MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SENATE

JUNE 3, 2016

The meeting was held at 1:30 p.m. in Room 56, University Community Centre.

SENATORS: 58

N. Bhatia
I. Birrell
P. Bishop
J. Capone
T. Carmichael
A. Chakma
K. Clark
K. Cole
R. Collins
E. Comor
D. Coward
C. Davidson
J. Deakin
G. Dekaban
N. Dyer-Witheford
J. Eberhard
A. Engineer
K. Fleming
J. Garland
A. Grzyb
B. Hovius
A. Hrymak
Y. Huang
J. Hutter
R. Kennedy
J. Knowles
D. Laird
B. Leipert
G. Lucas
S. Macfie
M. McDayter
L. McKivor
T. McMurrough
R. Mercer
M. Milde
J. Millaire
D. Mok
K. Moser
V. Nielsen
H. Orbach-Miller
G. Parraga
W. Pearson
D. Rogers
S. Roland
L. Rosen
M. Salvadori
I. Scott
K. Siddiqui
Z. Sinel
R. Soulodré-La France
V. Staroverov
M. Strong
L. Sunseri
S. Taylor
M. Thomson
G. Tigert
J. Toswell

Observers: K. Campbell, J. Doerksen, L. Gribbon, T. Hinan, K. Hoffmann, J. Luker, C. Waugh, A. Weedon

By Invitation: H. Bishop, A. Hearn, L. Lingard, S. Lupker, B. Skarakis-Doyle

S.16-134 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting of May 6, 2016 were approved as circulated.

S.16-135 **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

The President reported on the U15 meeting with Minister K. Duncan, the recent appointment of former Dean Brian Timney as the Executive Director of Quality Assurance for the Council of Ontario Universities, and Western's upcoming June convocation. He also reported on the following items:

S.16-135a **Attack on Western Student**

The President gave the following statement regarding the recent attack on a Western PhD student:

> Last Saturday evening, Mohammad Sharifi, a PhD candidate in our Department of English and Writing Studies, was pushed to the ground and then punched repeatedly by two men in a vicious attack that occurred in the area of Market Lane and Talbot Street. We're relieved to know that Mohammad is recovering from the injuries he sustained in the assault, and that he is receiving medical care.
>
> I condemn the attack on Mohammad in the strongest possible terms. I wrote to Mohammad to express my concern and best wishes for him, and I know that several other colleagues have made similar outreaches, including English Department Chair Bryce Traister, Provost Janice Deakin, and Vice-Provost of Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies, Linda Miller, to ensure he knows we will do what we can to support him through his recovery. I also know that friends and groups from across campus, including the Society of Graduate Students and the UWO Faculty Association, have expressed messages of support for Mohammad through social media.
>
> Mohammad is currently writing his dissertation, so we can easily empathize with the added stress and anxiety he must be dealing with right now, on top of his academic pressures, in the face of such a senseless act of violence.
>
> Thankfully, we understand that London Police have arrested and charged two suspects in connection to this assault. We also understand that the police are investigating the incident as a possible hate crime, due to the fact that the suspects were reportedly heard to be directing racist comments toward Mohammad at the time of the assault.
>
> This is a poignant occasion to remind ourselves about and to reiterate Western's steadfast commitment to the ideals of diversity, inclusivity and respect. It goes without saying, but it bears repeating in clear terms, that such despicable behaviour, motivated by racism and hate, has absolutely no place on our campus nor in our society.
>
> I believe we have come a long way in building an inclusive society in Canada, but incidents such as this should remind us all that we still have much work to do to achieve that goal. It would be easy for us to consider this incident as an isolated one in our community. However, recent experiences show that it is not. So, we all have much work to do to shine lights on the shortcomings of our community and work harder in our own spheres to make our community more inclusive.
>
> Let us rekindle and reinforce the spirit of humanity and generosity this community has shown in its recent welcoming of Syrian refugees. Let us redouble our efforts in making our campus and our community more inclusive not less.

Responding to questions about taking further steps to address this issue, J. Deakin stated that Student Experience and Equity and Human Rights Services run anti-racism workshops and will investigate what can be done in a more systematic way to combat racism through education.

S.16-135b **Update on Homecoming**

Dr. Chakma reported that after consulting with others on and off campus, the decision was made this week to move Homecoming back to October 22 in response to what has occurred at an unsanctioned street party on Broughdale in the past. After speaking with city police, ambulance services, the City of London and U.H. emergency department leadership, it was clear it was only by sheer chance that no one was injured or killed. While this street party is not occurring on Western's property, the attraction this party holds for Western students, and in particular first-year students, required that Western take action.

Besides moving the date back to later in October, when students both at Western and other universities have the pressures of terms papers and upcoming exams, Western is working to provide alternative entertainment for its students. Western will also release a full-out campaign in the fall to try to reach students about the dangerous and sometimes lethal trend of binge drinking.

Responding to Senator Orbach-Miller's question regarding engaging stakeholders in the decision-making process, J. Deakin reported that in addition to consulting with stakeholders on and off campus, J. Luker met with the USC incoming team. The USC leadership understood the problem and agreed to support any decisions the University made. Senator Orbach-Miller also asked whether students would be accommodated during mid-term exams to be able to attend Homecoming. The Provost noted that there is no tradition, policy, or practice regarding the timing of tests and Homecoming. Mid-term exams are scheduled by divisions, not the Registrar's Office. She pointed out that Homecoming is an Alumni event, not a student event, and, unfortunately student behaviour is affecting an alumni celebration.

Most of Western's alumni come to Homecoming to attend Faculty reunions and those are continuing as planned for the weekend of September 30. Following Homecoming Reunion Weekend and Homecoming Saturday, the same large group of stakeholders will be consulted to assess the results of Western's efforts, which will determine the date of future Homecomings.

S.16-136 **REPORT OF THE SENATE ad hoc COMMITTEE ON RENEWAL** [Exhibit I]

At the request of the Chair, Senate granted speaking privileges to members of the Senate ad hoc Committee on Renewal.

It was moved by M. McDayter, seconded by H. Orbach-Miller,

> That Senate accept the Report of the Senate ad hoc Committee on Renewal in principle; and that the report be forwarded to the Operations/Agenda Committee (OAC) for review and preparation of an implementation plan for submission to Senate in the fall of 2016.

B. Skarakis-Doyle, chair of the Senate ad hoc Committee on Renewal, presented an overview of the report, including context, process, foundational principles and recommendations. The formulation of the recommendations was guided by the attempt to create conditions that would enhance Western's commitment to collegial governance, including improving the community's understanding of Senate, communicating Senate decisions and explaining the processes through which these decisions were reached, improving community engagement, enhancing the effectiveness of Senators, improving information flow and conduct of Senate meetings, enhancing the representativeness of Senate and improving specific Senate committees' terms of reference. Slides used to highlight her presentation are attached as **Appendix 1.** She thanked members of the ad hoc Committee for their time and efforts in this endeavour and those who participated in the consultation process. She noted that change is already happening as detailed in the Senate Elections slide which shows a movement towards increased engagement. A member remarked that she had noticed a significant difference in the amount and kind of discussions occurring at Senate compared to a year ago.

Referring to Recommendation 9c – Nominating Committee and Related Processes, B. Skarakis-Doyle confirmed that the ad hoc Committee was advocating that a Faculty-level nominating committee should be created in each faculty. A member suggested that some faculties might already have different nominating processes in place. B. Skarakis-Doyle responded that the Operations/Agenda Committee could consider that.

A member praised the report and asked whether the senior administration was supportive of the findings and recommendations of the Senate ad hoc Committee on Renewal. The President confirmed that the administration is supportive of the report and will work towards implementing the recommendations.

Asked if the Operations/Agenda Committee will meet with members of the ad hoc Committee, Dean Milde said that given the complexity of the report, OAC will very likely need to consult further with the ad hoc Committee. The implementation process of the recommendations needs to be done well, not quickly.

M. McDayter thanked B. Skarakis-Doyle for her leadership as Chair of the Senate ad hoc Committee on Renewal.

The question was called and CARRIED.

OPERATIONS/AGENDA COMMITTEE [Exhibit II]

S.16-137 **Senate Membership: Vacancies Filled by Appointment**

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

> That Senate seats be filled for the July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2018 term by appointment at the recommendation of the units concerned as shown below:
>
> Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry: Jane Rylett, Kathryn Myers
>
> CARRIED

S.16-138 **Appointment Procedures for Senior Academic and Administrative Officers: Amendment to Section R. Associate Vice-President (Research)**

It was moved by M. Milde, seconded by D. Laird,

> That Section R. Associate Vice-President (Research) of the Appointment Procedures for Senior Academic and Administrative Officers of the University be revised as shown in Exhibit II, Appendix 1.
>
> CARRIED

The change recognizes the decision of the Vice-President (Research) to establish a second Associate Vice-President (Research) position.

S.16-139 **Candidates for Degrees and Diplomas**

On behalf of the Senate, the Provost approved the list of Candidates for Degrees and Diplomas upon the recommendation of the Registrar [S.96-124]. The approved list of candidates is appended to the Official Minutes of this meeting.

S.16-140 **Order of Ceremony – Fall Convocation 2016**

Senate received for information the Order of Ceremony for Fall Convocation 2016, detailed in Exhibit II, Appendix 2.

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE [Exhibit III]

S.16-141 **Review/Selection Committee for the Vice-President (Research)**

The following individuals were elected to the Review/Selection Committee for the Vice-President (Research): Bob Andersen (SS), Helen Fielding (AH), Kevin Shoemaker (HS), Nadine Wathen (FIMS), Harry Orbach-Miller (SS-student).

S.16-142 **Senate Review Board Academic (SRBA)**

Danielle Lacasse (Law) was elected to the Senate Review Board Academic (SRBA) for a term from July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017.

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

S.16-143 **Faculty of Arts and Humanities: Department of French Studies: Restructuring the Honors Specialization Modules in French Studies**

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

That the Honors Specialization Modules in French Language and Literature, French Linguistics and Literature and French Language and Linguistics be replaced by the Honors Specialization in French Studies as shown in Exhibit IV, Appendix 1, effective September 1, 2016, and

That students currently enrolled in the modules be allowed to graduate upon fulfillment of the old requirements by August 31, 2019, and

That the old modules be withdrawn effective September 1, 2019.

CARRIED

S.16-144 **Faculty of Arts and Humanities: Department of French Studies: Withdrawal of French Modules**

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

That registration in the following modules be discontinued after September 1, 2016:
Minor in French Language and Literature
Minor in French Language and Linguistics
Minor in French Language and Translation
Minor in Francophone Studies
Major in French Language and Literature
Major in French Language and Linguistics, and

That students currently enrolled in the modules be allowed to graduate upon fulfillment of the requirements by August 31, 2019, and

That the modules be withdrawn effective September 1, 2019.

CARRIED

S.16-145 **Faculty of Arts and Humanities: Department of Modern Languages and Literatures: Withdrawal of the Certificate in Digital Spanish**

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

That effective September 1, 2016, the Certificate in Digital Spanish be withdrawn.

CARRIED

S.16-146 **School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies: Introduction of the International School Leadership Field in the Master of Professional Education (MPEd) Program**

It was moved by S. Macfie, seconded by P. Bishop,

That effective September 1, 2016 a new field, International School Leadership, be introduced in the MPEd Program.

CARRIED

S.16-147 **Faculty of Education: Revisions to the Admission Requirements of the Bachelor (B.Ed.) Program**

It was moved by S. Macfie, seconded by P. Bishop,

That the admission requirements for the Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) Program be revised as shown in Exhibit IV, Appendix 2, effective September 1, 2016.

CARRIED

S.16-148 **Faculty of Education: Revisions to the Dean's Honor List Policy**

It was moved by S. Macfie, seconded by P. Bishop,

That the Dean's Honor List Policy for the Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) Program be revised as shown in Exhibit IV, Appendix 3, effective September 1, 2016.

CARRIED

S.16-149 **Faculty of Engineering, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering: Withdrawal of the Software Engineering – Embedded Systems Option (D)**

It was moved by S. Macfie, seconded by A. Hrymak,

That effective September 1, 2016 registration in the Software Engineering - Embedded Systems Option (D) be discontinued, and

That students currently enrolled in the program be allowed to graduate with this option upon completion of all requirements by August 31, 2017, and

That effective September 1, 2017, the Software Engineering - Embedded Systems Option (D) be withdrawn.

CARRIED

S.16-150 **Faculty of Law: Revisions to Combined Degree Programs**

It was moved by S. Macfie, seconded by I. Scott,

That effective January 1, 2016, the combined degree programs at the Faculty of Law be amended as shown in Exhibit IV, Appendix 4.

CARRIED

S.16-151 **Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine and Faculty of Science and Faculty of Social Science, Departments of Geography and Sociology: Introduction of a New Subject Area and an Honors Specialization in One Health**

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

That the Honors Specialization in One Health leading to a BMSc degree be introduced effective September 1, 2016 as shown in Exhibit IV, Appendix 5, and

That the subject area "One Health" be introduced into the undergraduate offerings at Western, and included in the Category "C" breadth requirements, effective September 1, 2017.

CARRIED

S.16-152 **Faculty of Science, Department of Chemistry: Withdrawal of Minor Modules**

It was moved by S. Macfie, seconded by J. Hutter,

That effective September 1, 2016 the following Minor Modules be withdrawn:
Minor in Physical, Theoretical and Analytical Chemistry
Minor in Materials Chemistry
Minor in Inorganic and Analytical Chemistry
Minor in Inorganic and Organic Chemistry

CARRIED

S.16-153 **Introduction of the Articulation Agreement between the Faculty of Media and Information Studies, MIT Program and Fanshawe College**

It was moved by S. Macfie, seconded by T. Carmichael,

That Senate approve the Articulation Agreement regarding graduates of the Interactive Media Design, Broadcasting-Radio, Broadcast-Journalism, or Broadcasting-Television diploma program at Fanshawe College seeking admission to Western's Faculty of Information and Media Studies, Media, Information and Technoculture (MIT) Major, as shown in Exhibit IV, Appendix 6, effective June 1, 2016.

CARRIED

S.16-154 **Revisions to the Gold Medals Policy**

It was moved by S. Macfie, seconded by G. Tigert,

That the Gold Medals policy be revised as shown in Exhibit IV, Appendix 7, effective May 1, 2017.

CARRIED

S.16-155 **Revisions to the English Language Proficiency for Admission Policy**

It was moved by S. Macfie, seconded by D. Coward,

That the English Language Proficiency for Admission policy be revised as shown in Exhibit IV, Appendix 8, effective September 1, 2016.

CARRIED

S.16-156 **Revisions to the Regulations of the SCAPA Subcommittee on Teaching Awards (SUTA)**

Senate was informed that SCAPA had approved revisions to the SUTA regulations, as shown in Exhibit IV, Appendix 9, effective June 1, 2016.

The main changes included:

- Removal of reference to the "academic file" which no longer exists;
- Moving to full electronic submissions in a PDF format with sections bookmarked for easy navigation, i.e., no dossiers/binders will be required;
- Tightening the language around the required format for the nomination letters/supporting documentation;
- Requiring only two peer letters and a minimum of four student letters for the Western Award for Innovations in Technology-Enhanced Teaching.

Minor editorial changes were also incorporated.

S.16-157 **SUPR-U Report: Cyclical Reviews**

The following cyclical reviews were approved by SCAPA:

Faculty/Affiliates	Program	Date of Review	SUPR-U recommendation
Ivey Business School	HBA	March 24, 2016	Good Quality
Social Science (History), King's University College, Huron University College	Jewish Studies	February 29, 2016	Good Quality with Report in Two Years
Brescia University College	Family Studies	February 25, 2016	Good Quality with Report in Two Years
Brescia University College	Psychology	March 9, 2016	Good Quality
Brescia University College	Sociology	March 15, 2016	Good Quality
King's University College	English	March 3, 2016	Good Quality

The detailed Final Assessment Reports for each of these reviews are provided in Exhibit IV, Appendix 10.

S.16-158 **SUPR-G Report: Cyclical Review – History**

The following cyclical review was approved by SCAPA:

Faculty/Affiliates	Program	Date of Review	SUPR-G recommendation
Social Science	History	December 7-8, 2015	Good Quality with report in one year

The detailed Final Summary Report for this review is provided in Exhibit IV, Appendix 11.

S.16-159 **New Scholarships and Awards**

SCAPA approved on behalf of the Senate, the terms of reference for the new scholarships and awards shown in Exhibit IV, Appendix 12 for recommendation to the Board of Governors through the Vice-Chancellor.

REPORT OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON UNIVERSITY PLANNING [Exhibit V]

S.16-160 **Department of Visual Arts – Deferral of the Department of Visual Arts' Name Change to the Department of Art History and Studio Art**

It was moved by J. Deakin, seconded by M. Milde,

> That the renaming of the Department of Visual Arts to the Department of Art History and Studio Art, intended to take effect on July 1, 2016, be deferred indefinitely.
>
> CARRIED

S.16-161 **Alice Munro Chair in Creativity**

It was moved by J. Deakin, seconded by M. Milde,

> That the Alice Munro Chair in Creativity, with academic appointment in the Faculty of Arts and Humanities, be approved with the terms of reference outlined in Exhibit V, Appendix 1.
>
> CARRIED

S.16-162 **Ian McWhinney Chair in Family Medicine – Revisions to Terms of Reference**

It was moved by J. Deakin, seconded by M. Strong,

> That the terms for the Ian McWhinney Chair in Family Medicine be revised as outlined in Exhibit V, Appendix 2.
>
> CARRIED

S.16-163 **Report on Promotion and/or Tenure 2015-16**

Senate received the Report on Promotion and/or Tenure for 2015-16 provided in Exhibit V, Appendix 3.

A member noted that of the number of candidates put forward for tenure, two were not successful, both of whom were women and members of visible minorities, which she found troubling. Dr. Weedon said that reviewing data over the last 13 years shows that 331 men were considered with 17 denied tenure and 206 women were considered with seven denied tenure. The same analysis was not done for visible minorities because the numbers are small and often suppressed as a result.

A member noticed that some data for "Limited-Term Assistant and Associate Professors Considered for Promotion" seemed to be missing. Dr. Weedon agreed to check into this matter and report back.

REPORT OF THE UNIVERSITY RESEARCH BOARD (URB) [Exhibit VI]

S.16-164 **Revisions to MAPP 7.12 Policy for the Use of Animals in Research, Testing and Teaching**

It was moved by J. Capone, seconded by G. Dekaban,

> That changes to the Policy for the Use of Animals in Research, Testing and Teaching (MAPP 7.12) be approved as set out in Exhibit VI, Appendix 1.
>
> CARRIED

S.16-165 **Final Report of the URB Task Force Steering Committee for Support of SSAH Research at Western**

At the request of the Chair, Senate granted speaking privileges to members of the URB Task Force Steering Committee.

A. Nelson, Chair of the URB Task Force Steering Committee for Support of SSAH Research, presented the Committee's report detailed in Exhibit VI, Appendix 2. He provided an overview of the process that led to the drafting of the final report, including the external context, Western context, and how research in the social sciences, arts and humanities can be better supported at Western. He noted that changes to both the internal and external contexts make it timely to examine how social science, arts, and humanities research is valued and supported at Western. Many of the recommendations in the report are specific to the social sciences, arts and humanities, but others are broad based and apply across all disciplines.

Overhead slides used to highlight his presentation are attached as **Appendix 2**.

Dr. Capone said that a working group will be struck to consider the recommendations raised in the report and bring forward proposals to the URB. Some recommendations can be implemented readily; others will require further consideration. He added that the new endowment for research in the social sciences, arts and humanities - $5M in the 2016-17 budget - will be a major boost to this initiative.

S.16-166 **2015 Annual UCAC Report to Senate**

The 2015 Annual UCAC Report to Senate detailed in Exhibit VI, Appendix 3, was received for information.

REPORT OF THE HONORARY DEGREES COMMITTEE [Exhibit VII]

S.16-167 **President's Medal for Distinguished Service**

The Honorary Degrees Committee announced that Dr. Dalin Jameson is the 2016 recipient of the President's Medal for Distinguished Service. He will be honored at the 10:00 a.m. convocation ceremony on Tuesday, June 21, 2016.

S.16-168 **Retiring Members of Senate**

Dr. Chakma thanked those members of Senate whose terms end June 30, 2016, for their time and efforts given towards the work of Senate and its committees.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

_____ _____

A. Chakma
Chair

I. Birrell
Secretary

Senate ad hoc Committee on Renewal Final Report

June 3, 2016

Western

Review of Western's Governance: Status of Collegial Governance in the Senate

- Context
- Process
- Foundational Principles
- Recommendations
- Concluding Comments

Western

The Context

Western

Collegial Governance: Our Assumptions:

Collegial governance is central to the identity and well-being of the university

Entails:

- Our *culture* - the values and beliefs of our institution
- Governing *structures* that reflect and further develop these values
- *Behavior* and interactions among members of the community that are guided by culture and structure

Western

Characteristics of Collegial Governance Our Principles:

- Speak without fear of reprisal
- Listen with respect
- Respect differences
- Acknowledge power differentials where they arise
- Willingly act with a sense of collective responsibility
- Promote inclusiveness
- Engage in collaborative decision-making or advisement through timely access to information and engaged participation

Western

Formulation of recommendations was guided by the attempt to create conditions that would enhance Western's commitment to these principles

Western

Recommendations

Western

- **Formulation of Recommendations**

  We considered ways of:
  - Improving the community's understanding of Senate
  - Communicating Senate decisions and explaining processes by which they were reached
  - Improving community engagement
  - Enhancing Senators' effectiveness
  - Improving information flow and conduct of Senate meetings
  - Enhancing membership representativeness
  - Improving specific committees' terms of reference

Western

Four Recommendation Categories

I. Transparency, Communication & Accountability
II. Representation on Senate
III. Committee Structures and Processes
IV. Senate-Board Relations

Western

Transparency, Communication and Accountability

Six specific recommendations intended to:

- Make decision-making processes more transparent
- Promote an informed community as a critical element of good governance
- Articulate roles and responsibilities for Senators
- Promote communication among Senators
- Support a culture of robust strategic discussion
- Promote periodic review of effectiveness as an important element of good governance

Western

Representation on Senate

A three-part recommendation reflecting a commitment to 'inclusivity' by recognizing the evolving composition of our academic staff, and to the other individuals in our community who make critical contributions to the university's mission

Western

Committee Structures and Processes

Two recommendations to address collegial governance issues at the committee level.

- One is intended to clarify roles and responsibilities to enhance effectiveness and accountability
- One to address such issues in specific committees

Western

Senate-Board Relations

Means now exist for improved communication and relations between the Senate and Board

Our committee and the Board's Bylaws committee recognize and encourage development of additional joint activities as appropriate.

Western

The Challenges of Engagement

CHANGE IS AFOOT….

Western

Senate Elections – FACULTY
Number of Elections, Acclamations, and Appointments By Year

	YEAR						
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
FACULTY							
Total Number of Seats Available*	28	24	28	24	28	24	28
Elections held	0	0	0	0	0	7 seats (12 nominations in 5 constituencies)	10 seats (22 nominations in 6 constituencies)
Votes received	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	696	941
Acclaimed seats	10	10	7	8	15	10	8
Appointed by the unit*	18	14	21	16	13	7	10

* Includes 3 seats appointed by the Affiliate Colleges through their own internal election process

Western

Senate Elections – STAFF
Number of Elections, Acclamations, and Appointments By Year

	YEAR						
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
STAFF (1 seat)							
Nominations received	3	2	1*	1*	1*	2	7
Votes received	378	382	N/A	N/A	N/A	459	665

Western

Concluding Comments

A commitment to and practice of collegial governance strengthens the integrity and quality of the university as a whole.

Western

URB Task Force Steering Committee Support for Research in Social Sciences, Arts, and Humanities at Western

Final Report

June 3, 2016

Andrew Nelson (Chair)	Social Science (Anthropology)
Cathy Benedict	Director of Research, Don Wright Faculty of Music
Jacquie Burkell	ADR, FIMS
Alison Doherty	Health Sciences (Kinesiology)
Jonathan Vance	Social Science (History)
Charles Weijer	Arts & Humanities (Philosophy)

Directives

To better understand:

- the external context
- the Western context
- how research in the social sciences, arts and humanities can be better supported @ Western

Western Social Sciences, Arts, and Humanities

The External Context

All of the granting councils are increasingly emphasizing:

- multidisciplinarity
- team based research projects
- enhanced and more elaborate knowledge mobilization plans
- community based/engaged research

- many social scientists, artists, and humanists fit this model
- but many do not, and so are not able to access research support at the national level

Western Social Sciences, Arts, and Humanities

The Western Context

- we consulted broadly with the community via an on-line survey and many individual/focus group interviews
  - ca. 60% participation rate
- staff at Research Western and Communications
- graduate students

- many examples of high impact work being done with relatively small budgets
  - great diversity in models of research
  - many single authored publications, often books

- thus, models of evaluation that emphasize big grants, high impact journal articles etc. are inappropriate for many social sciences, arts, and humanities scholars

Western Social Sciences, Arts, and Humanities

The Western Context

- wide spread belief that their research is not *valued/recognized* at Western

- changes in the internal funding program in 2013 have meant that many researchers can no longer access internal funds
- wide discrepancies across Faculties with regard to the levels of financial and human support they can/do provide

- therefore, many researchers cannot find support for their research at the national or local levels

Western Social Sciences, Arts, and Humanities

How research in the social sciences, arts and humanities can be better supported @ Western

Recommendations

- the Western community begin to engage in discussions about how research is/can be valued and recognized

- increase in bilateral engagement between Communications and individual faculty members to highlight social sciences, arts, and humanities research

Western Social Sciences, Arts, and Humanities

How research in the social sciences, arts and humanities can be better supported @ Western

- increased centralized support for research development, including grant writing, community based/engaged research, knowledge mobilization
- seek efficiencies in administrative components
- re-examine the internal funding program
  - increase diversity of offerings
- more supports for interdisciplinary research

Western Social Sciences, Arts, and Humanities

First Steps

- $5M endowment in 2016-17 budget
- recognition that Western invests more in internal funding that most other Universities
- many of the recommendations in this report are specific to the social sciences, arts, and humanities
  - but many are broad based and apply across all disciplines
- this has been an important opportunity for the community to be heard
  - now, it is important to act

Western Social Sciences, Arts, and Humanities

Acknowledgements

- John Capone
- Amit Chakma
- Erika Hegedues, Marci Oswald, Irene Birrell
- The URB
- our dedicated Working Groups and research assistants
- Western staff
- Western faculty members
- other bodies at Western
- the Federal Granting Councils
- Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences

Western Social Sciences, Arts, and Humanities