

University of Waterloo
SENATE

Minutes of the Monday, March 28, 2011 Meeting

Present: Feridun Hamdullahpur (chair), Erin Windibank (secretary), Mohamed AbdelRazik Mansour, Carol Acton, Sheila Ager, Dan Brown, Luke Burke, Kevin Cai, Glenn Cartwright, Joseph Cheriyan, Jonathan Cluett, Ken Coates, Tara Collington, Carol Cressman, Rick Culham, Shannon Dea, Diana Denton, George Dixon, Tom Duever, Paul Eagles, Fraser Easton, Susan Elliott, John Flanagan, George Freeman, Ian Goulden, Paul Guild, Mark Haslett, Geoffrey Hayes, Sue Horton, Dennis Huber, Reemah Khalid, Kevin Lamb, Brendon Larson, Ken Lavigne, John Lawrence, Kate Lawson, Susan Leat, Michael Makahnouk, Heather Mawhinney, Geoff McBoyle, Stephen McColl, Brian McNamara, Bruce Mitchell, Bradley Moggach, Hassan Nasir, Wayne Oldford, Henry Paetkau, Diana Parry, Tracy Penny Light, David Perrin, David Porreca, Feisal Rahman, Metin Renksizbulut, Manoj Sachdev, Mark Seasons, Jay Shah, Dave Smith, Robert Jan van Pelt, Olaf Weber, Beth Weckman, Richard Wells, Andrew Williams

Meg Beckel, Lauren Burgess, John Champaign, Vivian Dayeh, Justin Eichel, Sean Hunt, Peggy Jarvie, Mary Jane Jennings, Linda Kieswetter, Ted McGee, Adam Neale, Cathy Newell Kelly, Mehrdad Pirnia, Ellen Réthoré, Bud Walker

Absent: David Barton, Graham Brown, Brian Dixon, Brent Doberstein, Marlene Epp*, Peter Forsyth, Peter Frick*, Mariam Gill, Bob Harding*, Brue Hellinga*, Keith Hipel*, Whitney Lackenbauer, James Law, John Lewis, Terry McMahon*, Stephen Murphy, Adel Sedra*, Peter van Beek, Prem Watsa*

*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 February 28, 2011 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. REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Senate received this report for information.

Smith and Burke. Carried.

Regular Agenda

5. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS (A)

Amit and Meena Chakma Award for Exceptional Teaching by a Student Committee [copies of report available at meeting]. Following an explanation of the criteria on which nominees are assessed, Sue Horton, chair of the committee, presented the names of this year's recipients to Senate: John Champaign (computer science), Justin Eichel (systems design engineering), Adam Neale (electrical &

computer engineering) and Mehrdad Pirnia (electrical & computer engineering). A round of applause followed.

Distinguished Teacher Award Committee [copies of report available at meeting]. Geoff McBoyle, chair of the committee, provided background and context to these awards and presented the names of this year's recipients to Senate: Steven Bednarski (history, St. Jerome's University), Vivian Dayeh (biology), Ted McGee (English language & literature, St. Jerome's University) and Mark Seasons (planning). A round of applause followed.

University Appointments Review Committee. Ellsworth LeDrew, chair of the committee, referred senators to the committee's report and noted: 58 files were reviewed, the same number as last year; lower numbers from the past two years reflect the mission critical hiring process; this year the ratio of female appointments was particularly low (four out of 54), an unfortunate retrenchment following a decade of continuous improvement; UARC has engaged in discussion at its regular meetings and with FAUW about gender balance, and has developed a set of recommendations to work toward resolving the issue.

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising.

7. FEDERATION OF STUDENTS [www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/20110328feds.pdf]

Speaking to his PowerPoint presentation, the president of the Federation of Students (FedS) highlighted activities in 2010-11. New initiatives included: hiring several new staff members, creating a fifth executive position, completing a long range plan and a communications strategy, launching a new website, opening "the Dispensary" at the School of Pharmacy, and launching a student developer network to help build open-source web applications for student use. Senators heard that FedS participated in successful lobbying efforts at the federal level and that ongoing projects include: negotiations re: a new student services building, creating opportunities for student engagement within FedS, continued advocacy at the federal and provincial levels, and renegotiation of the UPASS with Grand River Transit.

In response to questions, senators heard: additional staff support is being considered for clubs and services; efforts are underway to make policies more accessible; a foot patrol service (similar to the discontinued Walksafe program) is under discussion; when participating in dialogue around local issues, FedS is mindful of representing a broad constituency with differing views; FedS representatives have been heavily involved in planning for the Student Success Office and will actively seek opportunities for partnership; an issue has been raised by the Canada Revenue Agency, which is being addressed through legal counsel.

8. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Environmental Scan [www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/20110328es.pdf]

- **Local Overview.** Winter 2011 represented the largest number of students ever employed during a co-op work term. Waterloo co-op students in Japan are all safe and accounted for. Dr. Stephen Hawking will return to Perimeter Institute for the opening of the extension named in his honour. Waterloo Global Science Initiative, a joint initiative of the University of Waterloo and Perimeter Institute, will hold its first event June 5-9 on the topic of energy. On July 1, the university welcomes Douglas Peers as dean of arts and Susan Schultz Huxman as president of Conrad Grebel University College. A number of senior positions at Waterloo are currently or soon-to-be vacant/up for renewal. A town hall meeting is scheduled for April 11 with future plans for the university on the agenda.

- **Provincial Overview.** Provincial budget will be tabled tomorrow with no major surprises expected; universities have asked the government to finance growth. High school graduation rates have increased to 81% in 2009-10 with a goal of 85%. Ontario university applications have increased 2.4% over last year.
- **National Overview.** 2011 federal budget is generally positive for universities with new funding for students, research and international activities. Although it was not passed, it represents potential future government directions. Among items of interest to Waterloo are funds to promote disciplines relating to the digital economy, enhancements to student loan programs and education-related tax credits, creation of an India Engagement Strategy and international education strategy, and investment in the Pathways to Education program.
- **International Overview.** Waterloo is one of four Canadian universities rating in the top 100 of the new Times Higher Education Reputation Ranking. Canada ranked third under integrating newcomers in the International Migrant Integration Policy Index and performed very well in the education category.

Q & A Period. In discussion, the following issues were raised:

- **Upcoming Town Hall Meeting:** The president indicated that more faculty dialogue and input are welcomed by the administration at or after the meeting.
- **High School Graduation Rates:** The president shared his belief that increased rates are attributable to greater vigour and programs encouraging students to graduate.
- **Provincial Funding Announcement:** Senators heard that the Ontario government announcement of \$309M to fund 60,000 new college and university spaces by 2015 is positive, but universities do not know how or when the funds will be allocated.

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

Clinical Professoriate – Changes to Policies 76 and 77. Senate heard a motion to approve the proposed amendments to Policy 76, Faculty Appointments and Policy 77, Tenure and Promotion of Faculty Members to provide for clinical professoriate.

McBoyle and Freeman. Carried.

Composition of Nominating Committees for Dean of Engineering and Dean of Science. Senate heard a motion to approve increasing membership of the 2011 Nominating Committee for the Dean of Engineering by one to include eight regular faculty members. This exception to Policy 45, The Dean of a Faculty will allow for one representative of each department in the faculty.

McBoyle and Dea. Carried.

Senate heard a motion to approve increasing membership of the 2011 Nominating Committee for the Dean of Science by one to include seven regular faculty members. This exception to Policy 45, The Dean of a Faculty will allow for one representative of each department in the faculty.

McBoyle and Dea. Carried.

University Professor Designation. The provost provided background to the designation and announced that Robert Le Roy (chemistry) has been awarded the honour this year.

10. REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, EXTERNAL RELATIONS

[www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/20110328vper.pdf]

Speaking to her PowerPoint presentation, Lauren Burgess, associate director, prospect research presented an overview of services and support provided to the faculties, federated university and affiliated university colleges, including prospect identification, background information and strategy development.

11. REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, UNIVERSITY RESEARCH

[www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/20110328vpur.pdf]

Speaking to his PowerPoint presentation, the VPUR reported as follows:

- **2011 Federal Budget:** includes a number of research investments in areas of interest to the university and, for the first time, investments in research at community colleges.
- **Research at Waterloo:** the university received exceptional government funding increases during the recession; as it ends, resources are being refocused on the private sector.
- **Institutional Programs:** Waterloo had a success rate of 45% in Early Researcher Awards compared to the provincial average of 30%; specific results are still under embargo. A new allocation of \$3,108,885 was made to the Canada Foundation for Innovation Leaders Opportunity Fund in September 2010.
- **Canada Research Chairs:** results of October 2010 submissions are anticipated in April. The university's recent emphasis on CIHR and SSHRC applications has paid off with gain of a Tier 1 CIHR chair, Tier 1 SSHRC chair and Tier 2 SSCHR chair from the 2010 reallocation.
- **Internationalization:** The Office of Research is working with Waterloo International to increase the university's international research activity and profile, and is looking to increase staffing to assist colleagues with their efforts in this regard.

In response to a question about college research funding, the VPUR suggested that the federal government is not fully satisfied with universities' success in commercializing research and noted that colleges can participate in short-term industry projects with less complications around intellectual property. Senators heard that universities have an opportunity to define their role in collaborating with the colleges.

12. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS (B)

Finance Committee. The provost summarized highlights of the proposed 2011-12 Operating Budget and supplementary data including: balancing the budget will require a 2% expenditure reduction; university expects only minor funding for undergraduate growth, but is being very aggressive re: graduate growth to meet its MTCU targets; majority of income comes from tuition fees, which were increased at the February meeting of the Board of Governors; expenses include \$1.8M for new staff and faculty positions and \$6M in salary increases; no salary scale increase for 2011-12, but a three per cent increase has been agreed upon for 2012-13, which will cost an additional ~\$12-15M; scholarship and bursary costs increased due to rising student entrance averages; \$1.4M increase in utilities represents new buildings and higher unit prices for electricity and water; increase in cost of supplies and expenses is partly attributable to maintenance costs for new buildings funded by KIP grants; the university recovers \$10.7M in costs primarily from ancillaries.

Senate heard a motion to agree to recommend that the Board of Governors give favourable consideration to the 2011-12 Operating Budget.

McBoyle and Porreca.

In discussion, senators heard that: cost of the Student Success Office will likely come from expenditure reductions, quality improvement fund and fee increases; items under supplies and expenses are combined in a single line item because of the time and cost required to track multiple expense budgets where there are significant differences between budgets and actual expenses; graduate program holdback was removed from supplies and expenses in the interest of greater

transparency and has been increased to support graduate expansion; information re: BIUs does not capture service teaching, which is shouldered disproportionately by some faculties; library acquisition budget has remained stable despite increased enrolment; the library has recently benefitted from the strong Canadian dollar, but resources are needed for the School of Pharmacy; library resources are of key importance to many researchers and impact the university's reputation; Waterloo spends less than many other universities on sessional instructors and non-tenure track faculty; income sharing to departments re: graduate growth is calculated on a slip-year basis; gap continues between target and actual first-year student enrolment as the university takes advantage of strategic funding opportunities; this year the intent is to hold first year enrolments steady and reallocate some funds to start dealing with student-faculty ratios and large class sizes, as well as addressing student retention. The president indicated that a potential error on page 62 of the supporting documentation (0% of engineering faculty expenses allocated to continuing lecturers) will be investigated and corrected.

The motion carried.

Graduate & Research Council

- **Collaborative Master of Mathematics in Statistics and Computing.** Senate heard a motion to approve the discontinuation of this program.

Horton and Easton. Carried.

The remaining items in the report were received for information.

Undergraduate Council

- **Make-up Examinations, Final Examinations.** Senate heard a motion to approve the proposed change to the environment make-up examination regulation.

McBoyle and Oldford.

In discussion, it was suggested that the policy would benefit from clarification re: eligibility for make-up exams (i.e., must be for a missed examination) and concern was raised about a potential conflict between the proposed change and a later portion of the policy. Senate agreed to table the motion to the next meeting.

The remaining items in the report were received for information

13. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

Senate convened in confidential session.