

**University of Waterloo
SENATE
Minutes of the Monday, January 21, 2008 Meeting**

Present: David Johnston (Chair), Lois Claxton (Secretary), David Barton, Neelmoy Biswas, Graham Brown, Steve Brown, Jane Buyers, Amit Chakma, Sujeet Chaudhuri, Tara Collington, Tristanne Connolly, David DeVidi, Peter Douglas, Sherry Dupuis, Fraser Easton, Pierre Filion, Peter Forsyth, James Gollnick, Mariela Gutiérrez, Mark Haslett, Keith Hipel, John Honek, Dennis Huber, Beth Jewkes, Duane Kennedy, Scott Kline, Ken Lavigne, Robert Le Roy, Susan Lolle, Ian MacKinnon, Roger Mannell, Paul McDonald, Spencer McEwan, Terry McMahon, Elizabeth Meiering, Bruce Mitchell, Stephen Murphy, John North, Henry Paetkau, Jim Pankratz, Bill Power, Metin Renksizbulut, Sharon Robertson, Kevin Royal, Deep Saini, Adel Sedra, Aly Sivji, James Skidmore, Craig Sloss, Russ Snyder-Penner, Aaron Stauch, Douglas Stebila, Donna Strickland, Myroslaw Tataryn, Scott Taylor, Susan Tighe, Geoff Wall, Kathleen Wilkie, Susan Wismer, Johnny Wong, Frank Zorzitto

Gail Cuthbert Brandt, Peggy Jarvie, Geoff McBoyle, Bob Truman, Bud Walker

Absent: Stephen Birkett*, Renjie Butalid, Ken Coates*, Tom Coleman*, John Crossley, Caustan De Riggs, George Dixon*, Tom Duever, Mardon Frazer, Alan George*, Bob Harding*, Mary Hardy, Steve Hayle, Richard Kelly*, Mike Lazaridis*, Tracy Peressini, David Perrin*, Rashid Rehan, Selva Selvakumar, Jenna Van Draanen*, Michael Worswick

*regrets

OPEN SESSION

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 November 19, 2007 meeting were approved as distributed.

2. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Recognition and Commendation. Senate received this report for information.

3. REPORTS FROM THE FACULTIES AND RENISON COLLEGE

Senate received these reports for information.

4. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Senate received this report for information.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

Committee Appointment / Reappointment [revised report at Senators' places]. Senate approved the following appointment / reappointment: Senate Executive Committee – Steve Murphy (Environment & Resource Studies) as ES faculty representative, term to April 30, 2008, replacing Geoff Wall; University Committee on Student Appeals – Geoff McBoyle (Associate VP, Academic) as Chair, term from January 1, 2008 to April 30, 2010.

Chakma and Zorzitto. Carried.

Regular Agenda

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising.

7. CO-OPERATIVE EDUCATION & CAREER SERVICES

The Executive Director referred Senators to the report in the agenda portfolio and then provided an update on employment statistics for the winter term (of the 5000 scheduled to work, 300 students, mostly junior, are still seeking employment; each of these students is assigned to a coordinator who works to create opportunities; Faculties are also advised and make efforts to employ these students).

Notwithstanding the increase in enrolment, projected demands for jobs is not outside the 'bandwidth,' however, the economic slowdown is expected to impact job availability.

Following from UW's nomination, Chancellor Mike Lazaridis was recently inducted into the Co-op Hall of Fame, operated by the National Commission for Co-operative Education and housed at the University of Cincinnati. He is among a group of notable co-op employers who were nominated for the Hall this year.

8. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Environmental Scan [www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/20080121es.pdf]

- **National Overview:** the Chair's (Independent Advisor) report into the Mulroney / Schreiber matter is available at: www.pco-bcp.gc.ca/docs/information/publications/ria-rci/complete-complet_e.pdf; in December the YMCA and the Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation established a Post-Secondary Access Partnership to provide support to students from groups who traditionally do not go on to post-secondary education; the Kitchener Census Metropolitan Area, which is roughly analogous to Waterloo Region, was ranked ninth out of 27 CMAs by the Conference Board of Canada in its report "City Magnets: Benchmarking the Attractiveness of Canada's CMAs"; the Treasury Board of Canada reports that Canada's GERD as a percentage of GDP has been in continuous decline since 2001 to less than 2 per cent in 2006; the Treasury Board also reports that according to the OECD, Canada is the world leader in education when considering the combined proportion of university and college graduates; the Canadian Council on Learning released "Post-Secondary Education in Canada: Strategies for Success," its second annual report, arguing for a pan-Canadian approach to post-secondary education.
- **Provincial Overview:** the speech from the throne, "Moving Forward the Ontario Way," released November 29, 2007, followed through on its election promises re: post-secondary education, promising to introduce a special distance grant for students from remote areas, a textbook and technology grant of \$300 for university and college students each year, and a \$165 million Ontario Venture Capital Fund; the Task Force on Competitiveness, Productivity and Economic Progress, led by Roger Martin and of which the Chair is a member, presented its sixth annual report, "Path to the 2020 Prosperity Agenda," calling on Ontario to create a smarter tax system and to continue to increase its investment in education to halt the province's GDP decline relative to comparable North American jurisdictions.
- **Local Overview:** the 50th Anniversary celebrations drew to a close on December 12 with a party at the Columbia Ice Field, the lowering of the 50th Anniversary flag on December 13, and the sealing of a time capsule, not to be opened until 2057.

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

Amendments to Policy 40, The Chair. Senate heard a motion to approve the proposed amendments to Policy 40.

Chakma and DeVidi.

In addition to the substantive changes set out in the Provost's covering memo, Senators also heard: the Policy maintains the 'flavour' that the Chair is first among equals; a nominating committee must be convened when appointing / reappointing a Chair; with respect to ballot results / consultations, the nominating committee decides what constitutes an acceptable level of support; and the double majority requirement ensures the active voice of faculty and staff who have a long-term working relationship with the Chair.

The motion carried.

Preliminary Operating Budget 2008-09 [www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/20080121budget.pdf].

The Provost advised Senators that his budget presentation was designed to outline the major budgetary issues and to help the community understand the reasons (principally 'university inflation,' declining provincial grants and tuition fee caps -- he advised Senators on UW's overall tuition fee increases for 2008-09, with UW setting them at the provincially allowed maxima) for the structural deficit. In concluding, he emphasized that if UW were to rely on government and standard operating revenues, UW would be in decline.

Admissions. The Provost extended kudos to all for their superlative efforts in graduate student recruitment: UW is the only research intensive university in Ontario that has exceeded its graduate enrolment target, and he offered that this will likely lead to further growth and further government funding. He advised that there is a 15 per cent increase in first-year applications over last year (5 per cent system-wide), the result of increased recruitment efforts / outreach / revamping of curricula and commented, in particular, on two ES successes: aviation last year and BKI this year, yielding much higher, high quality applications than anticipated.

10. REPORTS FROM COUNCILS

Graduate & Research. Senate received this report for information.

Undergraduate

- **Changes to Regulations and Procedures, Mathematics.** Senate heard a motion to approve the proposed new rule to be inserted under "Faculty Policies" [p. 10:46] of the 2007-08 academic calendar.

Lavigne and DeVidi. Carried

- **Guidelines for Academic Program Reviews at the University of Waterloo.** Senate heard a motion to approve the proposed revised Guidelines.

Chakma and Mitchell.

In response to concerns expressed about work-load implications with questionable added value, from the Associate Vice-President, Academic, acknowledgement that there will be extra work addressing learning objectives and learning outcomes but that mechanisms to reduce the load are being looked at including assistance from CTE and development of a generic survey which can be customized by individual departments. As to the program review themselves, advice from the Associate Vice-President that departments should use the last review as a starting point. Senate also heard concerns expressed by a couple of Senators re: the usefulness of the raw data which UW provides for inclusion in the reviews and the data's seeming incompleteness.

With respect to an opinion expressed that the 'real world' statement (viz. the proposed statement regarding UW to be used in the introduction of each program review report) implies applied / business outcomes which may be inimical to UW's long-term interests, in response, that this

statement comes directly from UW's Sixth Decade Plan and should be read in the context of the entire sentence.

The motion carried.

[**Note:** the omission of Mechanical Engineering, p. A64.]

The remaining items in the report were received for information.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

Report of the Registrar: Scholarships and Financial Aid

[www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/20080121scholarships.pdf]. The Registrar provided an overview of the data, noting in particular the increase in value of Entrance Scholarships over the last three years (\$3 million to \$7.3 million, largely the result of the President's Scholarship Program) and the Scholarships of Distinction renewal rate: 72% overall.

Senate convened in Confidential Session.

LC:tad
January 23, 2008

Lois Claxton
Secretary of the University

Approved February 25, 2008