

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SENATE**

**September 23, 2016**

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

SENATORS: 81

E. Ansari	Y. Huang	I. Paul
A. Bachman	M. Jadd	B. Paxton
A. Bhatt	C. Jones	W. Pearson
I. Birrell	D. Jorgensen	A. Pero
P. Bishop	A. Katz	M. Pratt
A. Bowlus	R. Kennedy	S. Rodger
J. Capone	M. Knott	D. Rogers
A. Chakma	J. Knowles	L. Rosen
A. Chant	D. Laird	C. Roulston
K. Clark	K. Lawless	B. Rubin
K. Cole	S. MacDougall-Shackleton	J. Rylett
R. Collins	S. Macfie	J. Scarfone
E. Comor	E. Macpherson	P. Schmidt
B. Craig	L. McKivior	V. Schwean
M. Crossan	C. Mcleod	Z. Sinel
M. Crystal	B. Meharchand	A. Singh
C. Davidson	J. Michalski	W. Siqueira
J. Deakin	M. Milde	C. Steeves
C. Dean	L. Miller	S. Stewart
G. Dekaban	S. Mumm	M. Strong
P. Doyle	P. Nesbitt-Larking	M. Thomson
N. Dyer-Witheyford	G. Ng	J. Toswell
J. Emberley	V. Nielsen	S. Trosow
J. Garland	V. Nolte	T. Tucker
A. Grzyb	C. Olivier	C. Wang
C. Hardy	H. Orbach-Miller	B.A. Younker
A. Hrymak	G. Parraga	H. Zafari

Observers: E. Avila, A. Bigelow, K. Campbell, A. Di Sebastiano, J. Doerksen, T. Hinan, J. Sadler

By Invitation: J. O'Brien

S.16-169

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting of June 3, 2016 were approved with the inclusion of the following revision to the fifth paragraph of S.16-136: Report of the Senate ad hoc Committee on Renewal found on page 3: *"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."*

S.16-170 **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

The President reported that the 2016-17 first-year undergraduate class, numbering just over 5,300, represents the largest-ever in Western's history. He also provided an update on provincial and federal government matters including the announcement that Western's BrainsCAN initiative will receive \$66 million from the Canada First Research Excellence Fund (CFREF) and that by the end of the month, Western should learn about its submission to the \$2-billion Post-Secondary Institutions Strategic Investment Fund (SIF). He reported that the Canada's Fundamental Science Review, launched on June 13, provides opportunities for feedback on a public website with the deadline being September 30. He reported that Western will participate in a Global Science Excellence Roundtable session. He announced that Council of Ontario Universities (COU) is launching an online survey seeking opinions from all Ontarians on how "we can work together to unlock the full potential of Ontario's future and all who live here."

On behalf of Senate, Dr. Chakma thanked Gitta Kulczycki, Vice-President (Resources & Operations), for her 12 years of service to Western. Ms. Kulczycki will be taking up the post of Vice-President (Finance & Administration) at the University of Alberta on November 1. During the search for a new Vice-President (Resources & Operations), no interim replacement will be appointed and the Associate Vice-Presidents will report directly to the President.

**REPORT OF THE OPERATIONS/AGENDA COMMITTEE** [Exhibit I]

S.16-171 **Senate Membership - Don Wright Faculty of Music**

It was moved by M. Milde, seconded by G. Parraga,

That Sophie Roland, representative of the Don Wright Faculty of Music, be granted a leave of absence from October 1 – December 31, 2016 and that Patrick Schmidt serve as her Alternate.

CARRIED

S.16-172 **Senate Membership – Faculty of Education**

It was moved by M. Milde, seconded by G. Parraga,

That Melody Viczko, representative of the Faculty of Education, be granted a leave of absence from September 1 – October 31, 2016 and that Shannon Stewart serve as her Alternate.

CARRIED

S.16-173 **Senate Membership – Faculty of Social Science**

It was moved by M. Milde, seconded by G. Parraga,

That Margaret McGlynn, representative of the Faculty of Social Science, be granted a leave of absence from July 1 – December 31, 2016 and that Scott MacDougall-Shackleton serve as her Alternate.

CARRIED

S.16-174 **Senate Membership – Graduate Student Constituency**

It was moved by M. Milde, seconded by G. Parraga,

That Ahmed Abuhussein, representative of the Graduate Student Constituency, be granted a leave of absence from July 1 – October 31, 2016 and that Gwynne Ng serve as his Alternate.

CARRIED

S.16-175 **Senate Membership – Undergraduate Students - At Large Constituency**

It was moved by M. Milde, seconded by G. Parraga,

That the seat held by Alexander Pearson, representative of the Undergraduate Students – At Large Constituency, be declared vacant as a result of his resignation and that Arman Bachman be elected to fill this vacancy.

CARRIED

S.16-176 **Nominating Committee – Alternate Member**

M. Jadd was elected to serve as an alternate member on the Senate Nominating Committee to replace H. Orbach-Miller who, as Chair of the Western Student Senators, is an *ex officio* member of the Committee.

S.16-177 **University Convocation Ceremony in Hong Kong**

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

That the University Convocation Ceremony in Hong Kong be suspended.

CARRIED

S.16-178 **2017 Convocation Dates**

Senate received for information the following 2017 convocation dates:

Huron University College Theological Convocation  
- Thursday, May 11

Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry - MD Program  
- Friday, May 12

MBA Spring Convocation  
- Friday, June 9

Spring Convocation (309)  
- Tuesday, June 13 to Friday, June 16 and  
Monday, June 19 to Wednesday, June 21

Autumn Convocation (310)  
- Thursday, October 26 and Friday, October 27

S.16-179 **Order of Ceremony – Spring Convocation 2017**

Senate received for information the order of ceremony for Spring Convocation 2017, detailed in Exhibit I, Appendix 1.

S.16-180 **Officers of Convocation**

The following Officers of Convocation have been appointed/reappointed (term: to June 30, 2018):

Donna Peterson, Director of Convocation  
Dan Shrubsole, Marshal of Convocation  
Angie Mandich, Assistant Director of Convocation  
Shelley Clark, Chief Usher  
Richard Semmens, Chief Public Orator  
Laura Naus, Assistant Chief Usher (to replace Craig Reed)

A member remarked that these individuals, and other volunteers, give countless hours of their time to ensure that convocation is a success every year and that they deserved Senate's and the University's thanks for all that they do. The President agreed with the comment and encouraged members of Senate to volunteer or attend convocation. They would find it highly rewarding.

S.16-181 **Senate Election Schedule 2017**

The Senate Election Schedule for 2017, detailed in Exhibit I, Appendix 2, was received for information.

S.16-182 **Report of the Senate ad hoc Committee on Renewal – Update on Implementation Plan**

M. Milde noted that the Report of the ad hoc Committee on Renewal contains 24 recommendations in all. Some of them are inter-related, some can be dealt with in a relatively short time frame, others require further investigation and input, yet others have resource implications (budgetary or time). Bearing in mind that Senate has not yet considered and approved the various recommendations individually, OAC has begun a preliminary review of the recommendations and will continue to do so at its next meeting. The table contained in Exhibit I, Appendix 3, represents the committee's thinking thus far. It provides an indication of who would have responsibility for formulating a proposal for Senate's consideration or for taking action, and what the next steps would be in the process of bringing forward each recommendation to Senate. He stressed that OAC's work was not dispositive; Senate would be the final decision maker in each case.

Discussion focussed on the following:

- (a) Bringing major issues to Senate early in the decision-making process

Referring to recommendation 5(a) in the ad hoc Committee's report, a member expressed concern that the proposed solution of using the Discussion & Question period at the end of each meeting to surface issues was not satisfactory. Major issues would be visible to senior administrators much sooner than they would to individual members of Senate. Senior administrators identify issues on their horizon for events such as deans' retreats and they could do the same for Senate. The intent of this recommendation is that such issues should come to Senate for discussion earlier rather than later.

Dr. Milde remarked that one of the questions raised at the Operations/Agenda Committee was how "major issues" was to be defined. Some, such as the budget, would be regular and easy to identify, but that would not always be the case. Two members noted recent examples of issues that might have benefited from early discussion at Senate prior to decisions being taken: the research clusters process and the process for distributing earnings from the \$5 million endowment for research in the arts, humanities, and social sciences.

A member suggested that it was unrealistic for Senate to expect that it would be at the front end of key strategic decisions. That did not represent good governance. Detailed discussion of strategic priorities requires the preparation of good materials which takes time. An alternative might be to use the President's Report, which is at the beginning of the meeting, as an opportunity to flag key issues for feedback.

(b) Open committee meetings/posting agendas

In support of open meetings, it was noted that while some issues would need to be dealt with confidentially in committees, whether meetings were open or closed should not be a binary proposition. Open committee meetings would enhance transparency and a sense of participation for all Senators. It was suggested that the Operations/Agenda Committee look to the municipal model where the default is to have open meetings with specified exceptions for moving *in camera*. Also in the municipal system, publicly-posted agendas list confidential items to be discussed in the *in camera* sessions so that the public is aware of all issues under discussion.

Dr. Milde took under advisement a request that the Operations/Agenda Committee open those sections of its meetings where it would be deliberating the recommendations of the ad hoc committee.

(c) Educating and informing the university community about Senate

- (i) It was noted that while encouraging all members of the university to attend Senate meetings was laudable, it was not realistic for many administrative staff who currently would not have the freedom to leave their desks to attend. It was suggested that Human Resources be engaged in discussions about this.
- (ii) It was suggested that Senate meetings might be live-streamed.
- (iii) It was suggested that the President's Report be written rather than just delivered orally. This would allow members more time to reflect on the issues being raised.

In closing, Dr. Milde reiterated that the Operations/Agenda Committee would not be acting as a gatekeeper for any of these issues and would be bringing regular progress reports to Senate meetings. The final decision on each proposal would be Senate's to make. In answer to a question he noted that recommendations would come forward to Senate as they were ready.

**REPORT OF THE SENATE NOMINATING COMMITTEE** [Exhibit II]

S.16-183

**Selection Committee for the Vice-President (Resources and Operations)**

The following individuals were elected to the Selection Committee for the Vice-President (Resources & Operations): Audra Bowlus (SS), Jane Rylett (Schulich), Tony Straatman (Engg), Rebecca Amoah (Student).

S.16-184

**Board of Governors**

Pam Bishop (Educ) was elected by Senate to serve on the Board of Governors to complete the term of Brian Timney who has resigned (term: July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2018).

Concern was expressed that members did not have an earlier opportunity for input on a position as important as the election of a member of the Board of Governors. The Nominating Committee was asked to take steps to make members more aware of vacancies and encourage nominations.

S.16-185 **Operations/Agenda Committee**

The following Senators were elected to serve on the Senate Operations/Agenda Committee: Viktor Staroverov (October 1 – December 31, 2016) and Anita Kothari (HS) (July 1 – December 31, 2016).

S.16-186 **Senate Review Board Academic**

Joel Armstrong was elected to complete the term of Ahmed Abuhussein who is on a leave of absence (term to June 30, 2017).

[Secretary's Note: Subsequent to the meeting, the Operations/Agenda Committee approved Mr. Abuhussein's request for a leave of absence from SRBA. He will return to the seat effective November 1, 2016.]

S.16-187 **Honorary Degrees Committee**

The following individuals were elected to the Honorary Degrees Committee for terms to June 30, 2017: Arman Bachman (Student Senator), Tracy Isaacs (AH).

S.16-188 **University Research Board**

Blake Butler (M&D) was elected as the postdoctoral representative on the University Research Board (term to June 30, 2017).

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

S.16-189 **Faculty of Engineering, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and Richard Ivey School of Business: Introduction of the Combined Programs "Electronic Devices for Ubiquitous Computing and Business Option" and "Software Systems for Ubiquitous Computing and Business Option"**

It was moved by S. Macfie, seconded by B. Kennedy,

That the combined programs "Electronic Devices for Ubiquitous Computing and Business Option" and "Software Systems for Ubiquitous Computing and Business Option," offered by the Faculty of Engineering, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and the Richard Ivey School of Business, be introduced effective September 1, 2016 as shown in Exhibit III, Appendix 1.

CARRIED

S.16-190 **School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies: Dual-Credential Doctoral Degree Agreements**

It was moved by S. Macfie, seconded by W. Siqueira,

That effective September 1, 2016 Senate approve the introduction of Dual-Credential Doctoral Degree Agreements with the following universities:

Tianjin University (TJU), Tianjin, China  
Zhejiang University of Technology (ZJUT), Hangzhou, China  
University of Campinas (UNICAMP), Campinas-SP, Brasil  
Flinders University of South Australia, Adelaide, Australia

CARRIED

Responding to a question about listing the Dual-Credential Doctoral Degree programs, L. Miller, Vice-Provost (Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies) reported that the School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies is working on adding this information to their website.

S.16-191 **Brescia University College: Revision to the Preliminary Year at Brescia University College**

It was moved by S. Macfie, seconded by S. Rodger,

That effective September 1, 2016, the revisions to the Preliminary Year at Brescia University College be approved as shown in Exhibit III, Appendix 3.

CARRIED

S.16-192 **Revisions to the Policies Containing Reference to Ivey Honors Designations**

It was moved by S. Macfie, seconded by R. Kennedy,

That the policies referring to Ivey Honors designations be revised as shown in Exhibit III, Appendix 4, effective September 1, 2016.

CARRIED

Responding to a question regarding student awareness of the Ivey Student Code of Conduct, Dean Kennedy said that each student, upon applying, receives a copy of the Student Code of Conduct, and upon arrival, receives another copy that must be signed. He advised that a link to the Ivey Student Code of Conduct will be included in the university's academic calendar.

S.16-193 **SUPR-U Report: Cyclical Reviews**

Senate was informed that the following cyclical reviews were approved by SCAPA:

Faculty/Affiliates	Program	Date of Review	SUPR-U recommendation
Science	Computer Science	March 29, 2016	Good Quality
King's University College	Bachelor of Social Work	March 24, 2016	Good Quality
King's University College	French	March 16, 2016	Good Quality
Social Science	Political Science	April 25, 2016	Good Quality
Schulich	MD Program	May 16, 2016	Good Quality
Arts and Humanities	Visual Arts	March 23, 2016	Good Quality

The detailed Final Assessment Reports for each of these reviews were attached as Exhibit III, Appendix 5.

S.16-194 **New Scholarships and Awards**

SCAPA approved, on behalf of the Senate, the Terms of Reference for the new scholarships and awards shown in Exhibit III, Appendix 6 for recommendation to the Board of Governors through the Vice-Chancellor.

**REPORT OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON UNIVERSITY PLANNING** [Exhibit IV]

S.16-195 **Revised Report on Promotion and Tenure**

Senate received for information a revised Report on Promotion and Tenure detailed in Exhibit IV, Appendix 1. The original report submitted to Senate in June 2016 had incorrectly listed a Limited Term appointee's promotion in the probationary tenured category.

**REPORT OF THE HONORARY DEGREES COMMITTEE** [Exhibit V]

S.16-196 **2016 Autumn Honorary Degree Recipients**

The Report of the Honorary Degrees Committee, announcing the 2016 Autumn Honorary Degree Recipients, detailed in Exhibit V, was received for information.

S.16-197 **REPORT OF THE ACADEMIC COLLEAGUE** [Exhibit VI]

The report of the Academic Colleague on the meetings held in August, detailed in Exhibit VI, was receive for information.

S.16-198 **REPORT TO SENATE FROM THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS** [Exhibit VII]

The Report to Senate from the Board of Governors, detailed in Exhibit VII, was received for information.

S.16-199 **ANNOUNCEMENTS** [Exhibit VIII]

A list of academic administrative posts detailed in Exhibit VIII, Announcements, was received for information.

**DISCUSSION AND QUESTION PERIOD**

S.16-200 **Clean Air Corridors**

A member asked what steps the administration has taken or will take in the future to ensure that the "Clear Air Corridors" are being respected and whether the administration had any plans to further transition towards a smoke-free campus.

J. O'Brien, Associate Vice-President (Human Resources), said that Human Resources had been responding to complaints received and staff have been patrolling those designated areas to educate individuals still smoking. With regard to a broader ban, plans were underway for consultation with the campus community.

Responding to a member's question about restricting bus idling on campus, Ms. O'Brien agreed to take that concern to the University's Health and Safety Committee for consideration.



**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

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A. Chakma  
Chair

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I. Birrell  
Secretary