

University of Waterloo  
SENATE  
Minutes of the Monday, March 24, 2008 Meeting

**Present:** David Johnston (Chair), Lois Claxton (Secretary), David Barton, Neelmoy Biswas, Graham Brown, Steve Brown, Jane Buyers, Amit Chakma, Ken Coates, Tom Coleman, Tara Collington, Tristanne Connolly, David DeVidi, George Dixon, Tom Duever, Fraser Easton, Peter Forsyth, Mark Haslett, Keith Hipel, John Honek, Dennis Huber, Beth Jewkes, Bob Kapur, Duane Kennedy, Susan Lolle, Roger Mannell, Terry McMahon, Bruce Mitchell, Stephen Murphy, John North, Henry Paetkau, Jim Pankratz, David Perrin, Bill Power, Rashid Rehan, Metin Renksizbulut, Adel Sedra, Selva Selvakumar, Aly Sivji, James Skidmore, Craig Sloss, Douglas Stebila, Donna Strickland, Myroslaw Tataryn, Geoff Wall, Kathleen Wilkie, Susan Wismer, Frank Zorzitto

David Checkland, Andrew Dilts, Amir Hajimiragha, Jeff Henry, Monica Leoni, Geoff McBoyle, Erin Spicer, Brandon Sweet, Neil Thomlinson, Bob Truman, Ian VanderBurgh, Bud Walker

**Absent:** Stephen Birkett\*, Renjie Butalid, Sujeet Chaudhuri, Caustan De Riggs, Peter Douglas, Jean Duhamel, Sherry Dupuis\*, Pierre Filion, Mardon Frazer, Alan George\*, James Gollnick, Mariela Gutiérrez\*, Bob Harding\*, Mary Hardy, Steve Hayle, Richard Kelly, Scott Kline, Ken Lavigne\*, Mike Lazaridis\*, Robert Le Roy, Ian McKinnon, Paul McDonald, Spencer McEwan\*, Elizabeth Meiering\*, Tracy Peressini\*, Sharon Robertson\*, Bob Rosehart, Kevin Royal, Deep Saini\*, Russ Snyder-Penner, Aaron Stauch, Dermot Sweeny\*, Scott Taylor, Susan Tighe\*, 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 1-3 [below].

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the February 25, 2008 meeting were approved as distributed.

**2. REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

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

**3. REPORTS FROM THE FACULTIES [excluding Environmental Studies]**

Senate received these reports for information.

Stebila and Kennedy. Carried.

**Regular Agenda**

**4. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS (A)**

**Exceptional Teaching by a Student Award Committee.** The Chair of the Committee announced and introduced the award recipients: Andrew Dilts (Management Sciences), Amirhossein Hajimiragha (Electrical & Computer Engineering) and Erin Spicer (Biology). A round of applause followed.

**Distinguished Teacher Award Committee.** The Chair of the Committee announced and introduced the award recipients: Jane Irvine (Geography), Monica Leoni (Spanish & Latin American Studies), Michael Sharratt (Kinesiology) and Ian VanderBurgh (Mathematics). A round of applause followed.

**5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There was no business arising.

**6. REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

**Environmental Scan** [[www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/20080324es.pdf](http://www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/20080324es.pdf)]

- **National Overview.** The federal budget (February 26) included \$440 million support for research and development, \$21 million for 20 new Global Excellence Research Chairs, \$25 million for new Canada Graduate Scholarships, \$123 million for Canada Student Loans Program modernization, \$15 million for indirect costs of research and \$350 million for a Canada Student Grant Program, replacing the Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation which will expire in 2009.
- **Provincial Overview.** The President has been invited to attend at the Legislature tomorrow (leading to speculation that there may be something for UW in the budget) when the budget (expected to address skills training and industry partnerships) is brought down.
- **Local Overview.** Senators are encouraged to attend the Friends of the Library event where the Hon. John Manley will speak on Afghanistan (April 1, 4:00, Humanities Theatre). The School of Architecture won the OAA Award.

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

**University Professor Designations.** The Vice-President announced the 2008 University Professor designations: Roy Cameron (Health Studies & Gerontology) and Flora Ng (Chemical Engineering).

**Stratford.** UW now anticipates that \$30 million (\$20 million for capital; \$10 million endowment to cover the costs of operating the satellite) plus land is likely to be secured, thereby meeting the capital requirements for the project established when discussions began; as a result, academic planning (focus on new media and global business) is now being addressed. The Associate Vice-President, Academic, has agreed to coordinate the academic planning process for what is expected to become a pan-University project, involving Arts, Environmental Studies and possibly Mathematics and Engineering.

Last week an MOU was signed with Open Text on a research initiative which will be based principally on the Stratford new media initiative. In sum, a complex project requiring capital commitments, program development / approvals and MTCU approvals for reasonable fees and reasonable BIUs. When there is greater clarity on all pieces, a business case will be prepared for review.

**Abu Dhabi.** Three academic colleagues have recently returned from Abu Dhabi where a number of practical issues were addressed. UW is continuing with its plans to offer programs there, initially with Engineering and Mathematics, and now with Arts, Science and Applied Health Sciences expressing interest in participating. In response to one Senator's suggestion that, given the importance of the Stratford and Abu Dhabi initiatives, it would be useful to have a more fulsome presentation on both before Senate is called upon to approve these undertakings, the Provost agreed to do so.

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

The Vice-President did not report.

**9. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS (B)**

**Finance Committee** [[www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/20080324budget.pdf](http://www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/20080324budget.pdf); 2008-09 Operating Budget at Senators' places and enclosed for absentees]. In his 'backgrounder' to the 2008-09 Operating

Budget, the Provost provided the reasons for UW's structural deficit, gave a brief statistical history of expenditure reductions, provided budget cut comparisons with a number of sister institutions, rehearsed UW's past approaches in dealing with budget shortfalls (enrolment growth, international enrolment growth, expenditure reductions) and indicated why past approaches will no longer work. He then offered the instruments (diversification of income) UW was using to 'bridge the gap,' and provided a summary of how UW would balance the budget.

Senate heard a motion to approve the 2008-09 Operating Budget as presented and to recommend approval to the Board of Governors.

Chakma and Mannell.

In discussion, Senators heard: UW is looking hard at expenditures to ensure resources are being deployed as effectively as possible; Faculties which participated in strategic programs (e.g., graduate growth) have benefited financially; a request to consider the effect of budgets on graduate student income since tuition is determined centrally but funding is determined locally.

The motion carried.

#### **Graduate & Research Council**

- **Master of Engineering (MEng) in Civil Engineering – Infrastructure Systems, Regular and Co-op (Civil & Environmental Engineering).** Senate heard a motion to approve these two new programs.

Dixon and Sedra. Carried.

- **PhD in Social Ecological Sustainability (Environment & Resource Studies).** Having noted that new minimum guarantees for PhD students will encompass all doctoral programs and will go into effect January 2009, Senate heard a motion to approve this new program.

Dixon and Sedra. Carried.

The remaining item in the report was received for information.

#### **Undergraduate Council**

- **Joint Honours Bachelor of Science – Bachelor of Independent Studies (Arts and Science).** Senate heard a motion to approve this new plan.

Mitchell and McMahon. Carried.

- **Honours, Joint Honours and Honours Arts & Business (Classical Studies); Honours Geological Engineering (Geological Engineering); Honours Software Engineering (Engineering and Mathematics).** With the understanding that should the required courses listed require correction, that they would be brought back to Senate (Honours Geological Engineering), Senate heard a motion to approve the recommended academic plan changes.

Chakma and Sedra. Carried.

[**Note:** subsequent to the meeting, it was confirmed that the Honours Geological Engineering plan has all the necessary requirements. Terms 1A, 1B and 2B were excluded from the report because there were no changes to the plan requirements for these terms.]

- **Systems Management Option (Mathematics / Business Administration); Scientific Computing Option (Honours Science Academic Plans).** Senate heard a motion to approve the recommended inactivation of these options.

McMahon and Mannell. Carried.

- **Examinations and Standings – Co-operative Program Evaluation; Term Dean's Honours List (Science).** Senate heard a motion to approve the recommended changes to regulations and procedures.

McMahon and Power. Carried.

The remaining items in the report were received for information.

#### **10. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

Senate convened in Confidential Session.

LC:tad  
March 26, 2008

Lois Claxton  
Secretary of the University

*Approved April 21, 2008*