kathleen Wilkie*

*regrets

Consent Agenda

Senate heard an omnibus motion to approve or receive for information by consent items 1-5 [below].

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the September 17, 2007 meeting were approved as distributed.

Secretary's Note: Subsequent to the meeting, the following correction to the minutes was noted: change "60,000" to "20,000 to 25,000" [2nd para., "Balsillie School of International Affairs"].

2. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Recognition and Commendation. Senate received this report for information.

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

Call for University Professor Nominations. Senate received this report for information.

4. REPORTS FROM THE FACULTIES AND CONRAD GREBEL UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Senate received these reports for information.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

Appointment to the Undergraduate Council. Senate approved the appointment of Prabhaker Ragde (Computer Science), replacing David MacKinnon, as the Mathematics faculty representative, term from January 1, 2008 to April 30, 2010.

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 and the Dean of Graduate 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 October 15, 2007 meeting.

Chakma and Lavigne. Carried.

Regular Agenda

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising.

7. PRESENTATIONS

Environmental Studies 6th Decade Plan [www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/env.oct1507.pdf]. Prefacing his remarks by noting that the recent Nobel Peace Prize was jointly awarded to Al Gore and to the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (with UW linkages, including Linda Mortsch who earned a Master's degree in Environmental Studies in 2001 and Professors Jean Andrey, Daniel Scott, and Don Burn) for work re: environmental change, the Dean then spoke to the Faculty's 6th Decade Plan which marries idealism with UW pragmatism. In his remarks, he noted: how the present structure would be redesigned with respect to integrated themes and units, research centres, affiliated centres and journals, as well as the roll-out of new degrees; enrolment (undergraduate and graduate) and faculty growth, necessitating additional space; the integrative / catalytic role of the Faculty, in particular the Bachelor of Knowledge Integration which is viewed as the flagship of FES' integrative role; the pending Faculty name change.

Update on Performance Indicators [www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/pi.oct1507.pdf]. The Dean of Engineering, who chairs the PI Task Force, spoke to the 2007 edition of the indicators, and focused, in particular, on UW's performance in the following indicators, relating performance to the Sixth Decade Plan: undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, research and resources.

In discussion, Senate heard: the view that the proportion of new female hires is not satisfactory; the desirability of having graduate indicators similar to the undergraduate entrance average [see p. 47 where external awards could serve as a proxy]; statistics on student funding should be net of tuition; Ontario university comparators were used re: NSSE because of the difficulty of identifying an appropriate international peer group for UW; the desirability of using a small, accessible and fair subset of UW's PIs to educate / convince the public re: importance / relevance of post-secondary education.

8. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

External Relations. At the Chair's invitation, the Vice-President, External Relations made her maiden address to Senate, with the wonderful news that UW had surpassed its stretch, stretch goal of \$400 million, an occasion celebrated recently at the ROM; the campaign will continue in support of the 6th Decade Plan, with one of the objectives to increase annual giving to \$1 million annually by 2017. She extended thanks to all who have participated in this achievement and expressed eagerness to work with the UW community.

Environmental Scan [www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/es.oct1507.pdf]

- **National Overview.** Parliament resumes tomorrow with the Throne Speech and the hope is there will be continued support for the science and technology agenda; John Manley has been named Chair of the blue ribbon Afghanistan Review Panel; the Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation's mandate expires in 2009 and there is uncertainty whether it will be renewed.

- **Provincial Overview.** The Liberals were re-elected with a majority government and various promises affecting PSE; recommendations coming from *Leading Higher: Funding for Ontario Universities* include: ensuring operating funding keeps pace with inflation and enrolment increases, restoring student faculty ratio to 15:1, provincial funding should increase by \$1.6 billion and there should be direct increases in federal transfer payments to universities; COU pre-election advocacy strategy saw Board Chairs writing to all party leaders as well as op-eds and letters to candidates signed by third-party advocates.
- **Local Overview.** 2017: The Workplace is currently underway with great success; Waterloo Region's Vital Signs (assesses the Region on a number of factors) reveals that 47.4 percent (95 percent of the provincial average) of the Region's residents hold a degree, diploma or certificate; the 10 goals set last year, concurrent with Waterloo's being named the Knowledge Capital of Canada, will be reviewed and progress measured.

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

Appointment. The Provost advised that Jocelyn Bourgon, former Clerk of the Privy Council, will be joining UW as a Distinguished Visiting Professor. She plans to attend on campus a couple of times a month, working on public administration projects and co-supervising students.

UW Campus in Abu Dhabi, UAE [www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/uae.oct1507.pdf]. The Provost spoke to his powerpoint presentation, noting that the agreement with the Centre of Excellence for Applied Research and Training (CERT) has been signed and that this initiative will be pursued but without compromise to UW quality. Four programs [Chemical Engineering, Civil Engineering (both existing programs) and Financial Analysis & Management and IT Management (both repackaging of current programs)] will be offered initially in the 2+2 arrangement. Expectation is to admit the first undergraduate students in 2009 and potentially offer several short courses during 2008. The possibility of offering course-based Master's programs will also be pursued. Benefits to UW include: establishment of UW's presence in a major strategic location; increase in international student population; increase in revenue by ~\$20 million annually at steady state; investment in 32 new faculty and eight new lecturer positions and capital expansion in Engineering and Mathematics; helping UW to become a global institution and improving its academic quality. A successful UW campus will give profile to Canada by establishing Canada's first major overseas campus and reinforce Canada's leadership role in IT and engineering. Risks include: inability to obtain the necessary licensure / accreditation; not meeting admission targets or securing sufficient co-op jobs; the ability of CERT to deliver timely services; political instability or "falling out of favour."

In discussion, Senators heard from the Provost that the UAE is committed to development of a knowledge based society and the Ministry of Higher Education has engaged CERT, a private company and provider of infrastructure (in the event infrastructure support is not satisfactory to UW, UW will 'step in'), to create a 30,000 student campus where programs would be delivered by highly qualified partners. It is UW's view that CERT is the best partner possible, given its direct connection to Sheikh Nahayan who serves as Minister of Higher Education. In response to questions: students in these programs are UW students, so designated from the time of registration; the culture in the UAE is highly westernized and friendly to women; any 'required' courses in religion would be investigated to understand their scope and congruence with the programs of a secular university.

And from the President, an expression of appreciation to the Provost and the Deans of Engineering, Mathematics and Environmental Studies for their hard work leading to the execution of the agreement. Further, what UW also now needs to address: extending teaching programs beyond the initial four; identifying professors prepared to go to the UAE for periods from four weeks to four months; how to facilitate UW students spending a term or a year in the UAE; the possibilities of

collaborative research, especially freshwater research; how best to foster an exchange of knowledge with the Islamic world.

10. REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, UNIVERSITY RESEARCH

With respect to research possibilities in the UAE, the Vice-President advised of UW connections with the UN University in Dubai. He also commented that 11 of UW's 22 applications for strategic research funding were successful and contrasted UW's 50% success rate with the national average of 18%.

11. REPORT OF THE UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL

Curricular Modifications. Received for information.

Academic Program (Computer Science, Social Work) Review Report and Academic Program (Anthropology, Earth & Environmental Sciences, International Studies Option) Review Two – Year Report. Senate received the Academic Program Reviews for information and heard, in response to questions, that with respect to the different approaches taken in the reports re: DE and what the goal re: DE should be, from the Associate Vice-President, Academic, that he had made no comment because UW at this point has no long-term DE plan, something which needs to be addressed; the reports are approved by Undergraduate Council before being referred to Senate, and Council's questions / comments are directed to the departments, as appropriate.

12. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

The meeting adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

LC:tad
October 16, 2007

Lois Claxton
Secretary of the University

Approved November 19, 2007