

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SENATE

October 19, 2018

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

SENATORS: 77

R. Andersen	Y. Hassan	I. Paul
S. Barghi	J. Hatch	W. Pearson
S. Basu	A. Hearn	P. Peddle
G. Belfry	A. Hrymak	A. Pero
L. Beres	L. Jiang	M. Perruzza
A. Borchert	P. Jones	V. Radcliffe
A. Bowlus	J. Kim	A. Ray
D. Brou	S. Knabe	G. Read
S. Burke	R. Konrad	G. Rezai-Rashti
J. Capone	K. Kontogiannis	C. Roulston
A. Chakma	G. Kopp	P. Schmidt
E. Chamberlain	K. Kwan	V. Schwean
A. Chant	K. Lawless	K. Shuey
D. Cheng	A. Leguard	N. Shuva
K. Cole	L. Logan	D. Simmonds
R. Collins	D. Macpherson	Z. Sinel
J. Cuciurean	J. Matthews	V. Smye
V. Dalal	M. McDayter	D. Sowinski
S. Datars Bere	A. Meyer	C. Steeves
M. Davison	J. Michalski	P. Thomlinson
C. Dick	M. Milde	G. Tigert
L. Federking	K. Miller	S. Trosow
J. Garland	S. Mumm	J. Wilson
R. Garo	O. Nadler	B.A. Younker
L. Ghattas	M. Novello	P. Yu
A. Grzyb	D. Olteanu	

Observers: D. Belliveau, T. Belton, K. Campbell, J. Doerksen, L. Gribbon, M. Pratt, M.B. Rose

Land Acknowledgement

G. Belfry read the Land Acknowledgement.

S.18-152

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of September 21, 2018 were approved as circulated.

S.18-153 **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT** [Exhibit I]

The report of the President, detailed in Exhibit I, contained information about the following items:

- Ad Hoc Committee on Freedom of Expression update
- Western shines at international Undergraduate Awards hosted by Trinity College Dublin
- Five Western PhD candidates awarded Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarships
- Recipients of the 2018 Western Award of Excellence named
- Western to host global conference for guidance counsellors and admissions professionals
- Town Hall meetings scheduled for 2019-20 budget cycle
- Western leadership update

The President also acknowledged the successful completion of the Be Extraordinary Campaign which raised \$805M. He encouraged Senators to visit the Campaign website to view the impact of the Campaign on various areas of the University.

S.18-154 **UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGENDA** [Exhibit II]

It was moved by M. Milde, seconded by R. Konrad,

That the 12 items listed in the Unanimous Consent Agenda, Exhibit II, be approved or received for information by Senate by unanimous consent.

CARRIED

REPORT OF THE OPERATIONS/AGENDA COMMITTEE [Exhibit III]

S.18-155 **Senate Membership – Undergraduate Student Constituency – Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry**

C. Davies-Chalmers was nominated by the ad hoc Nominating Committee, as per the Senate Election Procedures, to fill a vacancy that was the result of a resignation. M. Milde explained that the Election Procedures, as they stand, allow for additional nominations from the floor, raising the possibility of Senate filling a particular constituency. He informed Senators that the Operations/Agenda Committee will look to revise the Election Procedures to ensure that constituencies are able to determine their own members in case of a resignation/mid-year vacancy.

There were no nominations from the floor.

Senate approved that the seat held by Kelvin Zhou, representative of the Undergraduate Student Constituency – Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, be declared vacant as a result of his resignation and that Cleo Davies-Chalmers be elected to fill this vacancy.

S.18-156 **Revisions to the Terms of Reference of the Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Awards (SCAPA)**

It was moved by M. Milde, seconded by R. Konrad,

That the revisions to SCAPA's terms of reference be approved, as shown in Exhibit III, Appendix 1.

CARRIED (By Unanimous Consent)

S.18-157 **Information Items Reported by the Senate Operations/Agenda Committee**

Exhibit III, Report of the Senate Operations/Agenda Committee, contained the following items that were received for information by unanimous consent:

- Candidates for Degrees and Diplomas – Autumn Convocation 2018
- 2019 Convocation Dates

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

S.18-158 **Faculty of Engineering: Introduction of the Biomedical Engineering Concurrent Degree Programs**

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

That the Biomedical Engineering Concurrent Degree Programs be introduced in the Faculty of Engineering effective September 1, 2018, as shown in Exhibit IV, Appendix 1:
Chemical Engineering and Biomedical Engineering
Electrical Engineering and Biomedical Engineering
Mechanical Engineering and Biomedical Engineering
Mechatronic Systems Engineering and Biomedical Engineering

CARRIED

S.18-159 **Faculty of Engineering: Policy Revision – Registration and Progression in Three-Year, Four-Year and Honors Degrees – Concurrent Degrees**

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

That the revisions to the Concurrent Degrees policy be revised as shown in Exhibit IV, Appendix 2.

CARRIED

S.18-160 **Don Wright Faculty of Music: Discontinuation of the Certificate in Piano Technology**

It was moved by M. Milde, seconded by R. Konrad,

That, effective September 1, 2018, the Certificate in Piano Technology be discontinued in the Don Wright Faculty of Music as shown in Exhibit IV.

CARRIED (By Unanimous Consent)

S.18-161 **Report of Scholastic Offences**

J. Doerksen, Vice-Provost (Academic Programs) spoke to the Report of Scholastic Offences for the period of July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018, acknowledging that the document likely underreports scholastic offences at the University. He explained that instructors often opt to deal with minor violations informally, rather than report them as a scholastic offence.

J. Doerksen and J. Hatch (Chair, SCAPA) indicated that an ad hoc committee of SCAPA would be formed to examine the process of reporting scholastic offences, with the goal of revising policy to allow for instructors to exercise judgement in determining whether a particular incident warrants a formal reporting of a scholastic offence.

S.18-162 **Information Items Reported by the Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Awards**

Exhibit IV, Report of the Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Awards, contained the following items that were received for information by unanimous consent:

- SUPR-G Report: Cyclical Reviews of the Graduate Programs in Pathology; Theory and Criticism
- Faculty of Education, Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) Program: Guaranteed Admission of Graduates from Brescia University College, Honors Specialization, Specialization and Major in French Studies Programs and from King's University College, Catholic Studies for Teachers Program
- Undergraduate Sessional Dates for 2019 and 2020
- New Scholarships and Awards

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS [Exhibit V]

S.18-163 **Information Items Reported in Announcements and Communications**

Announcements and Communications, detailed in Exhibit V, contained the following items that were received for information by unanimous consent:

- Senate Committee on University Planning – Election Results – September 2018
- Academic Administrative Appointments
- Report from the Board of Governors on the September 2018 Meeting
- Update on Freedom of Expression Policy

DISCUSSION AND QUESTION PERIOD

S.18-164 **Discussion on the Freedom of Expression Policy**

M. Milde, Chair of the Provost's ad hoc Committee for Freedom of Expression, provided an overview of the consultation process. He reported that the Committee has reviewed all feedback provided and has established a draft policy for Senate's deliberation and comment.

Discussion included the following points:

- The definition of "members of the University community" includes all individuals associated with the University (e.g., visitors).
- Freedom of Expression policies at other universities, both Canadian and international, were reviewed in the development of the draft policy.
- Ontario universities are taking slightly different approaches in addressing the government's directive to establish Freedom of Expression policy; Western's process has been one of the most consultative.
- A suggestion was made to omit the reference to UWOFA in the last sentence of the policy as there are other organized unions and groups at the University.
- The Freedom of Expression Policy is intended to be a high level statement of principles; other University policies are already in place to address process.
- Clarification that it is not the Freedom of Expression Policy that will determine if the University is required to intervene, or what the course of redress might be. Complaints will be brought through other University policies (e.g., the Collective Agreement, Code of Student Conduct). A statement will be included at the end of the policy directing individuals to the specific processes in place to address violations.
- The policy does not modify the University's commitment to academic freedom.

- An Official Observer expressed concern regarding stipulations within the government mandate regarding student groups and unions, and said that student groups and unions, as autonomous bodies, should not be directly mentioned or impacted by this policy. The President responded that the policy will apply across the University community and include students.
- The Higher Education Quality Council of Ontario (HEQCO) will review the Freedom of Expression Policies from all Ontario universities and provide advice to the provincial government.
- A revised draft of the Freedom of Expression Policy will be brought to the November Senate Meeting.

S.18-165

Broughdale Issue and Homecoming Date

The Western Student Senators asked Senate to begin a discussion regarding the Broughdale issue and Homecoming, noting in particular a concern that the University's decision to move the Homecoming date may provide an opportunity for two large-scale street parties.

The President acknowledged that the University's efforts to reduce the issues and risks associated with the Broughdale party have not been successful, with numbers of attendees steadily increasing. He said that the decision to move Homecoming ensured that Homecoming can continue.

K. Cole, Vice-President (External) addressed a number of queries regarding street parties and Homecoming, including the following areas:

- student parties have been happening for many years on what was at the time, the Homecoming weekend
- what happens on Broughdale is not a Homecoming activity
- several years ago a decision was taken to move Homecoming to later in October to separate the alumni celebration of Homecoming from the unsanctioned street party
- Western has not experienced the two party scenario that was the basis for the concerns expressed by the Student Senators – there has not been a doubling of the street parties since the move of the date for Homecoming
- if the street party issue were resolved and there was little risk of it re-emerging, Western could consider moving the date of Homecoming back to September

L. Logan, Vice-President (Operations & Finance) spoke to the meetings that the University is holding with its Community Partners to consider what strategies and tools can best be used to make an impact on Broughdale.

Discussion included the following points:

- Western is consulting with Queen's and other Universities who have experienced similar issues.
- A Senator requested that the University engage the relevant community associations, noting that they have been excluded from the consultation process to date.
- Senators discussed the issue of penalizing students using the Code of Conduct or academic penalties, and several Senators expressed concern to have this type of disciplining used
- A Senator suggested that the University consider incentivizing faculty and staff to move onto Broughdale.
- An Official Observer stated that the alternative programming offered by USC sold over 11,000 tickets to Western students, and that many of the people attending Broughdale are not Western students. L. Logan noted that the University cannot take a community policing role, and can only intervene with respect to Western students.
- Responding to a question, L. Logan said that she is working with USC to develop a survey of students.

- L. Logan indicated that significant work is underway to develop concrete next steps to address the concerns regarding this street party
- Western tries to engage students with official Homecoming programming (e.g., free tickets to the football game).
- A Senator made a suggestion that Faculties consider how to engage students in their Homecoming events (e.g., giving tours of buildings).

S.18-166

Notice of Motion – Senate Approval of the UWO Freedom of Expression Policy

Senator A. Grzyb presented the following Notice of Motion:

Whereas in response to a mandate from the Province, The University of Western Ontario, through a special task force appointed by the President and Provost, is currently drafting a Freedom of Expression policy, a draft copy of which has been forwarded to the University Senate; and

Whereas Section 29 of the *University of Western Ontario Act* (the “Act”) provides “The Senate is responsible for the academic policy of the University” and

Whereas Section 30(e) of the Act provides that the Senate may “inquire into and publish reports upon any matter that affects the academic reputation or effectiveness of the University;” and

Whereas Section 30(f) of the Act provides that the Senate may “pass resolutions and make recommendations to the Board with respect to any matter connected with the administration of the University and the promotion of its affairs”; and

Whereas the Freedom of Expression policy pertains to the academic policies of the University, it affects the academic reputation or effectiveness of the University, and it is a matter connected with the administration of the University and the promotion of its affairs.

Therefore be it resolved that it is the sense of the University Senate that the matter of the approval of the Freedom of Expression policy is within the jurisdiction of the Senate within the meaning of Sections 29, 30(e) and 30(f) of the Act.

Be it further resolved that The University Senate will deliberate on the policy at its November meeting and convey the results to the Board of Governors.

Be it further resolved as this matter falls within the concurrent jurisdiction of both the University Senate and the Board of Governors, in the event that the Board and Senate adopt different policies it is the sense of the Senate that a joint committee should be established which will seek to reconcile the positions for adoption of a unified policy

The Secretary advised that the motion would be referred to the Operations/Agenda Committee for their consideration.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

A. Chakma
Chair

K. Kwan
Secretary