



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SENATE

December 3, 2021

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

SENATORS:

K. Arora	V. Jaremek	P. Peddle
P. Barmby	T. Jenkyn	S. Powell
A. Baxter	E. Kalaydjian	S. Prichard
J. Baxter	S. Karky	D. Purcell
I. Berry	G. Kelly	A. Pyati
E. Boussoulas	R. Kennedy	L. Rigg
D. Brou	M. Kim	A. Robin
S. Burke	D. Kotsopoulos	S. Roland
C. Burucua	J. Lacefield	G. Santos
E. Chamberlain	D. Laird	E. Sapuridis
J. Chazi	J. Langille	J. Schermer
M. Cleveland	M. Lebo	A. Schuurman
K. Coley	D. Lee	A. Shami
S. Constat	J. Li	A. Shepard
J. Cuciurean	L. Logan	Z. Sinel
M. Davison	M. Longtin	V. Smye
G. De Viveiros	D. Malloy	B. Sriharan
R. Dekoter	M. Milde	C. Steeves
L. Frederking	L. Miller	L. Stephenson
R. Forrester-Jones	J. Minac	L. Stoyles
C. Gallant	K. Mooney	G. Tigert
J. Garland	S. Morrison	J. Watson
K. Gibbons	I. Namukasa	K. Whitehead
R. Gros	J. Nord	K. Yeung
A. Haque	J. O'Hagan	J. Yoo
N. Harney	A. Pahargarh	S. Zivkovic
L. Henderson	M. Patel	
R. Heydon	T. Peace	
S. Hodgson		

Observers: V. Bhat, C. Bressette, J. Doerksen, Z. Fakirani, R. Isard,
M. McGlynn, N. Narin, R. Pilling, k. seanor

Land Acknowledgement

G. Kelly offered a Land Acknowledgement.

S.21-238 **Minutes of Prior Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting of November 12, 2021 were approved as circulated.

S.21-239 **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

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

The President additionally commented on the following items:

- COVID-19 outbreak declared at Saugeen-Maitland Hall residence
- Ongoing discussions with epidemiologists and the government concerning new COVID-19 variant
- Western Athletics update: Vanier Cup game, coaching awards and championships
- Called for proposals from the academic and local communities for propositions on newly acquired building at 450 Talbot Street
- An individual has been selected to independently review the events at Medway-Sydenham Hall in early September
- The federal government has issued simultaneous calls for large scale research proposals
- Thames Hall renovations to be completed in January
- Early admissions data indicate high admission projections for the upcoming year

REPORT FROM THE OPERATIONS/AGENDA COMMITTEE

S.21-240 **ITEM 5.1 – Revisions to the Rules of Order (Provision for Senate E-Votes)**

It was moved by R. Gros, seconded by G. Kelly,

That the Rules of Order be revised as shown, effective December 3, 2021.

CARRIED

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

S.21-241 **ITEM 6.1 – Senate Committee on University Planning (SCUP)**

An additional nomination was received for the administrative staff vacancy on SCUP.

An election was held following the Senate meeting and Lisa Latif was elected for a term to June 30, 2023.

REPORT FROM THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC POLICY AND AWARDS

S.21-242 **ITEM 7.1 – Notice of Motion Referred from Senate: Revision to the Policy on the Structure of the Academic Year**

J. Cuciurean advised that a Senator presented a Notice of Motion at the November 12, 2021 Senate meeting, proposing a temporary amendment to the Structure of the Academic Year policy, effective January 1, 2022 to August 31, 2022. The temporary amendment would delay the start of classes until January 10, 2022. The Chair of Senate received the Notice of Motion and referred it to SCAPA for consideration. At its meeting held November 24, 2021, SCAPA considered the motion and after a discussion considering many factors, committee members did not support the motion. J. Cuciurean noted that SCAPA is committed to reviewing the Structure of the Academic Year policy to provide discretion for the scheduling of sessional dates when a similar situation arises.

S. Prichard, Acting Provost and Vice-President (Academic), noted that SCAPA acknowledged students' concerns about stress and mental health, and advised that discussions have started as part of a commitment to ensure students are provided with the support needed.

S.21-243 **ITEM 7.2 – School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies: Introduction of a “Doctoral Flex Time Registration” Policy**

It was moved by R. Gros, seconded by G. Kelly,

That effective January 1, 2022, a “Doctoral Flex Time Registration” policy be introduced as shown in Item 7.2.

CARRIED

REPORT OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON UNIVERSITY PLANNING

S.21-244 **ITEM 8.1 – Update on Budget Planning Process and Guidelines**

S. Prichard provided an update on the budget planning process and associated guidelines, as outlined in Item 8.1. She advised that approvals for new faculty appointments will be accelerated prior to budget approval in April, to allow for earlier recruitment and to adjust the recruitment timeline to be simultaneous with the academic year. S. Prichard noted that even though it is a one-year budget, it is anticipated to run a four-year cycle as units have been requested to provide an additional three-year academic plan proposal to include visions around enrollment, growth in faculty and staff positions, alongside ambitions and goals aligned to the strategic plan.

S.21-245 **ITEM 8.2 – Annual Report of the University Librarian**

C. Steeves, University Librarian, presented the Annual Report of the University Librarian, as outlined in Item 8.2.

REPORT FROM THE UNIVERSITY RESEARCH BOARD

S.21-246 **ITEM 9.1 – Western Research Strategic Plan 2022-27**

It was moved by R. Gros, seconded by G. Kelly,

That the Senate approve, and recommend to the Board of Governors, the Western Research Strategic Plan 2022-27 as provided.

CARRIED

S.21-247 **UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGENDA**

It was moved by R. Gros, seconded by G. Kelly,

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

CARRIED

S.21-248 **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

REPORT FROM THE OPERATIONS/AGENDA COMMITTEE

S.21-249 **Information Items Reported by the Operations/Agenda Committee on Unanimous Consent**

- ITEM 11.1(a) – Senate Membership – Vacancies Filled by Appointment
- ITEM 11.1(b) – Convocation Board, Interim Report to Senate
- ITEM 11.1(c) – Chat Function at Senate Zoom Meetings

REPORT FROM THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC POLICY AND AWARDS

S.21-250 **ITEM 11.2(a) – Faculty of Health Sciences, School of Kinesiology: Introduction of Kinesiology 1050A/B and 1060A/B and Revisions to the Admission and Program Requirements of the Honours Specialization in Clinical Kinesiology, the Honours Specialization in Kinesiology – BA and the Major in Kinesiology**

It was moved by R. Gros, seconded by G. Kelly,

That effective January 1, 2022, Kinesiology 1050A/B and Kinesiology 1060A/B be introduced in the School of Kinesiology, and

That effective September 1, 2022, the admission and program requirements of the Honours Specialization in Clinical Kinesiology, the Honours Specialization in Kinesiology – BA and the Major in Kinesiology be revised as shown in Item 11.2(a).

CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

- S.21-251 **ITEM 11.2(b)(i) – Faculty of Health Sciences, Arthur Labatt Family School of Nursing: Revisions to the Compressed Time Frame Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BScN) Program (Level 1)**

It was moved by R. Gros, seconded by G. Kelly,

That effective January 1, 2022, Nursing 1201A/B (Foundations of Nursing Practice) and Nursing 1222A/B (Health Assessment and Health Promotion) be introduced by the Arthur Labatt Family School of Nursing, and

That Nursing 1200W/X (Foundations of Nursing Practice) and Nursing 1220W/X (Health Assessment and Health Promotion) be withdrawn, and

That the Compressed Time Frame Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BScN) program be revised as shown in Item 11.2(b)(i).

- S.21-252 **ITEM 11.2(b)(ii) – Faculty of Health Sciences, Arthur Labatt Family School of Nursing: Revisions to the Compressed Time Frame Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BScN) Program (Level 2 and 3)**

It was moved by R. Gros, seconded by G. Kelly,

That effective January 1, 2023, Nursing 2360A/B (Clients with Health Challenges I) and Nursing 3630A/B (Clients with Health Challenges II) be introduced by the Arthur Labatt Family School of Nursing, and

That Nursing 3600W/X (Clients with Health Challenges) be withdrawn, and

That the Compressed Time Frame Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BScN) program be revised as shown in Item 11.2(b)(ii).

CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

- S.21-253 **ITEM 11.2(b)(iii) – Faculty of Health Sciences, Arthur Labatt Family School of Nursing: Introduction of an Articulation Agreement for the Admission of Graduates of the Practical Nursing Diploma Program at Fanshawe College into the Compressed Time Frame Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BScN) Program at Western University**

It was moved by R. Gros, seconded by G. Kelly,

That effective September 1, 2021 an articulation agreement for the admission of graduates of the Practical Nursing Diploma program at Fanshawe College into the Compressed Time Frame Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BScN) program at Western University be introduced as shown in Item 11.2(b)(iii).

CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

S.21-254 **ITEM 11.2(c) – Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry: Revisions to the Structure of the Academic Year Policy (Guidelines for the Organization of the Academic Year: Dentistry)**

It was moved by R. Gros, seconded by G. Kelly,

That effective January 1, 2022 the Structure of the Academic Year Policy (Guidelines for the Organization of the Academic Year: Dentistry) be revised as shown in Item 11.2(c).

CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

S.21-255 **ITEM 11.2(d) – Faculty of Science and Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry: Revisions to the Weighted Average Chart in the “Admission to the Bachelor of Medical Sciences (BMSc) Program” Policy**

It was moved by R. Gros, seconded by G. Kelly,

That effective September 1, 2021, the Weighted Average Chart in the “Admission to the Bachelor of Medical Sciences (BMSc) Program” policy be revised as shown in Item 11.2(d).

CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

S.21-256 **ITEM 11.2(e)(i) – School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies: Introduction of a Collaborative Graduate Specialization in Machine Learning in Health and Biomedical Sciences**

It was moved by R. Gros, seconded by G. Kelly,

That effective January 1, 2022, a Collaborative Graduate Specialization in Machine Learning in Health and Biomedical Sciences be introduced as shown in Item 11.2(e)(i), pending Quality Council approval.

CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

S.21-257 **ITEM 11.2(e)(ii) – School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies: Revisions to the Master of Physical Therapy (MPT)**

It was moved by R. Gros, seconded by G. Kelly,

That effective January 1, 2022, the Master of Physical Therapy (MPT) be revised as shown in Item 11.2(e)(ii).

CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

S.21-258 **ITEM 11.2(f) – Expansion of the Articulation Agreement between Western University, Huron University College, King’s University College and Fanshawe College regarding the transfer of credit for students in the Business-Accounting Diploma Program**

It was moved by R. Gros, seconded by G. Kelly,

That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors that effective December 1, 2021, the Articulation Agreement between Western University, Huron University College, King’s University College and Fanshawe College regarding the transfer of credit for students in the Business Accounting Diploma Program be expanded to include Brescia University College, as shown in Item 11.2(f).

CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

S.21-259 **ITEM 11.2(g) – King’s University College: Revisions to the “English Language Proficiency for Admission” Policy**

It was moved by R. Gros, seconded by G. Kelly,

That effective January 1, 2022, the “English Language Proficiency for Admission” policy be revised to indicate that King’s University College will accept successful completion of Level 7 of the King’s University College/ICEAP Toronto Bridging Program as an alternative to the English language proficiency requirement for international students, as shown in Item 11.2(g).

CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Information Items Reported by the Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Awards

S.21-260 The following items reported by the Senate Committee on University Planning were received for information by unanimous consent:

- ITEM 11.2(e)(iii) – School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies: Correction to the Name of the Graduate Diploma (GDip) in Primary Health Care Nurse Practitioner
- ITEM 11.2(h) – Report of the Subcommittee on Program Review – Graduate (SUPR-G): Cyclical Reviews of the Graduate Programs in Linguistics and Physical Therapy

S.21-261 **DISCUSSION AND QUESTION PERIOD**

The full text of questions submitted in advance of the meeting were posted in the Agenda at Item 13.0 prior to the meeting. The questions and responses are summarized below.

1. **Fossil Fuel Divestment**

Two Senators submitted questions regarding Western’s plans on fossil fuel divestment.

L. Logan, Vice-President (Operations & Finance), advised that the Investment Committee and the University's responsible investing strategy and pathway are focused on the impact of carbon emissions on climate change. The committee chose decarbonization as the strategy to provide greater impact. The University has committed to a 45% reduction in the carbon footprint of the portfolio by 2030, and net zero by 2050. A comprehensive carbon transition analysis was undertaken as part of the work on the responsible investing strategy and pathway, which will guide Western in setting decarbonization strategies and targets for the future. A recent announcement noted that the carbon footprint of the long-term public equity has been reduced by 65 per cent since 2015.

The first responsible investing progress report is anticipated to be distributed in the first quarter of 2022. Managers will be held accountable to manage their assets and the related climate transition risks in alignment with Western's investment beliefs and commitments. Divestment will be considered if managers are not working in alignment with Western's targets.

The University's investments are governed by the Board of Governors and through university policy, and the Board has delegated the responsibility to Western's Investment Committee, a subcommittee of the Property and Finance Committee. Investments were not placed in the scope of PACES due to the formalized reporting and governance structure in place. Regular updates on the progress of responsible investing will be provided to PACES.

L. Logan advised that the Investment Committee holds the belief that engagement is a superior approach to fossil fuel divestment in effecting changes on environmental, social and governance (ESG) related matters.

The Senator requested clarification on how net zero decarbonization differs from divestment.

L. Logan responded that net zero decarbonization focuses on the impact of carbon emissions and climate change, of which fossil fuels are one element. A greater impact and a shorter timeline can be achieved by focusing on carbon emissions, not just divestment.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:27 p.m.

A. Shepard
Chair

A. Bryson
University Secretary