

**University of Waterloo  
SENATE  
Minutes of the Tuesday, May 19, 2009 Minutes**

**Present:** David Johnston (chair), Lois Claxton (secretary), Mohamed Abdel-Razek, Sheila Ager, Muhammad Ali Akbar, Samuel Andrey, Jonathan Aycan, Allan Babor, Jeff Casello, Amit Chakma, Tom Coleman, Shannon Dea, Diana Denton, David DeVidi, George Dixon, Peter Douglas, Fraser Easton, John Flanagan, Shannon Freeman, Alan George, Geoffrey Hayes, John Honek, Dennis Huber, Ajnu Jacob, Beth Jewkes, Bob Kapur, Reemah Khalid, Brendon Larson, Ken Lavigne, John Lawrence, Heather Mair, Roger Mannell, Paul McDonald, Terry McMahon, Brian McNamara, Elizabeth Meiering, Bruce Mitchell, John North, Jim Pankratz, David Perrin, Rashid Rehan, Metin Renksizbulut, Leo Rothenburg, Manoj Sachdev, Deep Saini, Matthew Schumacher, Jay Shah, Alan Shonfield, Dave Smith, Dermot Sweeny, Peter Van Beek, Susan Wismer, Frank Zorzitto

Meg Beckel, Allan Bell, Peggy Jarvie, Ross Johnston, Cathy Lac-Brisley, Geoff McBoyle, Chris Read

**Absent:** Carol Acton, Aswin Alexander, David Barton, Graham Brown\*, Dan Brown\*, Jane Buyers, Kevin Cai, Sujeet Chaudhuri, Ken Coates\*, Tara Collington, Tristanne Connolly, Brent Doberstein, Tom Duever\*, Peter Frick, Bob Harding\*, Mark Haslett\*, Keith Hipel\*, Whitney Lackenbauer, Kevin Lamb, Kate Larson\*, John Lewis, Ron Mathies\*, Stephen Murphy\*, Wayne Oldford, Bob Rosehart\*, Robert Jan Van Pelt\*, Prem Watsa\*, Beth Weckman, Richard Wells\*, 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 April 20, 2009 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**

**Appointments to Committees and Councils.** Senate approved the following appointments:

- **Honorary Degrees Committee:** Shannon Freeman (health studies & gerontology) as graduate student representative, term to April 30, 2010.
- **Long Range Planning Committee:** Mohamed Abdel-Razek (electrical & computer engineering) as graduate student representative, term to April 30, 2010.
- **Graduate & Research Council:** Nadia Martin (psychology), replacing Johanna Mildebrath, as arts graduate student representative, term to April 30, 2010.

**Roster of Graduands.** Senate delegated approval of the roster of graduands to its Executive Committee.

Smith and Schumacher. Carried.

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**Regular Agenda**

**5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There was no business arising.

**6. PRESENTATIONS**

**Capital Projects Update.** Received for information.

**Housing Update** [[www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/20090519housing.pdf](http://www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/20090519housing.pdf)]. The presentation by Chris Read, Director of Housing & Residences, focused on the undergraduate population and the services provided to them. He spoke to the “evolution of ‘housing’” which now addresses community building and development, and the next tranche which will be enhanced learning communities and enhanced technical environment. In responding to questions, senators heard that UW is looking to establish private-sector partnerships for off-campus housing, an arrangement which will locate housing close to campus and ensure appropriate facilities and services.

**7. REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

**Welcome.** To new and continuing senators:

- **Ex-officio:** Allan Babor (president, Federation of Students), Jonathan Aycan (president, Graduate Student Association).
- **Faculty:** Sheila Ager (classical studies), David Barton (biology), Jeff Casello (planning), Diana Denton (communication, leadership & social innovation), Brent Doberstein (geography & environmental management), Tom Duever (chemical engineering), Fraser Easton (English language & literature), Peter Frick (St. Paul’s), Beth Jewkes (management sciences), Whitney Lackenbauer (St. Jerome’s), Kate Larson (computer science), Brian McNamara (physics & astronomy), Stephen Murphy (environment & resource studies), Manoj Sachdev (electrical & computer engineering), Richard Wells (kinesiology).
- **Undergraduate:** Muhammad Ali Akbar (at large), Ajnu Jacob (mathematics), Reemah Khalid (arts), Jay Shah (engineering), Dave Smith (applied health sciences).
- **Graduate:** Mohamed Abdel-Razek (electrical & computer engineering), Shannon Freeman (health studies & gerontology).

**Undergraduate Admissions Update** [[www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/20090519admissions.pdf](http://www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/20090519admissions.pdf)]. The registrar’s brief summary: total admissions up by two percent over last year; visa admissions up by 11 percent; entrance scholarship candidates down by ~400 (13662 vs. 13222); preliminary confirmations stand at -.8 (OSS) and 9.3 (non-OSS). The OSS deadline across the system is May 28.

**Environmental Scan** [[www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/20090519es.pdf](http://www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/20090519es.pdf)]

- **National:** In a recently released report, the Canadian Millennium Scholarship Foundation suggests a small negative impact between the number of hours worked and the probability of academic persistence; further, the importance of considering the reasons for the historically high levels of student employment during the school year. *State of the Nation: Canada’s Science, Technology and Innovation System* outlines Canada’s serious productivity problem: Canada ranks 6<sup>th</sup> in the G7 in business R&D, 14<sup>th</sup> out of 19 in OECD comparator countries; gap in ICT R&D investments is 33 percent less than in the USA; Canada ranks 21<sup>st</sup> in the OECD in the production of science and engineering degrees. That notwithstanding, Canada has one of the most advantageous tax incentives in the world; universities are more important R&D centres in Canada than in other countries.

- **Provincial:** The data provided in *OCUFA Trends in Higher Education* show that tuition and other fees now account for a greater share of operating revenues (20 percent in 1990; 43 percent in 2007) and that in Ontario, in 2007-08, net student fees represented 41 percent of revenues, 54 percent higher than in the rest of Canada. With respect to student aid, UW now commits 11.7 percent of its operating budget to aid. The provincial government is providing \$100 million in new research monies to be administered through the Ontario Research Fund, primarily in genomics and stem cell research while at the same time is rolling back planned increases in Textbook and Technology and Distance Grants.
- **Local:** The Waterloo region is making a bid to become the location for SODA's (Southern Ontario Development Agency) head office.

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

**UAE Update.** As of May 15: 25 applications received; 15 offers made; six decisions pending; four denied; two confirmed. Also, 41 qualified students from the area who have applied for admission to the chemical and civil engineering programs will be advised to apply to the UAE campus for consideration (unable to admit at UW because of quota limits). UW will continue to monitor the situation and will make a go / no go decision in June. In the event of a no go decision, students admitted to the UAE will be invited to come to Canada. The provost advised that it will likely be several years before the UAE campus reaches steady state.

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

The vice-president did not report.

## 10. REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, UNIVERSITY RESEARCH

Of the 13 Premier's Catalyst and Discovery Awards granted across universities and industry in Ontario, three came to faculty at UW: Scott Vanstone (combinatorics & optimization), Lifetime Leadership in Innovation; Bin Ma (computer science), Best Young Innovator; Ming Li (computer science), Premier's Discovery Award in Innovation Leadership. Two others were awarded to the corporate sector within the Waterloo region.

## 11. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS

### Executive Committee

- **4:00 p.m. Senate Meeting Start.** Senate heard a motion to approve that, effective September 2009, Senate meetings will begin at 4:00 p.m. on the understanding that this practice will be reviewed after one year.

Chakma and Dea. Carried.

The remaining item in the report was received for information.

### Graduate & Research Council

- **The Water Institute.** Senate heard a motion to approve the establishment of this institute as outlined in the report.

Dixon and DeVidi.

Noting that the Faculty of Arts was inadvertently omitted re: master's program and governance, the VP indicated that he was very willing to entertain colleagues willing to join the institute. As to 'enhanced opportunities for commercialization,' he commented that there is increasing emphasis, where appropriate, to commercialize research and that UW has several venues to foster

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this, including the Accelerator Centre and the Intellectual Property Management Group.

The motion carried.

- **Amendments to Bylaw 8.** Senate heard a motion for first reading to approve the proposed amendments to the membership of Graduate & Research Council.

Dixon and Dea. Carried by a two-thirds majority.

Senate then heard a motion for second reading to approve the proposed amendments to the membership of Graduate & Research Council.

Dixon and Dea. Carried by a two-thirds majority.

In response to a question of whether there should be increased graduate student representation from those faculties with larger graduate populations, that representation is not proportional.

The remaining items in the report were received for information.

**Long Range Planning Committee.** Senate received this report for information. With respect to the Satellite Campus Guidelines, Senate understood that these guidelines are to be applied in concert with the ‘clarification’ recorded in the November 2008 Senate minutes [item 10]: “. . . that major new initiatives would be brought to Senate for approval in principle at a sufficiently early stage for Senate’s discourse to be taken into account.”

#### **Undergraduate Council**

- **Requirement for Course Outline for all Undergraduate Courses.** Senate heard a motion to approve this requirement.

Chakma and Dea.

In response to questions, senators heard that re: bullet two, the imperative force of “should” is “must”; it was understood that instructors, so long as there has been prior consultation with students, can change the course outline. To assist instructors, a template on course outlines will be prepared and made available.

The motion carried.

- **Fine Arts – Teaching Preparation Specialization.** Senate heard a motion to approve this new specialization as described in the report.

Dea and Chakma. Carried.

- **Honours Music – Church Music & Worship Specialization.** Senate heard a motion to approve this new specialization as described in the report.

Dea and Chakma. Carried.

- **Honours Nanotechnology Engineering.** Senate heard a motion to approve that the number of

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units required for this program for in-stream students and future offering be increased from 22.75 to 23.00.

Dixon and Renksizbulut. Carried.

- **Honours Planning (Regular and Co-op).** Senate heard a motion to approve the revised curriculum for this program as described in the report.

Chakma and Dea. Carried.

- **Academic Standings: “Failed – required to withdraw” and “Required to withdraw – may not be readmitted to faculty.”** Senate heard a motion to approve the proposed revision and clarification to the Faculty of Sciences’ regulations regarding “required to withdraw” decisions.

McMahon and Chakma. Carried.

- **Academic Standing: Repeated Courses.** Senate heard a motion to approve the proposed revision and clarification to the Faculty of Science’s regulations about repeated courses.

McMahon and Dixon. Carried.

The remaining item in the report was received for information.

**University Committee on Student Appeals.** The associate vice-president, academic presented the report and noted that the statistics for graduate students reflect differences in reporting (some associate deans were unaware of the reporting requirement to the Secretariat) and that next year’s statistics should have greater accuracy.

## 12. OTHER BUSINESS

**Distance Education.** In response to a concern expressed re: DE now serving mostly on-campus students, reassurance that UW continues to provide DE service to students, wherever they are.

**Huntsville.** From the dean of environment, that UW has now executed an agreement with the City of Huntsville to lease facilities designed to accommodate the G8 leaders when they convene in Huntsville in 2010. Following the G8, it will be fitted for occupancy by UW in the fall of 2010 and will serve as the site for the creation of a research and learning facility for environmental and ecological sustainability. The facility will include laboratories, seminar and meeting rooms as well as dormitory space for up to 50 students and faculty. Huntsville will build, own and manage the facility.

Senate convened in confidential session.