

Minutes of the Monday, June 21, 2010 Meeting

Present: David Johnston (chair), Lois Claxton (secretary), Mohamed Abd-El-Razik, Carol Acton, Muhammad Ali Akbar, David Barton, Dan Brown, Graham Brown, Kevin Cai, Glenn Cartwright, Joseph Cheriyan, Jonathan Cluett, Ken Coates, Tara Collington, Carol Cressman, Rick Culham, Shannon Dea, Diana Denton, George Dixon, Brent Doberstein, Paul Eagles, John Flanagan, Peter Forsyth, George Freeman, Paul Guild, Feridun Hamdullahpur, Geoffrey Hayes, Bruce Hellinga, Keith Hipel, Sue Horton, Dennis Huber, Ian Kasper, Reemah Khalid, Kevin Lamb, Ken Lavigne, John Lawrence, Kate Lawson, Susan Leat, Michael Makahnouk, Roger Mannell, Stephen McColl, Terry McMahan, Brian McNamara, Bruce Mitchell, Hassan Nasir, Wayne Oldford, Henry Paetkau, Diana Parry, Tracy Penny Light, David Porreca, Feisal Rahman, Metin Renksizbulut, Deep Saini, Adel Sedra, Jay Shah, Peter van Beek, Robert Jan van Pelt, Beth Weckman

Meg Beckel, Peggy Jarvie, Mary Jane Jennings, Geoff McBoyle, Janet Passmore, Bud Walker

Absent: Sheila Ager*, Luke Burke*, Jeff Casello, Tom Coleman*, Brian Dixon, Tom Duever*, Fraser Easton*, Marlene Epp, Peter Frick*, Bob Harding*, Mark Haslett*, Stephen Krysak*, Whitney Lackenbauer, Brendon Larson, James Law, John Lewis, Bradley Moggach, Stephen Murphy*, David Perrin*, Manoj Sachdev*, Dave Smith, Prem Watsa*, Olaf Weber*, Richard Wells*, Andrew Williams*

*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 17, 2010 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

Council of Ontario Universities Report. Senate received this report for information.

University Committee on Student Appeals Appointment. Senate approved the appointment of Steven Forsey (chemistry), replacing Bob Linnen, term to April 30, 2011.

Dea and Oldford. Carried.

Regular Agenda

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising.

6. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Undergraduate Admissions [www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/20100621uaes.pdf]. Waterloo is at 117 percent (6411 new students) of its first-year admission target (5487); quality has been maintained (3974 president's and merit scholarships have been offered vs. 3716 in 2009) notwithstanding that the

minimum required average was raised from 76 to 78 in two faculties. UAE campus numbers (engineering with 21 confirmed and 14 scholarships awarded; mathematics with 14 confirmed and eight scholarships awarded) are expected to grow over the summer.

In response to questions, senators heard that Waterloo will honour its first-year housing guarantee, though this may necessitate some upper-year students (accommodated on a 'tentative' basis) to find other accommodation; Waterloo's commitment is to ensure classrooms, labs and sessions of reasonable size, the larger first-year class notwithstanding; while Saturday mid-terms are a possibility, Waterloo is working to avoid.

Environmental Scan [www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/20100621es.pdf]

- **International:** The *World Competitiveness Yearbook* has moved Canada from eight to seventh place (behind Singapore, Hong Kong, U.S., Switzerland, Australia and Sweden); KPMG has ranked Canada second among 10 key economies as attractive for doing business; Waterloo and its co-op program was featured in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*.
- **Provincial:** Ontario's GDP advanced 1.6 percent in Q4 2009, faster than Canada as a whole (1.2 percent) and the U.S. (1.4 percent); Ontario's economy is forecast to grow by 3.6 percent in 2010, with Canada's at 3.4 percent.
- **Local:** The Master's of Theoretical Physics' first graduates (28, funded by PI and awarded a Waterloo degree) convocated at PI as part of Waterloo's 100th convocation ceremonies.

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

Executive Council Retreat, May 19-21. Speaking to his report, the vice-president noted the four main topics addressed: internationalization, total enrolment management (competition is increasing and Waterloo needs to better optimize/maximize its marketing/recruiting resources), the Sixth Decade Plan, and students/student services. Two searches are about to begin: director, Institutional Analysis & Planning and associate provost, students.

Football. The provost provided a brief sketch of the events which led Waterloo to have the 62 members of the football team tested for use of banned substances. Following receipt of the results (eight players self disclosed/tested positive; one refused testing), Waterloo suspended the Warrior football team from competition for the coming season, initiated a review of the football program as it relates to banned substances, and placed the team's two full-time coaches on paid leave from football duties while it conducts a full review. This action arises from the responsibility Waterloo has to its students and families in making best efforts to provide a safe environment in which students work and play.

In discussion, senators heard the provost's response to concerns expressed about punishing the 'innocent' with 'guilty': Waterloo's first obligation is to its students and providing an athletic environment that is safe; further, Waterloo's action will serve to raise awareness of the serious consequences of taking banned substances. As to whether Waterloo's action will cripple the football program, the provost expressed optimism that the program will emerge stronger and better, commented on the efforts underway to encourage current and potential players to remain/engage, and advised that Waterloo is working with CCES/CIS to institute random testing of all athletes. As discussion concluded, the dean of arts commended the provost for a very courageous decision, informed by strength and compassion and noted that faculty are supportive in helping the student athletes.

8. REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, EXTERNAL RELATIONS

[www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/20100621vper.pdf; Campaign Waterloo report at senators' places]
The vice-president spoke to the powerpoint presentation, noting campaign highlights (\$568.1 million

raised and the large amounts donated by students and by faculty, staff and retirees); fundraising alignment with the Sixth Decade Plan; and the role of senators in fundraising.

9. REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, UNIVERSITY RESEARCH

The funding cycle for the year has come to an end. The Ministry of Research and Innovation will presently be putting out calls for the fifth round of Research Excellence Proposals and campus information sessions will be scheduled. Waterloo is anticipating putting forward a significant number of Ontario Research Fund early research award proposals.

10. REPORTS FROM COUNCILS

Graduate & Research

- **Centre for Social Innovation and Resilience (CSIR).** Senate heard a motion to approve the establishment of CSIR for an initial period of five years (June 1, 2010 to May 30, 2015) as presented.

Dixon and Coates.

Speaking on behalf of FAUW, the FAUW president drew senators' attention to concerns with the proposed management structure and the potential for problems relating to academic freedom, academic integrity and collegial governance. Specific concerns include: constitution and structure of the Executive Committee [p. A33, subsection 2.2.3] which is not congruent with collegial governance (viz. director's position funded by a donor and the selection procedure unspecified [note p. A32 which sets out that the director is appointed by the vice-president, academic & provost on the recommendation of the vice-president, university research . . .] and five 'core members' nominated by the director) – this for a committee that makes decisions with academic implications; Executive Committee's "Responsibilities of Membership" [p. A35, subsection 2.5] sets out that the committee can suspend or terminate a member "for activities it regards as impeding or harming the Centre's pursuit of its stated goals" – not seen to be in accord with principles of academic freedom; changes to the constitution [p. A35, subsection 2.6] can be made without Waterloo oversight; concern for potential undue influence with respect to curriculum development by the donor (J.W. McConnell Foundation)/outside interests [p. A39, subsection 5.3]; a \$117,500 line item for Graduate/Professional Curriculum Design [p. A48, subsection 9.1], notwithstanding that curriculum design is a shared responsibility of all Waterloo faculty members and should not have funding channelled through another agency; there is no mechanism for the appointment, renewal or removal prior to the end of term of the director – a problem for centres and institutes generally.

In response, senators heard: agreement that the governance structure for institutes needs review and to that end the vice-president, university research is setting up a committee to examine the matter; academic content remains the purview of the academy and Senate; anyone "removed" from the institute would have recourse to challenge this action using Waterloo processes; whatever use is made of the budget for curriculum design (institutes can contribute to development of academic programs), curriculum oversight/approval remains the purview of Senate Graduate & Research Council (SGRC) and Senate; changes to the constitution, made by the institute, would be subject to the quinquennial review; the funding model of two years firm with a strategy for subsequent years is not unusual; the McConnell Foundation is a private organization with an impressive track record working for the betterment of society; while the suspension/termination provision for a member is unusual, it may serve well on occasion.

Following discussion and the FAUW president's assertion that it is the association's position that the report should be referred back to SGRC for the purpose of revising the language so that it is congruent with the principles of academic freedom, academic integrity and collegial governance,

Senate heard a motion to refer the report back to SGRC for consideration of the items as discussed above.

Freeman and Dea. Carried.

- **Waterloo Institute for Health Informatics Research (WIHIR)** [letter from WIHIR director at senators' places]. Senate heard a motion to approve the WIHIR review committee's report (February 2010) and recommendations 1 through 4 as presented.

Dixon and Oldford.

The vice-president, university research explained the process and due diligence which led to the recommendations before Senate, recommendations which he intends to act on. In response to questions, he noted that he intends to convene a 'closure committee' and that the institute would likely be closed within six weeks. The committee met both with invited individuals as well as those who offered to meet with it, as set out in the report. Notwithstanding that first efforts are normally made to 'fix' rather than to 'shut down,' it was the committee's assessment that shutting down was appropriate in this case.

The motion carried.

- **Centres/Institutes.** Having heard from the vice-president, university research that, with respect to recommendation 7 (annual reports), he intends to set up a mechanism for annual review and have his office address 'red flag' issues, Senate heard a motion to approve the WIHIR review committee's recommendations 5 through 7 as presented.

Dixon and Mannell. Carried.

- **Revised Guidelines on Graduate Student Support.** Senate heard a motion to approve the revised guidelines as presented.

Dixon and Horton.

In discussion, senators heard that TA and RA support varies widely across campus with PhD minimum funding rates discussed by a committee in which associate deans, graduate studies participate. This document deals with policy matters (and why minima re: financial support is not specified) and is part of putting matters relating to graduate student support in order.

The motion carried.

- **Changes to the Approved Doctoral Dissertation Supervisor (ADDS) Regulations.** Senate heard a motion to approve the ADDS regulation changes as presented.

Dixon and Horton.

Having noted concerns expressed by the president of FAUW that the revisions addressing the appeal route for revocation of the ADDS status are not consistent with collegial governance, particularly as the associate provost, graduate studies is no longer chosen by a 'collegial process,' Senate heard a motion to amend the main motion with respect to appeals by deleting the revision and reverting to the current language.

Freeman and Oldford.

In discussion of the amendment, senators heard that SGRC is not well constituted to hear appeals, given its large membership and public meetings.

Senate heard a friendly amendment: to revise the current language re: appeals by changing the last clause to read: “may appeal to the Associate Provost, Graduate Studies and finally to the Provost.”

The motion carried.

Senate heard further, in discussion, that the proposed changes are not made with the intent of reducing protections to graduate students but to allow faculty more time to focus on matters requiring faculty attention; further, that no one would have his/her ADDS status revoked without prior knowledge.

The main motion, as amended, carried.

The remaining items in the report were received for information.

Undergraduate

- **Change of Standard Penalty 1 and 2 Periods in Undergraduate Studies Academic Term Deadlines Chart.** Senate heard a motion to approve the change of standard penalty periods as presented.

Shah and Kasper.

In discussion, the president of FAUW offered his opinion that a student could not participate in seven weeks of a twelve-week course without realizing that he/she could not pass it, and then set out some unintended consequences of lengthening the penalty 1 period to 10 weeks. In response, that an eight- or nine-week cutoff might serve if all professors would provide feedback/assessment within that time frame.

The motion carried.

- **UAE Campus: Schedule of Dates, 2010-11.** Senate heard a motion to approve the 2010-11 schedule of dates as presented.

Lavigne and Sedra. Carried.

- **Fine Arts: Three-year General, Four-year General, Honours Fine Arts Studio Practice, Honours Fine Arts Studio Practice (Arts and Business Co-op and Regular), Joint Honours Fine Arts Studio Practice, Honours Fine Arts History and Visual Culture, Honours Fine Arts History and Visual Culture (Arts and Business Co-op and Regular), Joint Honours Fine Arts Art History and Visual Culture, Honours Fine Arts Film Studies and Visual Culture, Joint Honours Fine Arts Film Studies and Visual Culture, Honours Fine Arts Film Studies and Visual Culture (Arts and Business Co-op and Regular), Fine Arts Professional Practice Specialization, Visual Culture in a Global Context Minor, Fine Arts Studio Minor.** Senate heard a motion to approve these new plans as presented.

Lavigne and Lawson. Carried.

- **Certificates in Chinese Language, Certificates in Japanese Language, Certificate in Korean Language.** Senate heard a motion to approve these new plans as presented.

Kasper and Hipel. Carried.

- **Specialization in Latin American Literatures and Cultures, Latin American Literatures and Cultures Option.** Senate heard a motion to approve these new plans as presented.

Oldford and Porreca. Carried.

- **Legal Studies.** Senate heard a motion to approve the addition of new calendar text re: admission as presented.

Oldford and Renksizbulut. Carried.

- **Four-year General Sociology.** Senate heard a motion to approve the change to the plan as presented.

Oldford and Porreca. Carried.

- **Cultural Management Specialization; Three-year General Fine Arts – Studio Specialization, Three-year General Fine Arts – Art History Specialization, Three-year General Fine Arts – Film Studies Specialization, Four-year General Fine Arts – Studio Specialization, Four-year General Fine Arts – Art History Specialization, Four-year General Fine Arts – Film Studies Specialization, Honours Fine Arts – Studio Specialization, Honours Fine Arts – Art History Specialization, Honours Fine Arts – Studio and Art History Specialization, Honours Fine Arts – Film Studies Specialization, Joint Honours Fine Arts – Studio Specialization, Joint Honours Fine Arts – Art History Specialization, Joint Honours Fine Arts – Film Studies Specialization, Honours Fine Arts (Arts and Business Co-op and Regular) – Studio Specialization, Honours Fine Arts (Arts and Business Co-op and Regular) – Art History Specialization, Honours Fine Arts (Arts and Business Co-op and Regular) – Film Studies Specialization, Fine Arts Minor, Fine Arts Minor – Film Studies Specialization; Financial Regulation Specialization.** Senate heard a motion to approve the inactivation of these plans.

Brown and Porreca. Carried.

- **Academic Program Review Reports.** A number of observations/comments were offered: with respect to Optometry, that one day per week in clinic duty with associated responsibilities is equivalent to one didactic course; with respect to Social Development Studies/FUAC and the equity agreement, that report of the FUAC task force deals with the relationship between Waterloo and FUAC and will be presented to the president and to the provost.

The remaining item in the report was received for information.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

Senate convened in confidential session.