

**University of Waterloo**  
**SENATE**  
**Minutes of the Monday, September 15, 2008 Meeting**

**Present:** David Johnston (Chair), Lois Claxton (Secretary), Carol Acton, Samuel Andrey, Allan Babor, David Barton, Graham Brown, Steve Brown, Kevin Cai, Amit Chakma, Ken Coates, Tom Coleman, Tara Collington, Tristanne Connolly, Shannon Dea, David DeVidi, George Dixon, Peter Douglas, Jean Duhamel, Fraser Easton, John Flanagan, Alan George, James Gollnick, Mark Haslett, Keith Hipel, Dennis Huber, Bob Kapur, Richard Kelly, Kevin Lamb, Brendon Larson, Ken Lavigne, John Lewis, Maria Liston, Heather Mair, Roger Mannell, Paul McDonald, Spencer McEwan, Terry McMahon, Bruce Mitchell, Stephen Murphy, John North, Wayne Oldford, Henry Paetkau, Jim Pankratz, David Perrin, Rashid Rehan, Metin Renksizbulut, Bruce Richter, Leo Rothenburg, Deep Saini, Alan Shonfield, James Skidmore, Craig Sloss, Douglas Stebila, Myroslaw Tataryn, Nancy Theberge, Peter Van Beek, Robert Jan Van Pelt, Beth Weckman, Kathleen Wilkie, Justin Williams, Susan Wismer

Meg Beckel, Peggy Jarvie, Geoff McBoyle, Catharine Scott, Bud Walker

**Absent:** Aswin Alexander, Dan Brown\*, Jane Buyers\*, Sujeet Chaudhuri, Tom Duever, Bob Harding\*, Geoffrey Hayes, John Honek\*, Beth Jewkes\*, Lu Jiang\*, John Lawrence\*, Mike Lazaridis\*, Elizabeth Meiering\*, Christopher Neal, Sharon Robertson, Bob Rosehart\*, Matthew Schumacher, Selva Selvakumar\*, Dermot Sweeny\*, Jenna Van Draanen\*, Michael Worswick, Frank Zorzitto

\*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 June 16, 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**

**Committee / Council Appointments** [revised report at Senators' places]. Senate heard a motion to approve the following appointments:

- **University Committee on Student Appeals:** Chao Qiu (Statistics & Actuarial Science) as a graduate student representative, replacing Rick Theis, term to April 30, 2010.
- **Graduate & Research Council:** Jill Gugula (Biology) as the Science graduate student representative, replacing Kate Wood, term to April 30, 2009; Brian Neff (Geography) as the Environment graduate student representative, replacing Jill Gugula, term to April 30, 2010.
- **Undergraduate Council:** Jeffrey Lipnicky (Mechanical & Mechatronics Engineering) as the Engineering undergraduate student representative, term to December 31, 2008; Sasha Avreline (Chemical Engineering) as the Engineering undergraduate student representative, term from January 1, 2009 to April 30, 2009.

**Electronic Agenda / Minutes.** Open agenda and minutes are available at: [www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/governance/senate.htm](http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/governance/senate.htm) and are posted there when hardcopies are distributed.

**Tenure and Promotion of Faculty Members** [revised report at Senators' places]. Senate received this report for information.

Rothenburg and Chakma. Carried.

### **Regular Agenda**

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

##### **Undergraduate**

- **Examination Regulations and Related Matters.** Having noted from the Associate Vice-President, Academic the rationale for the motion as set out in the documentation, and from the Registrar that the infrastructure in place for this 'underutilized' exam relief compromises resources he could put to other projects (e.g., demand-based timetabling) which would benefit students, Senate heard a motion to approve the proposed changes to Examination Regulations and Related Matters as detailed in the report.

Lavigne and Chakma.

In discussion, Senate heard: from the President of the Federation of Students, the value students place on the current provisions (evidenced by the Fed Council's motion to defeat the motion, strong e-mail opposition to the motion, student 'gallery' at Senate), a questioning of the statistics (uptake may be higher among those students who have 2.5 hour back-to-back exams vs. those whose exams are of shorter duration), and the importance of having the provision for 'students who really need it'; a suggestion that uptake may be low because relief is minimal or the provision isn't well advertised and, in response, that many students are unaware of exam relief and that, although the Registrar's Office advises students eligible for relief, individually, by e-mail, many students are not reachable via UWdir; writing in a five-hour stretch does not provide for a fair student assessment and, should the relief be eliminated, there will be loss of equity as some students will seek alternative relief from professors and others won't; the matter of 'no one associated with the course is present in the relief examination location' can and should be addressed; from the President of the Graduate Student Association, that relief accommodations were approved as part of a suite of changes and any change should be considered in the context of the whole suite.

The motion was defeated.

#### **6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**June Senate Agenda.** Senate heard a motion to defeat the motion tabled at the May 20, 2008 meeting as follows: To approve that the June Senate Executive Committee agenda be electronically distributed to Senators in advance of the Executive Committee meeting, inviting comment on the need for Senate to meet in June, and where the Executive Committee subsequently determines there is no need for Senate to meet, that Senate delegate to the Executive Committee authority to transact the necessary business on behalf of Senate.

Chakma and George. Carried.

7. **FACULTY OF ARTS** [[www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/20080915arts.pdf](http://www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/20080915arts.pdf)]. The Dean provided a comprehensive report, relating the Faculty's activities to the 6<sup>th</sup> Decade Plan. In the brief discussion that followed, Senators heard: one Senator express concerns about the heavy load of service teaching performed by Arts, lament that Arts students do not take many courses outside the Faculty, and comment on how students from other Faculties enrich his upper-year classes; concerns with graduate support / faculty funding in Arts, the result of such funding not yet being integrated in Arts as in other Faculties.

## 8. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

**Honorary Degrees at Fall Convocation.** The President announced the following recipients: Axel Meisen (DEng), Paul Seymour (DMath), Ronald Zernicke (DSc).

**Environmental Scan** [[www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/20080915es.pdf](http://www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/20080915es.pdf)]. The President presented the following overviews:

- **International:** the OECD Economic Outlook forecasts Canada's economic growth in fourth quarter 2008 at 0.8% (second lowest in the G7, ahead of Italy).
- **National:** a federal election is called for October 14; answers to AUCC's 12 questions to federal party leaders on investing in higher education and university research will be posted to the following website on October 3: [www.universitiesmatter.ca](http://www.universitiesmatter.ca); the Honourable Diane Finley, Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, visited campus on August 12 to announce the Canadian Experience Class (a new immigration avenue for highly skilled temporary foreign workers and foreign student graduates with Canadian work experience); Kitchener placed fourth in *Canadian Business Magazine's* seventh annual rankings of the best places to do business in Canada; the Institute for Competitiveness and Prosperity Report on Canada for 2008 states that action must be taken to prevent Canada from lagging behind its competitors and principles of prosperity can be summarized as attitudes, investment, motivation and structures.
- **Provincial:** the Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities on September 10 announced the following delivery mechanism for the Textbook and Technology Grant (a commitment made in the province's 2008 budget which allocated \$385 million to assist with the increasing costs of textbooks and technology): administered through OSAP, \$150 per student in fall 2008, \$225 per student in fall 2009, and \$300 in subsequent years.
- **Local:** on September 12 UW launched VelcoCity, a student residence designed to enable budding entrepreneurs to work with like-minded colleagues on mobile communications and digital media.

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

**Enrolment.** Undergraduate: first-year domestic targets have been exceeded; international is slightly below target. Graduate: 'budget' target has been slightly exceeded; stretch target (anticipating the next tranche of government funding) is between 100 and 120 FTE short.

**Abu Dhabi [now UAE] Update.** Professor Leo Rothenberg advised Senate on the outcome of a recent trip (Magdy Salama, Peter Wood and himself) to the UAE: Engineering will offer 2+2 (first two years in UAE; second two in Waterloo) programs in Civil and Chemical Engineering, starting September 2009 and Mathematics in 2010; target intake for programs is 50 each, however, UW will proceed whatever the number admitted; students who start in the UAE and are unable to come to Canada will be accommodated by HCT; site will be the HTC CERT Men's College, Academic City, Dubai (also the site of other international universities, including the Sorbonne, Harriet Watt); facility has generous teaching space, good student facilities with residences to be built; licensing / accreditation processes have been simplified as UW is operating under the HCT's academic licensing and without any compromise to UW quality / standards, etc., as UW continues to admit, teach and grant the degrees; Magdy Salama will be stationed in Dubai for the next year, acting as UW's liaison and ensuring that the programs are successfully launched.

In response to questions, Senators heard: with respect to human rights matters in Dubai, that Dubai is more international than Abu Dhabi and has a stated intent to become a community where human rights are respected and where 'live and let live' is applied as in Abu Dhabi; men and women will make separate use of gym facilities; accreditation occurs at two levels where national accreditation is required for programs while emirate councils ensure programs are in the interests of the emirate; in the event admissions do not grow to meet the target of 50 students for each program, the business model will be at risk.

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

The Vice-President reported that an update on the Lobbyist Act would soon be made available to the community; consulting continues on the branding and identity initiative; and the results of an Ipsos Reid poll will be brought to Senate at a future meeting.

## 11. REPORTS FROM COUNCILS (B)

### Graduate & Research

- **Clinical Research Ethics Committee.** Senate heard a motion to approve the establishment of this Committee as defined in the report.

Dixon and Mitchell.

In response to questions / concerns expressed that membership of the Committee does not reflect all the clinical activity on campus and does not include a statistician, from the Vice-President, University Research, that the Committee, as constituted, meets the minimum requirements set by Health Canada; is, in the first instance, to address research involving invasive procedures / pharmaceutical drugs; derives its name from those committees with medical schools; has flexibility to add membership as experience requires; can consult with the Research Ethics Committee where expertise (e.g., statistician) resides; and that he is open to suggestions.

The motion carried.

The remaining items in the report were received for information.

Kudos were expressed to the staff in Research Ethics for their 'fabulous' work; and to the Dean of Graduate Studies for the development of procedures for dispute resolution for TAs and RAs.

### Undergraduate

- **Arts & Business Global Engagement Specialization (Arts).** Senate heard a motion to approve the creation of this plan as described in the report.

Chakma and DeVidi. Carried.

- **Diploma in Chinese Language, Diploma in Japanese Language, East Asian Studies Minor and Option (Renison).** Senate heard a motion to approve the creation of these plans as described in the report.

Hipel and Williams. Carried.

- **Honours Sexuality, Marriage & Family Studies (Regular); Honours Sexuality, Marriage & Family Studies (Arts & Business Co-op and Regular); Joint Honours Sexuality, Marriage & Family Studies (St. Jerome's).** Senate heard a motion to approve the creation of these plans as detailed in the report.

Perrin and Tataryn. Carried.

- **Mathematical Studies (Mathematics).** Senate heard a motion to approve the creation of this plan as described in the report.

Coleman and Brown. Carried.

- **Honours Fallback Provision (Mathematics).** Senate heard a motion to approve the proposed regulation changes.

Coleman and Brown. Carried.

- **Three-year General Program (Mathematics).** Senate heard a motion to approve the inactivation of this admission category.

Coleman and Brown. Carried.

- **Germanic Communications and Cultural Studies Specializations; Sexuality, Marriage & Family Studies Honours Option; Mathematical Sciences.** Senate heard a motion to approve the inactivation of these plans.

Perrin and Tataryn. Carried.

The remaining items in the report were received for information.

## 12. OTHER BUSINESS

The was no other business.

Senate convened in Confidential Session.

LC:tad  
September 16, 2008

Lois Claxton  
Secretary of the University