

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SENATE

MAY 19, 2017

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

SENATORS: 68

A. Abuhussein	D. Jorgensen	K. Olson
R. Andersen	J. Kim	H. Orbach-Miller
E. Ansari	J. Knowles	G. Parraga
P. Bishop	A. Kothari	I. Paul
A. Bowlus	D. Laird	W. Pearson
J. Capone	S. Macfie	S. Roland
T. Carmichael	E. Macpherson	L. Rosen
A. Chakma	M. McDayter	C. Roulston
E. Chamberlain	D. McDonald	B. Rubin
A. Chant	M. McGlynn	J. Rylett
K. Clark	K. Mequanint	D.R. Sainani
K. Cole	K. Meyers	V. Schwean
R. Collins	J. Michalski	Z. Sinel
M. Crossan	M. Milde	V. Staroverov
C. Davidson	K. Miller	C. Steeves
J. Deakin	L. Miller	D. Sylvester
C. Dean	D. Moser	G. Tigert
G. Dekaban	S. Mumm	J. Toswell
N. Dyer-Witthford	P. Nesbitt-Larking	S. Trosow
J. Garland	V. Nielsen	T. Tucker
J. Hatch	V. Nolte	M. Viczko
E. Hegedues	C. O'Connor	B.A. Younker
C. Jones	C. Olivier	

Observers: E. Avila, A. Di Sebastiano, J. Doerksen, T. Hinan, J. McMullin, S. Pitel, J. Sadler

By Invitation: K. Meadows, M. Rothstein, C. Stinson

S.17-105 **Land Acknowledgement**

G. Parraga read the Land Acknowledgement.

S.17-106 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting of April 21, 2017 were approved as circulated.

S.17-107 **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT** [Exhibit I]

The President's Report, distributed with the agenda, contained information on the following topics:

- Provincial budget
- "We Speak" employee engagement survey results
- Leadership update

He also reported on a recent meeting with the Prime Minister and senior government officials that included discussion about the report of the Advisory Panel on Federal Support for Fundamental Science: *Investing in Canada's Future – Strengthening the Foundations of Canadian Research* (the Naylor Report), noting that it is very important that the research community continues the conversation by engaging with Members of Parliament and with the public because that is where the support is coming from. He said that given this Panel has disbanded, there will be a push for U15 to advocate on behalf of universities.

S.17-108 **UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGENDA** [Exhibit II]

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

That the items listed in Exhibit II, Unanimous Consent Agenda, excluding item 11, Faculty of Social Science, Huron University College, and King's University College: Introduction of a Joint Minor in Public History and item 17, National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) be approved or received for information by Senate by unanimous consent.

CARRIED

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

S.17-109 **Senate Membership – Faculty of Arts and Humanities Constituency**

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

That Carolyn McLeod, representative of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities constituency, be granted a six-month leave of absence (July 1 – December 31, 2017) and that Benjamin Hill be appointed to fill her seat during her leave.

CARRIED (By Unanimous Consent)

S.17-110 **Senate Membership: Vacancies filled by Appointment**

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

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 Arts and Humanities: Alison Conway, Alexander Meyer
- Brescia University College: June Matthews

CARRIED (By Unanimous Consent)

S.17-111 **Senate Membership: Undergraduate Student Constituency**

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

That the following seats be declared vacant effective May 1, 2017 as a result of the students' resignation/leave of absence:

Matthew Jadd (Huron)
Madeline Crystal (Education)
Hirad Zafari (Medicine & Dentistry)
Courtney Hardy (Science)
Mitchell Pratt (Social Science)
Arman Bachman (At-Large)
Rebecca Meharchard (At-Large)

Arjun Singh (At-Large)

and that,

Domonic McDonald (King's)
Kelvin Zhou (Science)
Shaha Yousafzai (Social Science)
Justin Kim (At-Large)

be elected to complete their term until June 30, 2017.

CARRIED (By Unanimous Consent)

S.17-112 **Senate Membership – Administrative Staff Constituency**

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

That effective May 1, 2017 Kim Miller, elected representative of the Administrative Staff, be appointed to replace Lee Ann McKivor, who has resigned.

CARRIED (By Unanimous Consent)

REPORT OF THE SENATE NOMINATING COMMITTEE [Exhibit IV]

S.17-113 **Information Item Reported by the Senate Nominating Committee**

The Report of the Senate Nominating Committee, detailed in Exhibit IV, contained the following item that was received for information by Senate by unanimous consent:

- Results of the Election of Administrative Staff to the Senate Committee on University Planning [C. Alleyne and V. Sarkany were elected to serve on SCUP]

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

S.17-114 **Notices of Motion: Examination Policy and Political Accommodation**

The Chair of SCAPA recalled that H. Orbach-Miller presented the following Notices of Motion on behalf of the student senators at the March Senate meeting:

“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

And

“That Senate amend [POLICY 1.3 - Political Candidacy of Students](#) as shown in Appendix A”.

After careful and lengthy consideration, SCAPA is acting on both motions, but in a manner that differs from the suggestions within the motions.

S.17-114a

Motion 1: Examination Policy

1) SCAPA obtained data from the Registrar’s Office and consulted the Academic Counsellors to answer questions 1, 3 and 5 within the motion.

Q1: How many conflicts are there? Under the current policy, students having 3 indirect exam conflicts in 23 hours (or 4 in 47 hours or 5 in 72 hours) may request accommodation. An indirect conflict means that these exams are scheduled in consecutive exam time slots. It is important to note that some indirect conflicts within the ‘3 in 23’ category may reappear within the other two categories, depending on the timing of the exams. Table 1 summarizes indirect conflicts since 2012-13 under the current policy and proposed changes. Looking at indirect conflicts in the 3 in 23 category (which are presumed to cause more stress for students), over the past four years an average of 60 indirect conflicts (among an average of 96,421 exam sitters) arose during the December examination period and an average of 16 indirect conflicts (among an average of 109,309 exam sitters) arose during the April exam period. These numbers represent the total number of scheduling conflicts; some students with these conflicts may not have requested accommodation. The reduction in indirect conflicts within the 3 exams in 23 hours category has been declining over the past five years due to purposeful efforts by the Registrar’s Office to improve scheduling. Clearly, there is more pressure in the December exam period, which is understandable since it takes place over fewer days.

Q5: How many conflicts would arise under the proposed policy? Also within Table 1 are the numbers of indirect scheduling conflicts that would have arisen if the policy changes to extend the period for accommodation by one exam slot. Looking at the 3 in 23 category, the proposed changes would increase the number of indirect scheduling conflicts by an average of 740% in December and 1090% in April.

Another way to interpret these data is an average of 467 students out of 96,421 exam sitters (0.5% of exam writers) in December have written 3 exams in 4 consecutive time slots, and an average of 186 students out of 96,421 exam sitters (0.2% of exam writers) have done so in April. While the percentages of student in each category are small, this 7- to 10-fold increase in the number of ‘make-up’ exams means that special exams would extend well into January and May.

Q3: What about peer institutions? Based on data collected in 2012-13, when this policy was last examined, as well as conversations with academic counsellors, our peer institutions have similar policies about indirect exam conflicts. Some other institutions use the term ‘3 exams in 24 hours’ in the same way as Western uses ‘3 exams in 23 hours’, specifically, to mean 3 exams in 3 consecutive exam slots.

2) Questions 2, 4 and 6 within the motion relate to stress arising from the policy, whether or not the policy should include mid-terms and whether or not it the policy should be revised, respectively. These issues were carefully considered in 2012-13, the last time this policy was examined. Since that time, a pilot Fall Study Week has been established, which should further reduce stress in the fall term, in which the number of indirect exam conflicts is greater.

SCAPA's Recommended Action: The policy about indirect examination conflicts be re-examined at the same time as the pilot Fall Study Break be evaluated (winter 2019). Data included in that review will include information from the Registrar's Office and the academic counsellors as well as formal surveys done by the Vice-Provost (Academic Programs) office and/or a student group (e.g., USC or student senators).

S.17-114b

Motion 2: Political Accommodation

The motion proposes an addition to MAPP 1.3, which covers accommodations for students running for public office. SCAPA recognized that this is a policy under the Board's purview and recommended that the issue of political accommodation for students be moved into the Senate's policy framework. SCAPA is generally in favour of a policy that would cover accommodating attendance requirements for students who are running for executive positions in student organizations.

SCAPA's Recommended Action: The current motion is specific to the USC. SCAPA has requested that a joint proposed motion from all student organizations (e.g., USC, SOGS, MBA, the affiliates and, perhaps, PSAC) be introduced that clearly identifies which executive positions would be covered by a new Political Accommodation policy.

H. Orbach-Miller agreed to both of SCAPA's recommendations.

S.17-115

Faculty of Arts and Humanities, Department of Visual Arts: Revisions to the Admission Requirements for the Bachelor of Fine Arts, Honors Specialization in Studio Arts

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

That effective September 1, 2017 the admission requirements for the Bachelor of Fine Arts, Honors Specialization in Studio Arts, be revised as shown in Exhibit V, Appendix 1.

CARRIED (By Unanimous Consent)

S.17-116

Richard Ivey School of Business: Revisions to the HBA Program Curriculum

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

That the HBA program curriculum be revised as shown in Exhibit V, Appendix 2 for students entering the program as of September 2017.

CARRIED (By Unanimous Consent)

S.17-117

Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry and Faculty of Science: Introduction of an Honors Specialization in Biochemistry and Cancer Biology

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

That effective September 1, 2017, an Honors Specialization in Biochemistry and Cancer Biology, leading to an Honors Bachelor of Medical Sciences (BMSc) degree, be introduced in the Department of Biochemistry in the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry as shown in Exhibit V, Appendix 3.

CARRIED (By Unanimous Consent)

S.17-118 **Faculty of Science, Department of Computer Science: Introduction of a Minor in Computer Hardware Design**

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

That effective September 1, 2017, a Minor in Computer Hardware Design be introduced in the Department of Computer Science, Faculty of Science as shown in Exhibit V, Appendix 4.

CARRIED (By Unanimous Consent)

S.17-119 **Faculty of Social Science, Department of Management and Organizational Studies: Revisions to the BMOS Internship Program**

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

That effective September 1, 2017, the BMOS Internship program be revised as shown in Exhibit V, Appendix 5.

CARRIED (By Unanimous Consent)

S.17-120 **Faculty of Social Science, Huron University College, and King's University College: Introduction of a Minor in Public History**

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

That effective September 1, 2017, a Minor in Public History be introduced in the Faculty of Social Science, Huron University College, and King's University College as shown in Exhibit V, Appendix 6.

With the concurrence of Senate, the Principal of King's University College and the Acting Dean, Faculty of Arts and Social Science, Huron University College, the following two English courses will be added to this program through the DAP process: English 3580F (formerly 3777F/G) Creativity and the Local and English 2164E Human Rights and Creative Practices.

The question was called and CARRIED.

S.17-121 **Renewal of the Articulation Agreement between Western University, Brescia University College, Huron University College, King's University College, and Fanshawe College regarding Transfer Credit for Students in the Early Childhood Education Program**

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

That Senate approve, and recommend to the Board of Governors, the renewal of the Articulation Agreement between Western University, Brescia University College, Huron University College, King's University College, and Fanshawe College regarding the transfer of credit for students in the Early Childhood Education Program, effective January 1, 2017, as shown in Exhibit V, Appendix 7.

CARRIED (By Unanimous Consent)

S.17-122 **Revisions to the “Registration and Progression in Three-Year, Four-Year and Honors Programs” Policy (Breadth Requirements for First Year and Degree Structure)**

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

That the “Registration and Progression in Three-Year, Four-Year and Honors Programs” Policy be revised effective September 1, 2017, as shown in Exhibit V, Appendix 8.

CARRIED (By Unanimous Consent)

S.17-123 **Revisions to the “Course Numbering Policy, Essay Courses, and Hours of Instruction” Policy**

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

That the “Course Numbering, Essay Courses, and Hours of Instruction” Policy be revised effective September 1, 2017, as shown in Exhibit V, Appendix 9.

CARRIED (By Unanimous Consent)

S.17-124 **Information Item Reported by the Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Awards**

Exhibit V, Report of the Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Awards, contained the following item that was received for information by the Senate by unanimous consent.

- New Scholarships and Awards

REPORT FROM THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON UNIVERSITY PLANNING [Exhibit VI]

S.17-125 **Hicks Morley Professorship in International Labour Law**

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

That the Hicks Morley Professorship in International Labour Law be established and appointed within the Faculty of Law.

CARRIED (By Unanimous Consent)

S.17-126 **Naming of the DAN Department of Management & Organizational Studies**

It was moved by D. Laird, seconded by R. Andersen,

That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors, that the Department of Management and Organizational Studies within the Faculty of Social Science be named the DAN Department of Management & Organizational Studies.

The Chair of SCUP, D. Laird, reported that in January 2006, the Management and Organizational Studies program was officially named the Aubrey Dan Program in Management and Organizational Studies, in recognition of a gift of \$5 million from Aubrey Dan, BACS '85. This gift continues to provide significant support to faculty and students through the establishment of endowments for a professorship, faculty fellowships, a research fund and a large number of student awards. The naming of the DAN Department of Management & Organizational Studies recognizes the significant donor support of Aubrey Dan and clarifies that the program and the department are essentially the same.

Asked about the risk assessment done regarding this naming, K. Cole, Vice-President (External) said a reputational assessment is done for any gift over \$1 million to determine if there are any risks for the university and to assess the financial liability (if any) to the University. Case by case decisions will not be considered as setting precedent for the next occasion. The University has guidelines that are used to evaluate a naming. A question to consider is does the name fit with Western's culture. Ms. Cole said that Aubrey Dan meets the criteria as he is engaged and passionate about the program. There is no concern about interference in the academic activities from Mr. Dan. Ms. Cole noted that Western would not accept any donation without considering whether the donor is a fit.

Asked why the name is spelled in all caps, Ms. Cole said that doing so gives the name more prominence and attention because it is only three letters long. The format of the name is a request from Mr. Dan and was thoroughly debated within the department, faculty, and the Senate Committee on University Planning (SCUP).

The question was called and CARRIED.

S.17-127 **Western Libraries Annual Report 2016**

Senate received for information the Western Libraries Annual Report 2016. C. Steeves, Vice-Provost and Chief Librarian, provided an overview of her report, detailed in Exhibit VI, Appendix 3.

S.17-128 **National Survey of Student Engagement** (NSSE)

Senate received for information the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) detailed in Exhibit VI, Appendix 4. J. Doerksen, Vice-Provost (Academic Programs) provided an overview of the report noting that the survey assesses time and effort students dedicate to educational activities and how an institution deploys resources and organizes learning opportunities to engage students in empirically-supported learning activities. The survey is administered at Western to first and senior year undergraduate students in winter/spring every three years (2014, 2017). Response rate in 2014 was 34 per cent and in 2017 it was approximately 27 per cent. Given that this is an American survey that all Ontario Universities participate in, some Ontario universities have added questions relating directly to Ontario specific context. Ontario students may not interpret questions in the same way that US students do. A criticism of NSSE is that it is hard to move a performance indicator. The Provost noted that NSSE scores will be part of the metrics of SMA submissions.

S.17-129 **REPORT FROM THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS** [Exhibit VII]

The report from the Board of Governors, detailed in Exhibit VII, was received for information by unanimous consent.

S.17-130 **ANNOUNCEMENTS** [Exhibit VIII]

Announcements, detailed in Exhibit VIII, were received for information by unanimous consent.

DISCUSSION AND QUESTION PERIOD

S.17-131 **Implementation of the Recommendations of the Senate ad hoc Committee on Renewal**

A member voiced concern that a year has passed and the recommendations of the Senate *ad hoc* Committee on Renewal have not all been implemented. Senate should receive a detailed progress report. The Chair of the Operations/Agenda Committee, the Committee that was tasked with the implementation of the recommendations, explained that 10 recommendations were received, many of which had sub parts. In all, about 30 recommendations were considered. Many

of the recommendations have been resolved and their disposition is recorded in the Senate minutes. Some recommendations involve financial and personnel resources. Some recommendations can be resolved in the short term while others need more time to develop a resolution. A progress list reflecting the disposition of the recommendations will be developed. He reported that some issues were referred to legal counsel such as investigating the possibility of adding members to Senate which would involve opening the UWO Act.

Responding to comments about adding staff to the Secretariat, J. Deakin said that the office is in the midst of a reorganization in that the legal staff will be shifted from its portfolio. Also, Western is conducting a search to replace the University Secretary who left mid-April to pursue a job in London, England.

In answer to questions regarding revisions to the terms of reference of the University Research Board (URB) , the Acting Secretary said that URB will consider revisions to the terms of reference at its June 1 meeting.

S.17-132

Budget Allocation for Developing an Attendance Management System

Responding to questions asked about the development of an attendance management system, J. O'Brien, Associate Vice-President (Human Resources) said that the request for an attendance management module came from a number of faculties and units. Human Resources will invest in this project, including personnel, consequently funding is required. She added that this system will replace time tracker.

The Provost explained that the development of the attendance management system came into being as a result of the latest budget planning process. Several faculties requested a system be developed, consequently, rather than having many different systems, one system will be provided for tracking absences and vacations and it will be supported by ITS. This attendance management system will be used for keeping track of PMA and UWOSA staff.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

A. Chakma
Chair

E. Hegedues
Acting Secretary