



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SENATE

January 15, 2021

The meeting was held at 1:30 p.m. via Zoom.

SENATORS:

Z. Al-Asamil	K. Gibbons	S. Morrison
L. Archibald	T. Granadillo	A. Nelson
P. Barmby	R. Gros	C. Nolan
A. Baxter	C. Harasym	J. Nord
J. Baxter	L. Henderson	P. Peddle
G. Belfry	R. Heydon	S. Pitel
A. Borchert	V. Hocke	S. Powell
L. Briens	S. Hodgson	S. Prichard
D. Brou	D. Jeffrey	V. Radcliffe
C. Burghardt- Jesson	T. Jenkyn	G. Read
S. Burke	G. Kelly	L. Ricker
C. Burucua	R. Kennedy	L. Rigg
E. Chamberlain	J. Kitz	S. Roland
L. Cipriano	D. Kotsopoulos	A. Rozovsky
K. Coley	J. Langille	G. Santos
J. Compton	K. Lawless	E. Sapuridis
J. Corrigan	W. Lehmann	I. Savani
B. Craig	J. Li	A. Shepard
J. Cuciurean	L. Logan	V. Smye
S. Datars Bere	D. Malloy	C. Steeves
M. Davison	C. McLeod	P. Tarc
R. Dekoter	M. McMurrin	G. Tigert
J. Finegan	L. Melnyk Gribble	J. Toswell
R. Flemming	K. Mequanint	Z. Train
L. Frederking	A. Meyer	T. Walters
M. Garabedian	M. Milde	S. Whitehead
J. Garland	L. Miller	K. Yeung
L. Ghattas	K. Miller	B.A. Younker
	J. Minac	

Observers: B. Baron, R. Bgeginski, C. Brunette-Debassige, R. Chelladurai, J. Doerksen, J. Massey, M. McGlynn, N. Narin, M. Reesor, k. seanor

Land Acknowledgement

P. Tarc offered a Land Acknowledgement.

S.21-01 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting of December 4, 2020 were approved as circulated.

S.21-02 **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

Update on enrollment deferred to February.

A. Shepard provided a brief update on Western's enrollment, noting Western has continued to attract strong students in record numbers for this academic year. He thanked all the teams for their efforts, as a strong enrollment contributes to the vitality of the institution.

S.21-03 **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

The President's Report, distributed with the agenda, contained information on the following topics: COVID-19 updates, accolades, and leadership updates.

The President additionally commented on the following items:

- Thanked members of the Western community for their continued efforts while working remotely or on campus during this extraordinary time.
- The Ontario Government has declared a second State of Emergency. Western is currently operating under all of the requirements of the declaration, as there were no changes to Post-Secondary education.
- The President applauded the Western community, noting that there have been no cases of COVID-19 transmission related to academic activities or research settings in the Fall semester.
- Western has delayed the return of in person instruction until February 21. Decisions about the summer and fall terms are being discussed, and an update will be provided at the next Senate.
- The President advised that the searches for VP Advancement and University Secretary are underway. The searches for the Provost and AVP for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion will be underway shortly. The Dean of Faculty of Music and Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs searches are continuing.

The President concluded his report by acknowledging that Western University has moved up in the QS World University ranking to 203.

The President cautioned against the increase in phishing attempts, and advised to use extra caution in opening or responding to e-mails.

Lastly, the President provided an update on the Strategic Planning process. A website will be launched, which will highlight updates on the consultations that have taken place and future steps.

A senator asked the President to announce his appointee for the Provost selection committee. He advised that Lynn Logan has been appointed.

S.21-04 **UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGENDA**

It was moved by J. Garland, seconded by P. Tarc,

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

CARRIED

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

REPORT FROM THE OPERATIONS/AGENDA COMMITTEE

S.21-05 **Information Items Reported by the Operations/Agenda Committee on Unanimous Consent**

The following item reported by the Operations/Agenda Committee was received for information by unanimous consent:

- ITEM 5.1(a) – Review of Senate Committee Terms of Reference

REPORT FROM THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC POLICY AND AWARDS

S.21-06 **ITEM 5.2(a) – Faculty of Arts and Humanities, Department of English and Writing Studies: Renaming of and Revisions to the Certificate in Theatre Arts**

It was moved by J. Garland, seconded by P. Tarc,

That effective September 1, 2021, the “Certificate in Theatre Arts” be renamed as the “Certificate in Theatre Studies” and that the requirements for the Certificate be revised as shown in ITEM 5.2(a).

CARRIED

S.21-07 **ITEM 5.2(b) – Ivey Business School: Revisions to the HBA Admission Requirements and the HBA Admission Requirements through the Advanced Entry Opportunity (AEO) Program**

It was moved by J. Garland, seconded by P. Tarc,

That the HBA admission requirements and the HBA admission requirements through the Advanced Entry Opportunity (AEO) program be revised as shown, effective January 1, 2021.

CARRIED

S.21-08 **ITEM 5.2(c)(i) – Brescia University College: Revisions to the Admission and Program Requirements of the Major and Minor in Political Science**

It was moved by J. Garland, seconded by P. Tarc,

That the admission and program requirements of the Major and Minor in Political Science at Brescia University College be revised as shown, effective September 1, 2021.

CARRIED

S.21-09 **ITEM 5.2(c)(ii) – Brescia University College: Revisions to the Admission and Program Requirements of the Major in Power in History and Politics**

It was moved by J. Garland, seconded by P. Tarc,

That the admission and program requirements of the Major in Power in History and Politics at Brescia University College be revised as shown, effective September 1, 2021.

CARRIED

S.21-10 **ITEM 5.2(c)(iii) – Brescia University College: Withdrawal of the Minor in Public Administration**

It was moved by J. Garland, seconded by P. Tarc,

That the Minor in Public Administration at Brescia University College be withdrawn, effective September 1, 2021.

CARRIED

S.21-11 **ITEM 5.2(c)(iv) – Brescia University College: Withdrawal of the Minor in Community Development**

It was moved by J. Garland, seconded by P. Tarc,

That the Minor in Community Development at Brescia University College be withdrawn, effective September 1, 2021.

CARRIED

S.21-12 **ITEM 5.2(d) – King’s University College: Revisions to the Admission and Program Requirements of the Certificate in Critical Security Studies and Introduction of Sociology 2108F/G (Decolonizing Social Science)**

It was moved by J. Garland, seconded by P. Tarc,

That effective September 1, 2021, the admission and program requirements of the Certificate in Critical Security Studies at King’s University College be revised as shown, and

That effective September 1, 2021, Sociology 2108F/G: Decolonizing Social Science be introduced

at King's University College.

CARRIED

S.21-13 Information Items Reported by the Senate Committee on University Planning on Unanimous Consent

The following items reported by the Senate Committee on University Planning were received for information by unanimous consent:

- ITEM 5.3(a) – Western Office of the Ombudsperson Annual Report 2019/20
- ITEM 5.3(b) – Designated Chairs, Professorships and Faculty Fellowships approved on behalf of the Senate in 2020 by the Senate Committee on University Planning

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

S.21-14 Information Items reported through Announcements and Communications on Unanimous Consent

The following items reported through Announcements and Communications were received for information by unanimous consent:

- ITEM 5.4(a) – Election Results – Selection Committee for the Provost & Vice-President (Academic)
- ITEM 5.4(b) – Academic Administrative Appointments

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

No items were removed from the consent agenda.

S.21-15 REPORT FROM THE OPERATIONS/AGENDA COMMITTEE

E. Chamberlain (OAC) provided an oral update on the work of the Operations/Agenda Committee.

REPORT FROM THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC POLICY AND AWARDS

S.21-16 ITEM 8.1 – Faculty of Engineering: Revisions to the Progression Requirements (Weighted Mark)

It was moved by J. Garland, seconded by P. Tarc,

That the progression requirements for the Faculty of Engineering be revised as shown, effective September 1, 2020.

CARRIED

S.21-17 **ITEM 8.2 – School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies: Introduction of a Graduate Diploma (GDip) in Engineering Leadership and Innovation**

It was moved by J. Garland, seconded by P. Tarc,

That a Graduate Diploma (GDip) in Engineering Leadership and Innovation be introduced, effective January 1, 2021.

CARRIED

S.21-18 **ITEM 8.3 – Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry: Revisions to the Admission Requirements of the DDS Program (Kuwait Pathway)**

It was moved by J. Garland, seconded by P. Tarc,

That the admission requirements of the Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS) program be revised as shown, effective December 1, 2020 for the 2020-21 application cycle.

CARRIED

S.21-19 **ITEM 8.4 – Revisions to the “Academic Records and Student Transcripts” Policy**

It was moved by J. Garland, seconded by P. Tarc,

That effective January 1, 2021, the “Academic Records and Student Transcripts” policy be revised as shown in ITEM 8.4.

CARRIED

REPORT OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON UNIVERSITY PLANNING

S.21-20 **ITEM 9.1 – Closure of the Department of Applied Mathematics in the Faculty of Science**

It was moved by J. Garland, seconded by P. Tarc,

That Senate approve that the Department of Applied Mathematics (AM) be dissolved and its members welcomed into the departments of Mathematics and Physics & Astronomy (P&A) effective July 1, 2021,

And,

That following Senate and Board approval, the Faculty of Science Constitution be amended to remove the Department of Applied Mathematics.

CARRIED

A senator raised a question about the Weighted Teaching Units (WTUs) of Applied Mathematics and Physics and Astronomy. She questioned if this process would raise the Physics and Astronomy WTUs

on its own, without the support of moving Applied Mathematics faculty.

M. Davison (Dean, Faculty of Science) responded that Physicists and Astronomers in the Physics and Astronomy Department equally share the ability to teach mathematics, since many of the members of the current Applied Math Department have Physics PhDs.

S.21-21 **ITEM 9.1(a) – Dissolution of the Department of Applied Mathematics Brief**

Information regarding the Proposal to Close the Department of Applied Mathematics was provided to Senators in ITEM 9.1(a).

S.21-22 **Strategic Plan Update**

M. Davison, Chair of SCUP, provided an oral update on the Strategic plan.

A senator requested more elaboration on the process that SCUP had engaged in with regards to the Strategic Plan.

A. Shepard advised that through some of the earlier meetings of the Steering Committee, a number of important items have been identified as common and valuable to many. They have been organized into seven themes that are important to the University community's future. The 36 members of the Steering Committee have been allocated to working groups that have been assigned to look into each one of these themes in more detail. They will consult with relevant stakeholders for their input.

S.21-23 **REPORT OF THE UNIVERSITY RESEARCH BOARD**

L. Rigg, Vice-President (Research) provided an oral update on the Associate Vice-President (Research) search committee.

S.21-24 **ITEM 11.0 – Report of the Academic Colleague**

Senate received the Academic Colleague Report on the December 2020 meeting for information.

S.21-25 **DISCUSSION AND QUESTION PERIOD**

A Senator submitted the following questions in advance:

Navitas

A year ago at this time Senate for the first time learned that a private for-profit firm was in consideration to recruit international students and deliver the university's first-year programs to those students in an on-campus facility and in some level of collaboration with the university's faculties. The students, if successful in their first-year studies, would receive automatic entrance into second-year programs at Western. The firm in question, Navitas, would be recruiting students from a broader range of countries than current recruitment of international students was reaching, and would bring students into a broader range of on-campus programs than was currently the case (international students were concentrated in two or three programs, notably BMOS, Engineering, and Science). The initial discussion at Senate was not positive, and the issue remained in contention through the first eight months of 2020, eventually resulting in votes against Navitas in the following faculties. Here, for reference, is the motion as it was put at the Faculty of Arts & Humanities Faculty Council, and the results from all the other Faculty Councils:

The Faculty of Arts and Humanities Council does not support the outsourcing of the crucial work of teaching first-year international undergraduates at Western to a private, for profit international 'pathway' college such as Navitas.

Music: 52 for, 1 against, 5 abstain
Science: 99 for, 14 against, 9 abstain
Social Science: 155 for, 6 against, 11 abstain
Arts and Humanities: 88 for, 6 against, 8 abstain
FIMS: all for - none against, none abstain
Education: approx 40 for, 1 against, a few abstain

When this question was raised at Senate in the fall, the then-provost said that progress on the initiative now involved determining which faculties would accept engagement with Navitas. Given that a majority of Western's Faculty Councils, which are decision-making bodies whose constitutions are approved by Senate and whose decisions are binding, have now rejected any connection with Navitas, can we please confirm that the university's negotiations with this firm and others with its method of approach are at an end?

A. Shepard responded that no agreement had been previously signed with Navitas, therefore, there is no agreement to cancel. The President acknowledged that increasing the number of International students at Western is a top priority and will be pursued further in the upcoming years.

Affiliated University Colleges

The relationship between Western (Main Campus) and its three affiliated colleges (Brescia, Huron, King's) is governed by the Affiliation Agreement, which was most recently approved in 2019. The previous iteration was dated 10 June 2013. These agreements are approved by Senate and recommended to the Board of Governors of Western; the signatories to the 2019 document, on 28 November 2019, were Dr. Andrew Hrymak, Provost and Vice-President (Academic) on behalf of the University of Western Ontario, Dr. Susan Mumm (Principal, Brescia University College), Dr. Barry Craig (Principal, Huron University College), and Dr David Malloy (Principal, King's University College). As many Senators will recall, it covers many issues, including academic quality and excellence since the undergraduate degrees granted to students of the Affiliated University Colleges are University of Western Ontario degrees. The affiliation agreement provides for which programs are offered only on Main Campus and which at individual affiliates, parity in quality of teaching and learning, use of facilities including various services for students, the library, technological services, and more. It enjoins the affiliates from concluding academic partnerships, or articulation agreements without permission and a signature from the University. Appendices cover entrance averages and the need to reduce the gap between entrance averages at the affiliates and Main campus over the next several years, summer course offerings, and the fee agreement, which requires an Affiliation Fee paid to Western "at a rate of 12% of the individual Affiliate's undergraduate and graduate enrolment-related grants and tuition revenues." For purposes of the Strategic Mandate Agreements with the provincial government, the affiliates are part of Western, and their enrolments are Western enrolments.

Both Brescia and King's have bylaws governing their internal functions, and they have their own boards and structures; in both cases they are also responsive to the *Ex Corde Ecclesiae*, the ordinances issued by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops. Brescia was founded in 1919 as a women's college, and King's in 1954 as a men's college, both affiliated to Western from the beginning. Huron has a distinct

history, having been founded by the Anglican bishop of the Diocese of Huron as a divinity school in 1863, with its first class taught by the newly-hired Isaac Hellmuth. Hellmuth later became Bishop of Huron and asked the province for a charter to found a university in London, succeeding in 1878. Huron's degree-granting powers were placed in abeyance, except for divinity degrees (also granted by St Peter's Seminary through King's), and it also became an affiliate of Western.

The issue I would like to discuss at Senate is this: about ten months ago, the *London Free Press* carried an advertisement about a name change for Huron, and in fall 2020 the Legislative Assembly of Ontario approved Bill Pr28, "An Act respecting Huron University College." The act received royal assent on December 9, 2020. It establishes an Academic Council and Board at Huron not unlike those at Brescia and King's, although the Board proposes to have at least ten and perhaps as many as twenty-five external members along with the Bishop of Huron, one student president, four university leaders, and two faculty members (one each from Arts & Social Sciences, and from Theology). The membership on the Huron Board is not our business at Senate but two issues interest me. First, towards the end of the act occurs the following clause: "Financial Report (2) The Board shall submit an annual financial report to the Minister of Colleges and Universities in the form and containing the information that may be required by the Minister." I did not find similar clauses in the documents available on the Brescia and King's websites. Does this mean that Huron will report independently to the province, and will not be subject to the SMA? If so, does this affect Huron's involvement in the 2019 affiliation agreement. Second, the Huron website heavily advertises its links to Ivey and the business acumen of its graduates. Last week I noticed at the front of the website that a link to Harvard Business School was particularly notable. Tonight that material seems to have disappeared, but the recruitment video I watched explicitly described the "academic partnership" Huron has with the Harvard Business School (with pictures provided in the video). Was this partnership completed with the approval of the University?

To conclude, I notice that the Principal of Huron who signed the affiliation agreement in 2019 is, according to the new Act, formally a "President." In the last year or two the academic leader of Brescia was also a President for a while, but now seems to be a Principal again (though a different person). For clarity, are the leaders of the affiliates principals or presidents, or both, depending on which affiliate we are considering? The affiliated colleges acquired six members on Senate as a result of a review committee of both Senate and Board in fall 1996, so it seems appropriate twenty-five years later to ask a few questions about the relationship between Western and the affiliated university colleges.

B. Craig (President, Huron University College) responded that the changes in the new Act do not change or affect the affiliation or academic relationship with Western or the other affiliates. The title change to "President" was a marketing strategy, to avoid confusion on Huron's education level.

The academic partnership with Harvard University has been approved previously, and it was brought forward to the appropriate channel, according to the affiliation agreement.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:29 p.m.

A. Shepard
Chair

A. Bryson
Acting University Secretary

