MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SENATE

October 18, 2019

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

SENATORS: 65

R. Andersen	L. Ghattas	A. Matchen
M. Baker	M. Goodman	C. McLeod
S. Basu	M. Grenier	M. Milde
A. Baxter	L. Melnyk Gribble	S. Mumm
G. Belfry	C. Harasym	A. Nelson
L. Beres	M. Heath	J. Nord
A. Borchert	L. Henderson	N. Nuimat
L. Bot	K. Hibbert	K. Olson
H. Boyi	H. Hill	I. Paul
L. Briens	V. Hocke	P. Peddle
D. Brou	S. Hodgson	V. Radcliffe
C. Burghardt-Jesson	A. Holm	G. Rezai-Rashti
S. Burke	A. Hrymak	S. Roland
A. Chant	D. Jeffrey	A. Rozovsky
M. Cleveland	L. Jiang	A. Shepard
K. Coley	V.Joe	S. Taylor
J. Cuciurean	R. Kennedy	J. Toswell
S. Datars Bere	K. Kirkwood	S. Trosow
M. Davison	G. Koehn	G. West
L. Frederking	R. Konrad	K. Yeung
M. Garabedian	K. Kwan	R. Zitikis
J. Garland	L. Logan	

Observers: R. Bgeginski, K. Campbell, R. Chelladurai, J. Doerksen, L. Gribbon, B. Jalayer

Land Acknowledgement

S. Roland read a Land Acknowledgement.

S.19-162 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting of September 20, 2019 were approved as circulated.

S.19-163 **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT** [Exhibit I]

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

- Purple Fest and the Broughdale Street Party
- Nature Index, Times Higher Education, and Maclean's rankings released
- Personal accolades
- Kathy Hibbert appointed Acting Dean, Faculty of Education, effective October 1, 2019
- Update on leadership review and selection committees

Additional items reported by the President included:

- Invitation to all Senate members to the Dual Installation Ceremony (October 22, 2019)
- Institute for Earth and Space Exploration (Western Space) opening

A Senator noted concern that the alternative programming offered at Purple Fest carried misogynistic themes. B. Jalayer, USC President recognized the Senator's concern. He said that in an attempt to create alternative programming the USC may have inadvertently contributed to the problem by providing entertainment that perpetuated sexist and misogynistic themes. He advised Senators that the USC will work with University moving forward to better position Purple Fest.

A Senator requested clarification on whether there would be any consequences for students for these actions under the Code of Student Conduct. The President advised Senate that the provisions within the Code of Student Conduct would be used only for serious violations (e.g., sexual assault) and that sanctions with respect to the signs would not be considered at this time.

S.19-164 **UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGENDA** [Exhibit II]

It was moved by P. Peddle, seconded by V. Joe,

That the 13 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.19-165 **Nominating Committee – Alternate Member**

A. Rozovsky (Student) was acclaimed to the Nominating Committee as an alternate member for a term to June 30, 2020.

S.19-166 **Information Items Reported by the Operations/Agenda Committee**

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

- Senate Membership – Undergraduate Students
- Senate Membership – Graduate Students
- Senate Membership – Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry (Dentistry)
- Senate Membership – Huron University College
- Senate Membership – Vacancies Filled by Appointment

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE [Exhibit IV]

S.19-167 **Selection/Review Committee for the Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President (International)**

M. Garabedian (Student Senator) was acclaimed to the Selection/Review Committee for the Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President (International), to replace Y. Hassan (Student Senator) who resigned.

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

S.19-168 **Faculty of Education: Revisions to the Progression Requirements for the Bachelor of Education Program to include a Pass/Fail Grading Basis**

It was moved by A. Chant, seconded by L. Beres,

> That effective September 1, 2020, the "Education – Progression Requirements" Policy be revised as shown in Exhibit V, Appendix 1.
>
> CARRIED

In response to a question, K. Hibbert (Acting Dean, Faculty of Education) clarified that the Master Teacher Mentors, hired to support the development of a Professional Practice Record, would not take the place of potential staff or faculty hires.

S.19-169 **School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies: Introduction of the new Collaborative Graduate Specialization in Hazards, Risk and Resilience**

It was moved by A. Chant, seconded by M. Davison,

> That the new Collaborative Graduate Specialization in Hazards, Risks and Resilience be introduced effective September 1, 2020 as outlined in Exhibit V, Appendix 3.
>
> CARRIED

S.19-170 **School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies: Revisions to the Master of Arts in Media Studies**

It was moved by P. Peddle, seconded by V. Joe,

> That the Master of Arts in Media Studies be revised effective September 1, 2020 as shown in Exhibit V, Appendix 5.
>
> CARRIED (Unanimous Consent)

S.19-171 **School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies: Revisions to the PhD in Biology**

It was moved by P. Peddle, seconded by V. Joe,

> That the PhD in Biology be revised effective September 1, 2019 as shown in Exhibit V.
>
> CARRIED (Unanimous Consent)

S.19-172 **King's University College: Introduction of a New Subject Area, Major, and Minor in Human Rights Studies**

S.19-172a Introduction of a New Subject Area in Human Rights Studies

It was moved by A. Chant, seconded by S. Burke,

> That effective September 1, 2019, "Human Rights Studies be introduced as a new subject area at King's University College, Department of History, and included in Category A for Breadth Requirements for Graduation as shown in Exhibit V, Appendix 6.
>
> CARRIED

S.19-172b Introduction of a Major in Human Rights Studies

It was moved by A. Chant, seconded by S. Burke,

That a Major in Human Rights Studies at King's University College be introduced effective September 1, 2019, as shown in Exhibit V, Appendix 7, pending Quality Council approval.

CARRIED

S.19-172c Introduction of a Minor in Human Rights Studies

It was moved by A. Chant, seconded by S. Burke,

That a Minor in Human Rights Studies at King's University College be introduced effective September 1, 2019, as shown in Exhibit V, Appendix 8.

CARRIED

S.19-173 **Renewal of the Articulation Agreement Between Western University, King's University College, Huron University College, and Fanshawe College Regarding the Transfer of Credit for Students in the Business-Accounting Diploma Program**

It was moved by P. Peddle, seconded by V. Joe,

That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the renewal of the Articulation Agreement between Western University, King's University College, Huron University College and Fanshawe College regarding the transfer of credits for students in the Business-Accounting Diploma Program effective September 1, 2019, as shown in Exhibit V, Appendix 10.

CARRIED (Unanimous Consent)

S.19-174 **Revisions to the "Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences – Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs"**

It was moved by A. Chant, seconded by L. Henderson,

That effective September 1, 2019, the "Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences – Undergraduate Students in first Entry Programs" be revised as shown in Exhibit V, Appendix 11.

CARRIED

S.19-175 **Information Items 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 items that were received for information by unanimous consent:

- Report of the Subcommittee on Program Review – Undergraduate (SUPR-U): Cyclical Review of Political Science – King's University College
- Report of the Subcommittee on Program Review – Graduate (SUPR-G): Cyclical Reviews of Graduate Programs in Health Information Science and Biomedical Engineering
- Report on Scholastic Offences
- New Scholarships and Awards

S.19-176 **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS** [Exhibit VI]

Exhibit VI, Announcements and Communications was received for information. The following items were included in the report:

- Election Results – Selection/Review Committee for Dean of the Faculty of Education
- Report from the Board of Governors (September 24, 2019)

S.19-177 **DISCUSSIONS AND QUESTION PERIOD**

Senator J. Toswell, raised an issue as follows:

> The module system for undergraduate studies at Western came into use in 2004, after an extensive discussion in Senate, in SCAPA, in several SCAPA subcommittees, and on the campus at large. It was intended to give students much greater freedom to take programs that were in two different faculties, freely and without difficulty.
>
> Initially the minor was to include 3-5 courses, the major 5-7, and the honours specialization 8-10. (Students could graduate with two minors, a major and a minor, an honours specialization and a minor, and so on.) Over the years the number of courses in each module has shifted upwards, such that now we have honours specializations that are habitually 11 or more courses, and even 13.5.
>
> The result is that now we have uncertainty about the border between minors and diplomas or certificates, and also a real sense that precisely the constraint that the module system was brought in to end--the freedom to take courses and even a program in another faculty--is unavailable to our students because to complete the requirements of their degrees they have to take every course in the home department or program.
>
> Given that the system has been in place without review since 2004 (and was already being put in place in 2001 and 2002), is it time to review the module system and ancillary matters?

J. Doerksen, Vice-Provost (Academic Programs) acknowledged that the number of courses in some modules have shifted upwards, but said that overall the size of most modules is consistent with what the University intended. He noted that Western will undergo a Quality Assurance Audit in 2020 or 2021 and suggested that any review of the modular system be conducted after this time.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:14.

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A. Shepard, Chair

K. Kwan, Secretary