

University of Waterloo
SENATE
Minutes of the Monday, May 16, 2011 Meeting

Present: Feridun Hamdullahpur (chair), Erin Windibank (secretary), William Bobier, Dan Brown, Jeffrey Bunn, Lutz-Alexander Busch, Glenn Cartwright, Jonathan Cluett, Ken Coates, Tara Collington, Matthew Colphon, Carol Cressman, Rick Culham, David DeVidi, George Dixon, Michael Drescher, Paul Eagles, Susan Elliott, Peter Forsyth, George Freeman, Mariam Gill, Ian Goulden, Paul Guild, Keith Hipel, Sue Horton, Dennis Huber, Reemah Khalid, Ken Lavigne, Kate Lawson, Susan Leat, Jonathan Li, Michael Makahnouk, Krista Mathias, Geoff McBoyle, Jesse McGinnis, Bruce Mitchell, Michele Mosca, Hassan Nasir, Henry Paetkau, Diana Parry, Tracy Penny Light, Metin Renksizbulut, Manoj Sachdev, Mark Seasons, Adel Sedra, Benjamin Selby, Robert Shipley, Jordan Vandjelovic, Barry Warner, Olaf Weber, Andrew Williams

Donna Ellis, Rocco Fondacaro, Mary Jane Jennings, Linda Kieswetter, Janet Passmore, Ellen Réthoré, Bud Walker

Absent: Sheila Ager*, Jean Andrey*, Joshua Armstrong*, David Barton, Graham Brown, Joseph Cheriyan, Diana Denton*, Brian Dixon, Brent Doberstein, Tom Duever, Fraser Easton, James Frank*, Peter Frick*, Tadeusz Górecki*, Bob Harding*, Mark Haslett, Geoffrey Hayes*, Bruce Hellinga*, Whitney Lackenbauer, Stephen McColl, Terry McMahan, Brian McNamara, Jim Pankratz, Tracy Peressini, David Perrin*, David Porreca, Feisal Rahman, Prem Watsa*, Beth Weckman, Richard Wells*

*regrets

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 18, 2011 meeting were approved as distributed.

2. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

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/Board of Governors Appointments. Senate approved the following appointments:

- **Board of Governors:** Hassan Nasir (engineering) as graduate student senator representative, term May 1, 2011 to April 30, 2013.
- **Executive Committee:** Hassan Nasir (engineering) as graduate student senator representative, term May 1, 2011 to April 30, 2012.
- **Long Range Planning Committee:** Krista Mathias (applied health sciences) and Feisal Rahman (engineering) as graduate student senator representatives, terms May 1, 2011 to April 30, 2012.
- **Undergraduate Council:** Eric Cousineau as engineering undergraduate student representative, term May 1, 2011 to August 31, 2011; Owen Coutts as engineering undergraduate student representative, term September 1, 2011 to December 31, 2011 and May 1, 2012 to August 31, 2012; Bryanne Pashley as mathematics undergraduate student representative, term May 1, 2011 to April 30, 2012; Carey Bissonnette as science faculty representative, term September 1, 2011 to April 30, 2012.

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- **University Committee on Student Appeals:** Allison Langlois (applied health sciences) and Konrad Listwan-Ciesielski (mathematics) as undergraduate student representatives, terms May 1, 2011 to April 30, 2013; Ryan Cuzzi (science) as undergraduate student representative, term May 1, 2011 to April 30, 2012.

Professional Master's Degree Hoods. Senate approved the proposed degree hood scheme.

Roster of Graduands. Senate delegated approval of the roster of graduands to its Executive Committee for its June 6, 2011 meeting.

Hamdullahpur and Renksizbulut. Carried.

Regular Agenda

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Report from the Executive Committee. Senate heard a motion to approve that Senate meetings be held Mondays at 3:30 p.m., effective September 2011.

Hamdullahpur and Khalid.

In discussion, members heard that timing is still not ideal for those with childcare obligations, but the Executive Committee believes that a compromise is required to accommodate class schedules. It was also noted that presentations have been moved later in the agenda as a trial measure.

The motion carried unanimously.

6. REPORTS FROM COUNCILS

Graduate & Research. Senate received this report for information.

Undergraduate Council

- **UAE Campus: Academic Calendar Dates, 2011-12.** Senate heard a motion to approve the academic calendar dates as detailed in the report.

McBoyle and Lavigne. Carried.

- **Reading Week and Assignments.** Senate heard a motion to approve that no undergraduate assignments be required to be submitted during reading week.

McBoyle and Khalid. Carried.

- **Certificates in Croatian, Dutch, German and Russian Languages.** Senate heard a motion to approve these new certificates.

McBoyle and Khalid. Carried.

- **BES, Environment and Business (Regular).** Senate heard a motion to approve this new degree plan.

McBoyle and Bunn. Carried.

- **Environmental Biology and Molecular Genetics Specializations.** Senate heard a motion to approve these new specializations.

McBoyle and Khalid. Carried.

- **Honours Biology.** Senate heard a motion to approve the changes to this program as provided in the report.

McBoyle and Dixon. Carried.

The remaining items in the report were received for information. In response to a question, McBoyle provided an overview of the current process for internal program reviews, noting that the new Internal Quality Assessment Framework will be brought to Senate in June, and that it contains a clearer indication of how departments and faculties follow-up on recommendations coming out of final review reports. In discussion, it was noted that the mechatronics engineering program has been less successful than other Faculty of Engineering programs in attracting female students. The dean of engineering provided an overview of the faculty's efforts to increase the number of women in engineering programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels and suggested that headway is being made, although progress is slow.

7. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

The chair welcomed the following new and continuing senators: ex officio – Matthew Colphon (president, Federation of Students), George Freeman (president, Faculty Association), Michael Makahnouk (president, Graduate Student Association); faculty – Jean Andrey (geography & environmental management), Paul Eagles (recreation & leisure studies), Tadeusz Górecki (chemistry), Geoffrey Hayes (history), Michele Mosca (combinatorics & optimization, Institute for Quantum Computing), Beth Weckman (mechanical & mechatronics engineering); faculty-at-large – Bill Bobier (optometry), Dan Brown (computer science), Lutz-Alexander Busch (economics), David DeVidi (philosophy), Michael Drescher (planning), Jonathan Li (geography & environmental management), Robert Shipley (planning), Barry Warner (earth & environmental sciences); faculty from FUAC – James Frank (St. Jerome's University), Jim Pankratz (religious studies, Conrad Grebel University College), Tracy Peressini (sociology, Renison University College).

Speaking to his PowerPoint presentation [www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/20110516pr.pdf], he focused his remarks on the following issues and events:

- **Federal Election:** A conservative majority government was elected and its budget is expected to be brought forward in June. The previously presented budget was largely friendly with regard to postsecondary education and research.
- **uWaterloo News:** Mark Zanna has been honoured with the 2011 Killam Prize and Michele Mosca was included in Canada's Top 40 Under 40; the undergraduate nanorobotics team won first place in the international Mobile Microrobotics Challenge in Shanghai; Tim Jackson has been appointed interim vice president, external relations; Northern Digital Incorporated, uWaterloo's first commercial spinoff in 1981, has been sold to Florida-based Roper Industries; and the Waterloo Global Science Initiative Equinox Summit (a joint initiative with Perimeter Institute) will host its first international conference on the topic of energy June 5-9.
- **Waterloo Region:** The region currently boasts the second highest employment rate in Canada (behind Calgary).
- **International Students:** Canada, Germany and France are rising as desirable locations for students from India and China. uWaterloo has reached approximately half of its Sixth Decade Plan goal of 20% international undergraduate enrolment and 100% of its graduate goal. International enrolments are expected to continue increasing.
- **Government Meetings:** The U15 presidents recently met with the clerk of the Privy Council who warned of future spending restraints and recommended that universities: work directly with multiple federal government agencies; move faster with respect to policy input; and engage on

issues relating to healthcare, productivity and pensions. They also met with Tri-Council heads where unanimous concern was expressed re: the most recent round of NSERC discovery grants.

8. Q & A PERIOD WITH THE PRESIDENT

In discussion, the following issues were raised:

- **Federal Civil Service:** The president indicated that a percentage reduction of federal employees is not expected until the finance minister completes a detailed program review.
- **uWaterloo Senior Administration:** The president invited members of the university community to provide input directly to him with regard to open senior administrative positions. He shared his intent to organize meetings with members of various stakeholder groups and to hold a series of small, more informal townhall meetings. With regard to searches, the president indicated that: decanal and provostial positions are being handled in accordance with university policy; a committee has been formed to search for the secretary of the university; and studies have been commissioned with regard to the vice-president, external relations portfolio, but the search process is not yet underway.
- **International Student Support:** The associate provost, students acknowledged the need to help international students with civic and social development, and commented on plans to extend student development services currently offered in residences to the entire campus through the Student Success Office.

At the president's invitation, the registrar provided an undergraduate admissions update [www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/20110516uau.pdf], noting that: the university is currently on target with respect to issuing offers; 15% of offers were made to international candidates; there are possible slight shortfalls within the faculties of arts and environment; and UAE offers have increased over last year in both engineering and mathematics.

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

The provost provided an update re: the Access Copyright interrogatory process [Secretary's note: please refer to the report of the university librarian from the minutes of April 18, 2011 for background: <http://secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/governance/Senate/20110418ominsen.pdf>]. He reported that the list of questions to which the participating universities must respond by mid-June has been reduced to 122 and that some of them were being addressed through an email already distributed to faculty members. The president of FAUW indicated that FAUW would be providing advice originating from CAUT with regard to the questions posed to faculty members.

10. REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, UNIVERSITY RESEARCH

Speaking to his PowerPoint presentation [www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/20110516vpur.pdf], the VPUR commented on the overall state of the university's research funding, noting a 12.3% increase over 2009/10 in sponsored research with the portion from industry remaining largely steady and increasing portions coming from provincial and federal governments (probably reflecting incentive programs designed to stimulate the economy). He also noted increasing international research funding from public and private sources. Senators heard that uWaterloo performed above the national average in recent NSERC competitions [please refer to the presentation for details], but many universities are concerned about NSERC's current approach (there has been a large increase of applicants compared to funds available; system is changing from year to year). The VPUR reported that SSHRC applications at uWaterloo have increased, as have associated success rates. There is, however, some concern with research in the areas of health promotion and delivery, which has been transitioned from SSHRC to CIHR. Senators heard that consideration is being given to creating mentorships to help former SSHRC applicants at the university to better understand the culture and nature of CIHR applications. It was noted that the university has already surpassed its interim Sixth Decade Plan target for CIHR funding and that increasing the overall target may be desirable.

11. REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, EXTERNAL RELATIONS

Speaking to her PowerPoint presentation [www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/20110516vper.pdf], Kathy Prpic, associate director, annual giving, provided an overview of the Keystone Campaign, reporting that faculty, staff and retirees raised \$18.9 million during Campaign Waterloo in 2010. She indicated that Campaign Waterloo has wrapped up, but the momentum it generated must be continued. Senators heard that uWaterloo is an institutional leader in family campaign participation and that future efforts will highlight themes of celebrating family and supporting your passion. Prpic announced that the new Keystone co-chairs are Jean Andrey (faculty), Paul McKone (staff) and Robert Kerton (retirees). She suggested that 100% participation from university administration and Keystone volunteers would be a wonderful message to send internally and externally.

12. REPORT OF THE DEAN OF APPLIED HEALTH SCIENCES

School of Public Health and Health Systems. Senate heard a motion to approve transforming the name and mission of the Department of Health Studies and Gerontology to create a School of Public Health and Health Systems within the Faculty of Applied Health Sciences.

Elliott and Bunn.

In discussion, members heard that designation as a school reflects the unit's focus on a professional program and is consistent with other public health programs in Canada and internationally. The dean of applied health sciences indicated that governance operations and procedures within the unit will continue unchanged. It was suggested that the university consider identifying distinguishing features of departments and schools moving forward.

The motion carried.

13. PRESENTATIONS

Capital Projects Update. The report was received for information.

Centre for Teaching Excellence Update [www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/20110516cte.pdf]. In her presentation, Donna Ellis, director of the Centre for Teaching Excellence, provided an overview of the centre's activities in the past year as well as challenges and future opportunities. She highlighted new tracking mechanisms, noting that 3,014 consultations were provided in the last two academic terms as well as 104 events with 2,598 registered participants. She also spoke to creation of a new Fundamentals of University Teaching program introduced at the graduate level as a prerequisite to the more demanding Certificate in University Teaching, programming for postdoctoral fellows, international efforts and challenges involved in transitioning to a new learning management system. Future directions include drawing on research to promote and support innovation in teaching (Ellis noted that the provost has commissioned a taskforce to report on teaching practices to promote deep learning in June).

14. OTHER BUSINESS

Diploma Redesign [www.secretariat.uwaterloo.ca/20110516dr.pdf]. Lavigne provided an overview of the diploma development process and presented guiding principles adopted by the redesign group. Senators were invited to consider several prototypes on display in the room and heard that feedback would be solicited electronically.

The meeting adjourned at 6:06 p.m.

June 14, 2011

Erin Windibank
Associate University Secretary