The UNIVERSITY of WESTERN ONTARIO

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SENATE

September 21, 2012

The meeting was held at 1:30 p.m. in Room 224, University College (Conron Hall)

SENATORS:

J. Aitken Schermer
R. Alie
B. Barkley
C. Beynon
I. Birrell
M. Blagrave
J. Boulter
S. Camiletti
K. Campbell
T. Carmichael
A. Chakma
S. Connor
A. Conway
K. Coughlin
A. Damji
L. Davies
J. Deakin
C. Dean
J. Dickey
J. Doerksen
L. Elliott
K. Foullong
G. Gao
B. Garcia
J. Garnett
K. Goldthorp
R. Graham
C. Harvey
J. Hatch
J. Holmes
J. Hopkins
A. Hrymak
M. Khalkhali
J. Knowles
H. Lagerlund
J. Lamarche
C. Lee
B. Leipert
K. Lovell
S. Macfie
J. Malkin
J. Matthews
S. McDonald Aziz
A. McGuire
P. McKenzie
R. Mercer
M. Milde
L. Miller
J. Mitchell
B. Neff
S. Nemirovsky
D. Neufeld
T. Newson
C. Nolan
C. Palmer
S. Primak
M. Rothstein
E. Sadowski
S. Seck
B. Silverstein
M. Singh
D. Stanford
M. Strong
K. Sullivan
T. Sutherland
D. Sylvester
B. Timney
K. Veblen
D. Velasquez
A. Watson
M.E. Wennekers
G. West
S. Wetmore
P. Whelan
M. Wilson
B.A. Younker
O. Yucel

Observers: D. Abelson, R. Chelladurai, L. Gribbon, C. Shirreff, G. Tigert, A. Weedon
By Invitation: J. Grieve, J. McMullin,

S.12-137 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting of June 8, 2012, were approved as circulated.

S.12-138 **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

The President's reported on the naming of eight Vanier Canada Scholars and, two Royal Society Fellows at Western, and provided updates on the International Education panel he had chaired for the federal government, activities initiated over the summer by the provincial government, and the university's strategic planning process.. Overhead slides used to highlight his presentation are attached as Appendix 1.

He invited questions from members.

Senator Stanford noted that later in the meeting a notice of motion would be presented with respect to a new process ITS had put in place for instructor log-in to classroom computers. Given that the motion would not be formally before Senate until at least the next meeting, he asked whether the changes to the classroom computers could be delayed until Senate had dealt with the matter. Invited to respond, J. Deakin noted that ITS is tightening security across the board, requiring secure log-ins for all campus computers. Classroom computers are the last set to be dealt with. In response to the member's concerns, ITS has been asked to consider whether there are viable and affordable alternatives for the future, but in the meantime, for security reasons, the log-in project must proceed as planned at this time.

REPORT OF THE OPERATIONS/AGENDA COMMITTEE [EXHIBIT I]

S.12-139 **Senate Membership – Faculty of Law**

It was moved by T. Carmichael, seconded by R. Graham,

> That the seat held by Tom Telfer, faculty representative on Senate for the Faculty of Law, be declared vacant effective July 1, 2012 as a result of his resignation and that Sara Seck be elected to complete his term until June 30, 2013.
>
> CARRIED

S.12-140 **Autumn Convocation 2012 – Revised Order of Ceremony**

A revised order of ceremony for the Autumn Convocation 2012 to accommodate the installation of the Chancellor and the scheduling of honorary degree recipients, was provided in Exhibit I.

S.12-141 **Convocation Dates 2013**

Convocation dates for all Western University ceremonies, shown in Exhibit I, were provided for information.

S.12-142 **Officers of Convocation**

The officers of convocation who were reappointed to terms ending June 30, 2014 were listed, for information in Exhibit I.

REPORT OF THE SENATE NOMINATING COMMITTEE [EXHIBIT II]

S.12-143 **Senate Review Board Academic - Membership**

A report on changes to the membership of the Senate Review Board Academic was provided in

Exhibit II.

REPORT OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC POLICY AND AWARDS [EXHIBIT III]

S.12-144 **Faculty of Engineering: Introduction of a Structural Engineering with International Development Option (Option G)**

It was moved by B. Timney, seconded by A. Hrymak,

> That a Structural Engineering with International Development Option (Option G) as detailed in Exhibit III, item 1, be introduced in the Faculty of Engineering, effective September 1, 2012.
>
> CARRIED

S.12-145 **Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry and Faculty of Science: Introduction of Medical Health Informatics as an Undergraduate Subject Area**

It was moved by B. Timney, seconded by A. Watson,

> That effective September 1, 2012, Medical Health Informatics, as described in Exhibit III, item 2, be introduced as an undergraduate subject area and be included in the "Medical Science" list in Category C of the Breadth Requirements for Bachelor Degrees.
>
> CARRIED

S.12-146 **Brescia University College: Introduction of a Major in Spirituality and Community Leadership**

It was moved by B. Timney, seconded by J. Mitchell,

> That a Major in Spirituality and Community Leadership, detailed in Exhibit III, item 3, be introduced at Brescia University College, effective September 1, 2012.
>
> CARRIED

S.12-147 **School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies:**

S.12-147a Introduction of "Composite Materials" as a New Field in the MEng Program (Mechanical and Materials Engineering)

It was moved by B. Timney, seconded by L. Miller,

> That effective September 1, 2012, "Composite Materials", detailed in Exhibit III, item 4a, be introduced as a new field in the Master of Engineering (MEng) in Mechanical and Materials Engineering program in the School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies.
>
> CARRIED

S.12-147b Change from MEd in Educational Studies to MA in Education Studies

It was moved by B. Timney, seconded by C. Beynon,

> That the Master of Education (MEd) in Educational Studies be changed to the Master of Arts (MA) in Education Studies as set out in Exhibit III, item 4b, effective September 1,

2013;

That students enrolled in the MEd program on September 1, 2013, have the option to transfer into the new MA program or to finish their MEd program; and,

That the MEd in Educational Studies program be withdrawn effective September 1, 2015.

CARRIED

S.12-148 **Report of the Subcommittee on Program Review – Graduate: Review of French Studies Program**

SCAPA has approved on behalf of the Senate the recommendations of the Subcommittee on Program Review – Graduate (SUPR-G) with respect to the review of the graduate program in French Studies as detailed in Exhibit III, Appendix 2.

S.12-149 **Report of the Subcommittee on Program Review – Undergraduate**

SCAPA has approved on behalf of the Senate the recommendations of the Subcommittee on Program Review – Undergraduate (SUPR-U) with respect to the cyclical reviews of the undergraduate programs detailed in Exhibit III, Appendix 3.

S.12-150 **New Awards and Bursary**

SCAPA has approved on behalf of the Senate, for recommendation to the Board of Governors through the President & Vice-Chancellor, the Terms of Reference for the new awards and bursary set out in Exhibit III, Appendix 4.

S.12-151 **Faculty of Arts and Humanities: Withdrawal of the Minor in Dramatic Literature**

SCAPA and Senate approved the withdrawal of the Minor in Dramatic Literature effective January 1, 2012; however, there are at least five students still registered in this module and those students have the option to complete the module no later than August 31, 2015.

REPORT OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON UNIVERSITY PLANNING [EXHIBIT IV]

S.12-152 **CGA Ontario Professorship in Accounting**

It was moved by J. Hatch, seconded by C. Beynon,

That the terms for the CGA Ontario Professorship in Accounting be approved as detailed in Exhibit IV, Appendix 1.

CARRIED

S.12-153 **MBA'80 Faculty Fellowship in Entrepreneurship**

It was moved by J. Hatch, seconded by G. West,

That the MBA '80 Faculty Fellowship in Entrepreneurship be established at the Richard Ivey School of Business, under the terms of reference for a five-year period based on an expendable gift as detailed in Exhibit IV, Appendix 2.

CARRIED

S.12-154 **Strategic Mandate Agreements (SMAs)**

J. Deakin provided a detailed report regarding the Strategic Mandate Agreement process initiated by the provincial government in the summer. Essentially, each university was asked to provide an eight-page document outlining its current practices and proposed plans within a framework of key initiatives established by MTCU. MTCU had held consultations over the summer with universities, including major stakeholder groups. She and other representatives of Western had attended those consultations. The deadline for submission of Western's SMA is September 30 and all SMAs are to be submitted directly to the Minister. Once he has read them, they will be submitted to HECQO which would be asked to comment on them. It is not clear on what basis HECQO will make its comments nor is it clear what the outcome of the exercise will be although there is the potential for funding (a pool of up to $30 million) to be distributed among schools that "show promise" in the Ministry's key areas. Over the course of the summer she had worked with the deans and with student leaders and others to develop Western's response. The draft had been discussed in the deans' retreat, at SCUP and at URB. The final document would be public as soon as it was submitted to the Minister.

In the discussion that followed, the following issues/questions were addressed:

Highlighting areas in which Western is world class – information about areas in which Western excels will be included in the section on research

Credit Transfer – Western is working with some other universities to develop a set of credits that can transfer across the institutions in the consortium. Information about the agreed-upon credits will be available on each university's website.

Resources for internationalization – Western International is developing a range of supports for international students to cover them from the time of admission to graduation. These include:

- Making personal contact with students as soon as they are admitted
- An airport greeting service
- Orientation transition day
- Housing initiatives such as opening the residences early for them and monthly social events
- Increased capacity in English improvement programs
- Increased advising services and mental health supports

For Canadian students who want to study abroad, more programs are being made available and more pre-departure training and orientation is being provided.

Goal of the exercise – While it is not entirely clear what the intent of the Ministry is with respect to the outcome of this exercise, and notwithstanding the frustrations with the way the process has unfolded, the administration is looking at this from a positive perspective as an opportunity to highlight the good work that is happening at Western. Success will depend on being respectful, engaged and data driven.

Involvement of the Affiliated University Colleges – The Affiliates have been working with the Provost's Office to add to the proof points in the document. The narrative has explicit reference to the unique and important role the Affiliates play at Western.

Value of education – The economic value of education and its intrinsic value are not mutually exclusive. The elements of the paper that speak to experiential learning, entrepreneurship and the job market speak to this. Western has very strong professional programs and many liberal arts exemplars that can speak to the government's economic drivers and most of the professional programs have significant breadth requirements.

Knowledge mobilization – Knowledge mobilization encompasses more than technology transfer and commercial development. It was suggested that reference be added to contributions made to policy and professional practice in a range of fields.

The Provost thanked members for their thoughtful input and asked that they forward any additional comments or suggestions through the deans.

REPORT OF THE UNIVERSITY RESEARCH BOARD [EXHIBIT V]

S.12-155 **Western's Distinguished Scholar in Residence Program**

Senate received for information a report detailed in Exhibit V, Appendix 1, regarding Western's Distinguished Scholar in Residence Program, which is a new initiative intended to attract high-profile internationally recognized leaders to Western University.

REPORT OF THE HONORARY DEGREES COMMITTEE [EXHIBIT VI]

S.12-156 **Honorary Degree Recipients – Autumn Convocation 2012**

The report of the Honorary Degrees Committee announcing the honorary degree recipients for Autumn Convocation 2012, detailed in Exhibit VI, was received for information. Also included at Autumn Convocation is the installation of Joseph Rotman as the new Chancellor.

S.12-157 **Announcements and Communications** [EXHIBIT VII]

Announcements and Communications, detailed in Exhibit VII, was received for information.

Enquiries

The President noted that a number of questions had been submitted in advance by Student Senators. Some of those questions had been answered in the SMA discussion. He invited Student Senators to put forward those that had not yet been addressed.

Opportunities for undergraduate students to engage in research – The Provost noted that there are a many opportunities listed now in the Student Success Centre. However, she expected that this would an area of priority in the deans' planning documents being prepared for this planning cycle.

Weekend examinations – Dr. J. Doerksen noted that Western's modular program system is unique. It gives students significant flexibility in building programs that is not available elsewhere. That same flexibility, however, means that designing an examination schedule with minimal conflicts is a serious challenge, hence the need to use every available slot.

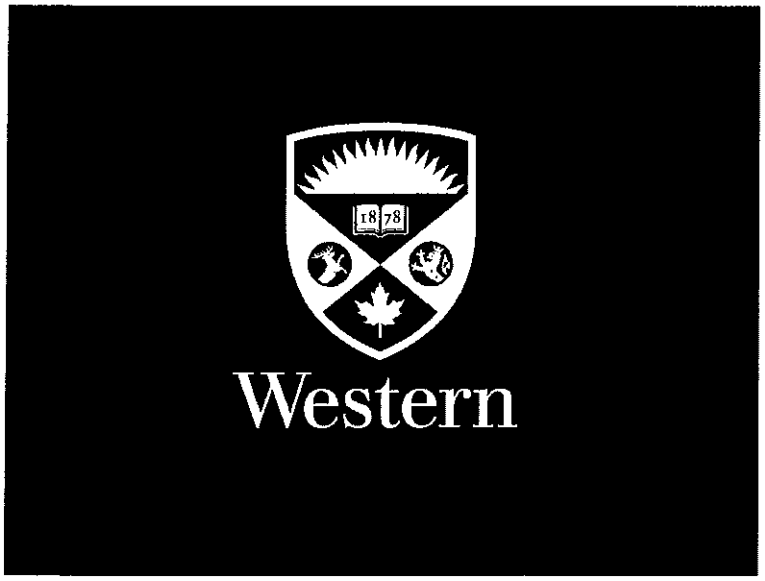
Mental health initiatives – While mental health initiatives are not specifically mentioned in the SMA,, the issue remains a key priority for the university and a great many new measures are being put in place.

Ratio of students to academic counsellors – The need for increased academic counselling resources has been noted, especially in Social Science. A multi-pronged approach is needed and the Associate Deans (Academic) are continuing to work on the issue.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

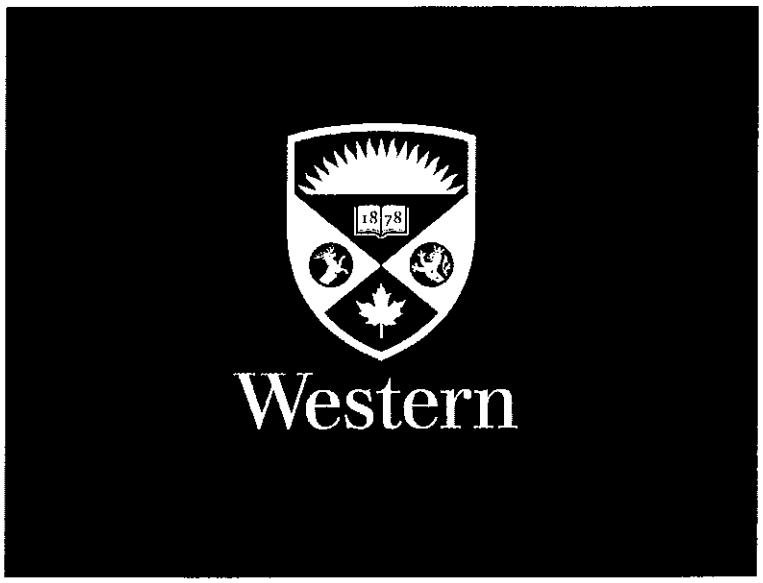
A. Chakma Chair	I. Birrell Secretary



President's Report to Senate

September 21, 2012

Western

- 8 Vanier Canada Scholars named
- 2 Royal Society Fellows named
- International education panel update
- Provincial government update
- Strategic planning update

Western