

**University of Waterloo**  
**SENATE**  
**Minutes of the Monday, June 16, 2008 Meeting**

**Present:** David Johnston (Chair), Lois Claxton (Secretary), Carol Action, Samuel Andrey, Allan Babor, David Barton, Dan Brown, Steve Brown, Jane Buyers, Amit Chakma, Tom Coleman, Tara Collington, Shannon Dea, David DeVidi, George Dixon, Peter Douglas, John Flanagan, Mark Haslett, Geoffrey Hayes, John Honek, Dennis Huber, Bob Kapur, Richard Kelly, Ken Lavigne, John Lawrence, John Lewis, Heather Mair, Roger Mannell, Terry McMahon, Elizabeth Meiering, Bruce Mitchell, Christopher Neal, John North, Henry Paetkau, Rashid Rehan, Bruce Richter, Deep Saini, Matthew Schumacher, Adel Sedra, Selva Selvakumar, Alan Shonfield, James Skidmore, Craig Sloss, Douglas Stebila, Dermot Sweeny, Peter Van Beek, Kathleen Wilkie, Justin Williams, Frank Zorzitto

Meg Beckel, Gail Cuthbert Brandt, Vassili Karanassivs, Geoff McBoyle

**Absent:** Aswin Alexander, Graham Brown, Kevin Cai, Sujeet Chaudhuri\*, Ken Coates\*, Tristanne Connolly, Tom Duever, Jean Duhamel, Fraser Easton, Alan George\*, James Gollnick, Bob Harding\*, Keith Hipel\*, Beth Jewkes\*, Lu Jiang, Kevin Lamb, Brendon Larson\*, Mike Lazaridis\*, Maria Liston, Paul McDonald, Spencer McEwan\*, Stephen Murphy, Wayne Oldford\*, Jim Pankratz, David Perrin\*, Metin Renksizbulut\*, Sharon Robertson\*, Bob Rosehart\*, Myroslaw Tataryn\*, Nancy Theberge\*, Jenna Van Draanen\*, Robert Jan Van Pelt, Beth Weckman, Susan Wismer\*, 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 May 20, 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**

Senate received these reports for information.

**4. OTHER BUSINESS**

**Graduate & Research Council Appointments.** Senate approved the appointments of Troy Glover (Recreation & Leisure Studies) as the Applied Health Sciences faculty representative, replacing Mark Havitz, and Rishikesh (Pure Mathematics) as the Mathematics graduate student representative, replacing Atefeh Mashatan, terms to April 30, 2009.

Chakma and Stebila. Carried.

**Regular Agenda**

**5. Business Arising from the Minutes**

**Executive Council Priorities 2008-09.** The President and the Provost spoke to their presentations [[www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/20080616masterses.pdf](http://www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/20080616masterses.pdf) / [www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/20080616mastersbm.pdf](http://www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/20080616mastersbm.pdf)], providing context for UW's career focused Master's / diploma / certificate expansion: the degree granting gap (Master's) between Canada and the US; relationship of prosperity to higher educational attainment; identification of professional Master's programs as the most significant global trend in

graduate education; congruence with the 6<sup>th</sup> Decade Plan; programming at MIT and Harvard where a large percentage of the student bodies are enrolled in professional degree programs.

In discussion, Senate heard: the approval mechanism for multi-Faculty professional Master's (Senate Long Range Planning Committee serving as Faculty oversight and recommending to Senate Graduate & Research Council but with a Faculty then administering the program) circumvents the normal approval process and could be construed as an 'end run' around a Faculty; a request for reassurance that this approach will not affect quality control and that the value of the UW degree will remain high (the President of the Faculty Association read communication from a colleague expressing grave concerns); whether growing the graduate population will, in the end, turn UW into a graduate school; the seeming unlikelihood that new Master's programs can be launched in Arts given the revenue neutral requirement; the need for more effective lobbying to convince the provincial government of the value of undergraduate education and funding.

In response, Senate heard: the new model for moving multi-Faculty professional Master's (the undergraduate model does not work) through inception to Senate gives Deans' Council latitude to assemble a group most appropriate to the initiative to shepherd it through the required stages: the various Faculties, Long Range Planning Committee, Graduate & Research Council. Appropriate Faculty consultation (no veto rights) will occur, with Senate acting through its committees as final arbiter. To go forward, these programs will require a business plan showing that sufficient resources can be generated to ensure quality programs; Engineering's current suite of high-quality professional Master's programs designed to serve societal / industry needs, are, in the first instance, cost neutral (some generate funds). Faculties wishing to mount new Master's programs, absent a business plan, must be able to do so within existing resources. With respect to graduate growth, UW's graduate population is about half that of most research intensive universities and the 6<sup>th</sup> Decade Plan sets a graduate target of 20 percent by 2017. In conclusion, the consultation / approval model for dealing with these programs can evolve and hope expressed that the collegium would approach this open-mindedly, developing options that ensure transparency of process and high-quality offerings.

## 6. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

**Environmental Scan** [[www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/20080616es.pdf](http://www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/20080616es.pdf)]. The President paid tribute to Gail Cuthbert Brandt, stepping down as Associate Vice-President, International June 30, 2008 and returning to her base as a History Professor at Renison College, expressing his gratitude, on behalf of UW, for her excellent leadership. He then provided the following overviews:

- **National.** Data presented included PSE participation rates relative to parental education (Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation) and Waterloo's being above the national average in each of the specific measurements showing Canada's progress in lifelong learning (Canadian Council on Learning).
- **Local.** Two groundbreaking ceremonies: Mike & Ophelia Lazaridis Quantum-Nano Centre (June 9); Engineering V building (June 5). Provincial funding announcement for the School of Optometry (June 6): \$1 million annually for enhanced clinical training for students.

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

The Vice-President did not report.

## 8. REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, EXTERNAL RELATIONS

**Annual Giving Target.** The Vice-President reported that UW ended the year with \$112 million in its coffers (ten years ahead of the 2017 \$100 million target). She also referred to UW's sweep of 12 awards from Canadian and American "advancement" organizations, half of them 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary-related.

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

**New Research Chair.** Export Development Canada has committed \$150,000 annually for five years (renewable) to fund a Chair in Environmental Finance, Faculty of Environment.

**10. REPORTS FROM COUNCILS**

**Graduate & Research**

- **Waterloo Institute for Nanotechnology (WIN).** Senate heard a motion to approve the establishment of this institute, effective June 1, 2008.

Dixon and McMahon. Carried.

- **Graduate Diploma in Advanced Management (Centre for Business, Entrepreneurship & Technology, Management Sciences).** Having heard a suggestion that certificates of completion / diplomas might also be considered for regular graduate programs where candidates have completed only a portion of the prescribed program, Senate heard a motion to approve the establishment of this diploma program as outlined in the report.

Dixon and Sedra. Carried.

- **PhD Program in Accounting (School of Accounting & Finance).** Senate heard a motion to approve the proposed program change as described in the report.

Dixon and Chakma. Carried.

- **School of Planning.** Senate heard a motion to approve the proposed requirement changes as outlined in the report.

Dixon and Chakma. Carried.

The remaining item in this report was received for information.

**Undergraduate**

- **Global Experience Certificate.** In discussion, Senate heard: this initiative is tied closely to the 6<sup>th</sup> Decade Plan and reflects best practices at major American universities; the opinion expressed that the growth of credentialism, as evidenced by awarding of certificates / diplomas / labels on transcripts, is becoming overdone, possibly at the risk of losing focus on the University's core purpose; acknowledgement that the course list is 'exemplary' with further work to be done; the requirements to earn a certificate were set to encourage as many students as possible to participate. Senate then heard a motion to approve the creation of this certificate as described in the report.

Chakma and Shonfield. Carried.

- **International Development Option and Minor (Environment).** Senate heard a motion to approve the creation of these plans as outlined in the report.

Saini and Mannell. Carried.

- **Knowledge Integration Option and Minor (Environment).** Senate heard a motion to approve the creation of these plans as described in the report.

Saini and Mannell. Carried.

- **Undergraduate Research Internship (Earth & Environmental Sciences).** Senate heard a motion to approve the offering of UWURI to undergraduate students in this department.

Acknowledgement that how to operationalize the original intent (to assist students in fast-tracking their post graduate degree) has been referred to the Graduate Operations Committee for consideration.

McMahon and Schumacher. Carried.

- **Honour Co-op (Environment & Business).** Senate heard a motion to approve the proposed changes to this plan as described in the report.

Saini and Mannell. Carried.

**English Language Proficiency Requirement (Engineering).** Having noted: students who fail the test are required to consult with Writing Clinic staff re: areas which need to be addressed, the result of which is a much higher pass rate on second try; with recent additional funding, the Writing Clinic staff is sufficient to take this on, Senate heard a motion to approve the proposed regulation change.

Sedra and Lavigne. Carried.

- **Academic Standing (Science).** Senate heard a motion to approve the revised regulation as outlined in the report.

McMahon and Lavigne. Carried.

The remaining items in this report were received for information.

## 11. OTHER BUSINESS

**Amendment to Spring 2009 Convocation Dates.** Withdrawn.

Senate convened in Confidential Session.