MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SENATE

March 17, 2017

The meeting was held at 1:30 p.m. in Room 1R40, Arts and Humanities Building.

SENATORS: 70

A. Abuhussein  M. Jadd  G. Parraga
E. Ansari  C. Jones  W. Pearson
A. Bachman  A. Katz  M. Pratt
I. Birrell  R. Kennedy  S. Rodger
P. Bishop  J. Knowles  D. Rogers
J. Capone  G. Kopp  S. Roland
T. Carmichael  A. Kothari  L. Rosen
A. Chakma  S. Macfie  B. Rubin
C. Chambers  E. Macpherson  J. Rylett
A. Chant  M. McDayter  V. Schwean
K. Clark  M. McGlynn  D. Simmonds
K. Cole  L. McKivor  Z. Sinel
R. Collins  C. Mcleod  A. Singh
E. Comor  K. Mequanint  W. Siqueira
M. Crossan  J. Michalski  V. Staroverov
M. Crystal  M. Milde  C. Steeves
J. Deakin  L. Miller  G. Tigert
C. Dean  D. Moser  J. Toswell
G. Dekaban  S. Mumm  S. Trosow
P. Doyle  K. Myers  T. Tucker
N. Dyer-Witheford  V. Nolte  J. Wilson
J. Garland  C. O'Connor  BA.Younker
A. Grzyb  C. Olivier
J. Hatch  H. Orbach-Miller


S.17-49 Land Acknowledgement

J. Deakin read the Land Acknowledgment.

S.17-50 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of February 17 were approved as circulated.
Business Arising from the Minutes

S.17-51

Update on the Strategic Mandate Agreement (SMA) Process [S.17-23]

J. Deakin, Provost, reported that she met with B. Patterson, Special Advisor to Universities, on March 15 to discuss the process surrounding the renewal of the Strategic Mandate Agreement known as SMA 2. A beta testing template is drafted and Western is the test site. A Town Hall will be held on March 23 to provide an outline to the Western community of the SMA process and to discuss system-wide metrics that will be imposed by the ministry and potential institutional metrics.

The initial draft of the SMA 2 is due the first week in April which is a tight timeline. Western’s SMA 2 will be populated by information taken from its Strategic Plan which was approved through a fully consultative process. In SMA 1, Western identified five areas of program strengths and four areas of possible expansion. SMA 2 is a natural progression.

It is known that unless there is new money in the budget the corridor funding will be established based on November 16-17 enrolment numbers. There will be a graduate re-set in enrolment that will need to be taken into consideration. J. Deakin said it will be more difficult to make the case for PhD spaces as opposed to Masters spaces as fundability is the main issue.

Dr. Chakma thanked the Provost and IPB for their work on this initiative as members of the COU group.

S.17-52

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT [Exhibit I]

The President’s report distributed with the agenda contain information on the following topics: federal funding awards for Science, Engineering and Health Sciences research, the Governor General’s visit, leadership update, including the recent appointment of Erika Chamberlain as the Dean, Faculty of Law. He acknowledged this year’s teaching award recipients contained in the SCAPA Report and thanked the 1,300 faculty, staff and student volunteers who made the March Break Open House last weekend another success.

S.17-52a

International Activities - Update

As part of keeping Senate apprised of progress and issues related to the University's strategic priorities, the President called upon Julie McMullin, Vice-Provost (International) to provide an update on activities within Western's international portfolio. Overhead slides used to highlight her presentation are attached as Appendix 1. She reviewed the international action plan, including key objectives such as student mobility, increasing and diversifying Western’s student body, providing support and services to international students, and providing opportunities for enhancing international and cross-cultural learning at home and abroad. She also presented the challenges encountered and the future focus.

In response to questions, she noted the following:

- Diversification of country of origin is top of mind within the International team and is also a focus of SGPS to assist with organizations that support sponsored graduate students. One success story has been the Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Scholarship which allows Western to support 30 African students to study in masters programs.

- Western International tracks the progress of international students. The data shows that international undergraduate students are performing increasingly well, in part because of the academic supports in place. Western attracts very good students at all levels. At the graduate level, time to completion is better for international students than for domestic students.
- Western International was in touch immediately with current and prospective students with respect to the Muslim travel ban imposed by the US President. The situation is complex and uncertain which has been extremely chilling on student and faculty mobility. Email updates are sent out whenever new information comes available. Western International is in the final stages of establishing a program of scholarships that would support the tuition differential for graduate students from the affected counties.

- One of the key barriers to student participation in study abroad and exchange programs is the inability to get transfer credit at Western for courses taken abroad. Western International is working with departments to map courses abroad onto Western programs.

- Compared to peer institutions, Western is approaching the median for international enrolments at the undergraduate level. About 20 percent of our graduate students are international, a level that we would like to maintain. One of the challenges for graduate research program recruitment is the need to have a supervisor in place before admission can be offered. SGPS is trying to do more matching and identification of supervisory responsibilities ahead of time.

- Funding for graduate students can be a challenge, but is part of the annual planning process engaged in by the Faculties and the deans. As part of that process, deans put forward their graduate international projections. The university flows 85 percent of graduate student funding to the Faculties for their allocation.

- There are support staff in place to assist international graduate students who want to stay in Canada with immigration matters. Supports for undergraduate student are in the planning stages.

- Support for anti-racism measures is critical and many of those involved with providing transition support to international studies are engaged in initiatives across campus and within the city.

The President noted that it was clear from Dr. McMullin’s presentation that Western has come a long way, but there is still more to do. Canada is far behind many other countries in terms of student mobility. More scholarships and resources are needed and the Canadian government needs to be more involved. However, issues such as flexibility in the curriculum are within Senate’s control.

S.17-53

Unanimous Consent Agenda [Exhibit II]

It was moved by P. Bishop, seconded by M. Pratt,

That the items listed in Exhibit II, Unanimous Consent Agenda, except item 7. Faculty of Arts and Humanities, Department of Modern Languages and Literatures: Withdrawal of the Major, Specialization and Honors Specialization Modules in Comparative Literature and Culture, be approved or received for information by Senate by unanimous consent.

CARRIED
REPORT OF THE OPERATIONS/AGENDA COMMITTEE [Exhibit III]

S.17-54 Senate Membership – School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies – Social Science Constituency

It was moved by P. Bishop, seconded by M. Pratt,

That the seat held by Robert MacDougall, representative of the SGPS – Social Science constituency, be declared vacant as a result of his resignation and that Kim Shuey be elected to fill this vacancy for the remainder of the term (July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018).

CARRIED (By Unanimous Consent)

S.17-55 Senate Membership – Don Wright Faculty of Music Constituency

It was moved by P. Bishop, seconded by M. Pratt,

That the seat held by Emily Ansari, representative of the Don Wright Faculty of Music constituency be declared vacant as a result of her resignation and that Ted Baerg be elected to fill this vacancy for the remainder of the term (July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018).

CARRIED (By Unanimous Consent)

S.17-56 Senate Membership – Graduate Student Constituency

It was moved by P. Bishop, seconded by M. Pratt,

That the seat held by Melissa Knott, representative of the Graduate Student Constituency, be declared vacant as a result of her resignation and that Gwynne Ng be elected to fill this vacancy for the remainder of the term (March 30, 2017 to June 30, 2017).

CARRIED (By Unanimous Consent)

S.17-57 Senate Membership: Vacancies filled by appointment

It was moved by P. Bishop, seconded by M. Pratt,

That the Senate seats be filled for the July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2019 term by appointment at the recommendation of the units concerned as shown below:

- Faculty of Engineering – Ajay Ray
- Faculty of Health Sciences – Glen Belfry, Louis Charland
- Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry – Philip Jones
- Don Wright Faculty of Music – Patrick Schmidt
- Faculty of Science – Pei Yu
- Faculty of Social Science – Anders Holm
- Huron University College - Kate Lawless
- King’s University College – Renee Soulondre LaFrance

The following faculty vacancies remain to be filled:

- Faculty of Arts and Humanities – 2
- Faculty of Education – 1
- Brescia University College – 1

CARRIED (By Unanimous Consent)
S.17-58 **Roles and Responsibilities of Senators**

It was moved by M. Milde, seconded by W. Pearson,

That the roles and responsibilities of Senators, detailed in Exhibit III, Appendix 1, be approved.

CARRIED

S.17-59 **Continuation of the Unanimous Consent Agenda**

It was moved by M. Milde, seconded by M. Jadd,

That the Unanimous Consent Agenda process be continued.

CARRIED

S.17-60 **Nominating Processes in the Faculties for Filling Vacant Senate Seats**

It was moved by M. Milde, seconded by C. Jones,

That each Faculty Council determine their internal processes for nominating faculty members to fill vacant Senate seats, and

That Faculties report these processes to Senate by March 2018.

Responding to a question about the process, M. Milde explained that even though the Senate ad hoc Committee on Renewal suggested that Faculties be compelled to establish local nominating committee issue, following a survey of faculties, OAC determined that it is important to respect local faculty cultures and practices surrounding this matter. Faculties have a year to report back which takes into consideration the varied meeting schedules of Faculty Councils.

The question was called and CARRIED.

**REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE** [Exhibit IV]

S.17-61 **Senate Review Board Academic**

G. Ng was elected by acclamation to the Senate Review Board Academic to replace M. Knott who has resigned (term to June 30, 2017).

**REPORT OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC POLICY AND AWARDS** [Exhibit V]

S.17-62 **Faculty of Arts and Humanities, Department of Modern Languages and Literatures: Withdrawal of the Major, Specialization and Honors Specialization Modules in Comparative Literature and Culture**

It was moved by S. Macfie, seconded by M. Milde,

That effective September 1, 2017, admissions in the Major, Specialization and Honors Specialization modules in Comparative Literature and Culture be discontinued, and

That students currently enrolled in these three modules be allowed to graduate until August 31, 2021 upon fulfillment of the requirements, and

That effective September 1, 2021 these modules be discontinued.
A member voiced a concern raised by one of his constituents that departmental processes may not have been followed before these changes were presented to SCAPA.

It was moved by M. McDayter, seconded by A. Chant,

That the recommendation (above) regarding the withdrawal of the major, specialization and honors specialization modules in comparative literature and culture be referred back to SCAPA.

M. Milde disagreed with the suggestion that policies and procedures were not followed and that there were plenty of opportunities to speak to the issues. L. Miller added that there was a lengthy list of consultations included with the SCAPA agenda that indicated that appropriate discussions and consultations had occurred.

The question to refer was called and CARRIED.

Richard Ivey School of Business: Revisions to the HBA Admission Requirements through the Advanced Entry Opportunity (AEO) program

It was moved by P. Bishop, seconded by M. Pratt,

That the HBA admission requirements through the AEO program be revised as shown in Exhibit V, Appendix 1, effective September 1, 2017.

CARRIED (By Unanimous Consent)

School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies: Introduction of the “French Education” Field in the Master of Professional Education (MPEd) Program

It was moved by P. Bishop, seconded by M. Pratt,

That effective January 1, 2018 the French Education Field be introduced in the MPEd Program.

CARRIED (By Unanimous Consent)

Faculty of Law: Withdrawal of the Taxation and Criminal Law Areas of Concentration

It was moved by P. Bishop, seconded by M. Pratt,

That the Taxation and Criminal Law areas of concentration be withdrawn from the Faculty of Law’s offerings effective July 1, 2017.

CARRIED (By Unanimous Consent)

Huron University College: Introduction of a Major in Philosophy in Commerce

It was moved by S. Macfie, seconded by M. Jadd,

That the Major in Philosophy in Commerce be introduced effective September 1, 2017 as shown in Exhibit V, Appendix 2.

A member said that it appeared that there were no courses in commerce/business listed in the calendar copy contained in Exhibit V, Appendix 2. S. Macfie said the rationale for this proposal is to provide an opportunity for Huron students with some interest in business to familiarize themselves with issues that arise out of the discipline of philosophy and are relevant to the
business world. M. Milde noted that the associate dean and chair of philosophy were consulted about this program.

The question was called and CARRIED.

S.17-67  **King's University College, St. Peter's Seminary: Revisions of Admission and Graduation Requirements of the Master of Divinity (MDiv and MDiv (Advanced) Programs)**

It was moved by P. Bishop, seconded by M. Pratt,

That the admission requirements of the Master of Divinity programs at St. Peter’s Seminary be revised effective September 1, 2017 as shown in Exhibit V, Appendix 3.

CARRIED (By Unanimous Consent)

S.17-67a  **King’s University College, St. Peter’s Seminary: Revisions to the Admission Requirements**

S.17-67b  **King’s University College, St. Peter’s Seminary: Revisions to the Graduation Requirements**

S.17-68  **King’s University College, School of Social Work: Revisions of Admission and Progression Requirements for the Honors Specialization in Social Work**

S.17-69  **Renewal of the Multilateral Articulation Agreement between The University of Western Ontario, Faculty of Science, Environmental Science Program, and Ontario Colleges**

It was moved by P. Bishop, seconded by M. Pratt,

That the renewal of a multilateral articulation agreement between The University of Western Ontario and the Ontario Colleges listed below regarding the transfer of credit for students in the Environmental Technician and Environmental Technology Programs be approved, effective January 1, 2017, as shown in Exhibit V, Appendix 6.

- Algonquin C.A.A.T. (Environmental Technician only)
- Canadore C.A.A.T. (Environmental Technician only)
- Centennial C.A.A.T.
- Confederation C.A.A.T. (Environmental Technician only)
- Durham C.A.A.T. (Environmental Technology only)
- Fleming C.A.A.T.
- Georgian C.A.A.T.
- Loyalist C.A.A.T.
- Mohawk C.A.A.T. (Environmental Technician only)
- Niagara C.A.A.T. (Environmental Technician only)
- Sault C.A.A.T.
- Seneca C.A.A.T.
- Sheridan C.I.T.A.L. (Environmental Technician only)
- St. Lawrence CA.A.T. (Environmental Technician only)

CARRIED (By Unanimous Consent)

S.17-70  
**Renewal of the Articulation Agreement between Brescia University College, Huron University College, King’s University College, Western University, and Lambton College regarding Transfer of Credit for Students in the Police Foundations Program**

It was moved by P. Bishop, seconded by M. Pratt,

That Senate approve, and recommend to the Board of Governors, the renewal of the articulation agreement between Western University, King’s University College, Brescia University College, Huron University College, and Lambton College regarding the transfer of credit for students in the Police Foundations Program as shown in Exhibit V, Appendix 7.

CARRIED (By Unanimous Consent)

S.17-71  
**Revisions to the “Course Numbering Policy, Essay Courses, and Hours of Instruction” Policy – Blended Courses**

It was moved by S. Macfie, seconded by C. Jones,

That the Blended Courses section of the “Course Numbering Policy, Essay Courses, and Hours of Instruction” policy be revised effective September 1, 2017 as shown in Exhibit V, item 10 to clarify the definition of a blended course.

CARRIED (By Unanimous Consent)

S.17-72  
**Information Items Reported by the Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Awards**

- Revisions to the “Graduation Requirements” Policy – Honors BSc and BMSc programs
- Revision to the “Structure of the Academic Year” Policy – Scheduling of Fall Convocation
- New Scholarships and Awards
- Report of the Subcommittee on Teaching Awards

**REPORT OF THE SENATE HONORARY DEGREES COMMITTEE [EXHIBIT VI]**

S.17-73  
**Honorary Degree Recipients – Spring 2017**

Exhibit VI, the Report from the Senate Honorary Degrees Committee, detailing the honorary degree recipients for Spring 2017, was received for information by unanimous consent.

S.17-74  
**REPORT OF THE ACADEMIC COLLEAGUE [EXHIBIT VII]**

The report of the Academic Colleague, detailed in Exhibit VII, was received for information.
DISCUSSION AND QUESTION PERIOD

Writing Courses Withdrawn

A Senator asked why Writing 2101F/G and 2111F/G, offered through distance studies, were removed from the system a few days prior to the opening of registration. The member noted that these courses fill up quickly by students wanting to complete a Writing Certificate or the Certificate in Professional Communications. Not having the option of taking the pre-requisite in the summer will cause students, if they wish to pursue those Certificates, to stay on for an extra semester or year, to get the credits so that the certificate is part of their degree.

M. Milde, Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities, explained that the Faculty’s financial situation is the reason behind the decision to cut these courses. The entire budget was reviewed. The Faculty’s deficit, which is running at $4 million year over year, must be addressed. One way to do so is to cut limited-duties teaching which had a disproportionate impact on Writing courses.

Dr. Chakma said that it is legitimate to express concerns about academic matters but micromanagement of a faculty’s budget is not appropriate. A member suggested that this concern raises a broader issue about the University’s approach and philosophy towards the budgetary predicament faced by faculties that are suffering enrolment problems which in turn leads to the need to realign teaching within the unit.

A member suggested that this matter be discussed at the time of this year’s budget presentation and remarked that Senators should review UWOFA’s report produced several years ago entitled “Every Budget is a Choice.” J. Deakin noted that in the last two budgets special dispensation has been afforded to the Faculty of Arts and Humanities to address the deficit situation.

Jordan Peterson Event

A member referenced the Jordan Peterson event which was hosted by a new student group formed specifically to bring him to Western. Professor Peterson is from the University of Toronto and has been in the news for his position that he should not have to use pronouns such as “they” with transgender people who do not want to be referred to as “he” or “she”. He asked what the policy is surrounding payment of security for a student event seen as controversial. J. Deakin explained that when security is required at the behest of Western’s Campus Police and the London Police, the costs are passed on to the group hosting the talk. The USC provides supports for those costs for their clubs. This is not a USC group. They sought and received grant funding from Student Experience to help offset the costs of security. She added that as a university, Western is supportive of providing places where ideas can be presented and or debated in a civil and open manner. Western is also prudent about providing a safe, orderly space for all who wish to attend events and take the necessary measures for that to be the case.

NOTICES OF MOTION

H. Orbach-Miller presented two Notices of Motion that the Chair accepted and referred to the Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Awards (SCAPA). The Notice of Motion regarding Examination Policy and the Notice of Motion regarding Political Accommodation are attached to these minutes as Appendix 2 and 3, respectively.
ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

_______________________________  _________________________________
A. Chakma                                   I. Birrell
Chair                                      Secretary
Internationalization at Western

Dr. Julie McMullin
Vice-Provost (International)
Professor of Sociology
Key Objective
Increase student participation in International experiences from 3% to 10%
Challenges

- Geopolitical issues
- Barriers for international learning
- Immigration regulations and regulatory changes
- Racism
- Global differences in educational systems

> The international education space changes quickly, producing unanticipated challenges but also unique opportunities.

Future Focus

- How can we more fully embrace internationalization in the curricula?
- How can our vision for internationalization go beyond the initiatives described here to help Western evolve into a truly global university?
Examination Policy Motion

Recommendation: That Senate task the 2017/2018 Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Awards (SCAPA) with the creation of an Ad-Hoc committee to review the Examination Conflicts policy and present a report and recommendation by the February 2018 meeting of Senate on the following matters:

1. Under the current examination policy framework, how many conflicts typically arise in a given academic term?
2. Does this policy add or contribute stressors to students’ academic experience?
3. Is the current policy reflective of practices at peer institutions?
4. Should this policy additionally apply to mid-term examinations?
5. What are the ramifications of extending the number of hours provision in the policy by a marginal amount (e.g. changing “more than two such examinations in any 23-hour period” to a 24, 25, or 26-hour period)
6. Should this policy be amended in some capacity?

SCAPA shall determine the composition of the committee, as long as it contains at least one (1) student Senator. Additionally, SCAPA may choose to widen the scope of the committee’s mandate as long as it remains reflective of the original intent.

Current policy: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/exam/conflicts.pdf
Political Accommodation

Recommendation: That Senate amend POLICY 1.3 - Political Candidacy of Students as shown in Appendix A.

Appendix A:

POLICY

1.00 Members of the student body shall be free to enter public life. There is an obligation upon the University as an institution to ensure that no impediments are placed in the way of members of the student body desiring to enter public life.

PROCEDURE

2.00 Students of the University who become candidates for public office may, if they desire, inform the Dean of their Faculty of their candidacy. Upon the receipt of such information the Dean shall excuse the candidate from attendance during the campaign for election upon the following bases:

(a) for election to the Parliament of Canada: excused attendance for the equivalent of one month;

(b) for election to a Provincial Legislature: excused attendance for the equivalent of one month;

(c) for election as Mayor of the City of London, or equivalent office, or to the London Board of Control, or to a Board of Education: excused attendance for the equivalent of ten days;

(d) for election to a Municipal or Township Council: excused attendance for the equivalent of five days.

(e) for election as an executive on the University Students’ Council of Western University (USC), or equivalent office: excused attendance for the equivalent of two days.