



SENATE MINUTES

Hybrid Meeting
Senate & Board Chambers, Waterloo
Tuesday May 16, 2023, 2:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Present: D. MacLatchy (Chair), M. Abu-Rshaid, A. Acharya, N. Amanullah, D. Antonowicz, G. Ashoughian, M. Brolley, P. Bryden, R. Buehler, M.L. Byrne, E. Cameron, S. Cameron, M. Cantalini-Williams, L. Chu, A. Clarke, J. Coolman, M. Coulter, A. Diebold, A. Domurath, P. Elliott, A. Essaji, A. Herman, C. Hoang, P. Ironstone, C. Johnston Turner, A. Jorgenson, I. Joseph, M. Khan, L. King, V. Kitaev, S. Lachapelle, D. Law, J. Leung, L. Luccisano, K. Lund, E. Maier, R. McGowan, B. McKay, T. McLaren, K. Menon, J. Mueller, J. Newman, L. Noronha, H. Northwood, V. Oliver, A. Parker, F. Perez, J. Popham, S. Ramsay, H. Richards, K. Schnarr, J. Schwieter, K. Shankardass, C. Smith, R. Sterne, D. Treleaven, C. VanEvery-Albert, K. Werbin, D. Wheatley, G. Yun, J. Zhan

Regrets: M. Baldwin, A. Beek, J. Casey, S. Chamberlain, E. Fox Tree, R. Makarov, T. Snoddon, M. Walton-Roberts, B. Wolfe, D. Yerichuk

Absent: T. Dowling, M. Elayyan, J. Reid

Secretariat: A. Juhik, S. Kelly, A. Kornobis, A. Lukin, P. Nicholls, P. Marfisi

1. Open Session

a. Call to Order & Approval of the Consent Agenda, D. MacLatchy

Amendments were made to the agenda to add an *in camera* Milton Q&A session if needed. To make time for this, the Global Strategy item would be postponed, and items 2.c.i.a. and 2.c.ii.a. would be moved to the consent agenda.

The Senate discussed: concerns surrounding the addition of a motion in Senate additional meeting materials which was not listed on the agenda, it was noted that this was added as a mistake, and the motion should be removed.

Motion (M. Abu Rshaid/J. Newman): that Senate approve the Consent items listed for approval under item 7.a. Carried.

b. Leadership Update

i. Report of the President, D. MacLatchy

The President's report included the following updates: recognition of everyone's effort for the first full year of on campus activity since the beginning of the pandemic; programming being offered on campus for

Asian Heritage month and Jewish Heritage month; the upcoming presentation of the Indigenous Strategic Plan and a thank you to Dr. Darren Thomas and the Office of Indigenous Initiatives team for their work that went into creating the plan; a welcome to Vanessa Oliver as the Interim AVP: Equity, Diversity & Inclusion; the Provost & Vice President: Academic search was still underway; the participation of Ontario Post-Secondary Presidents in Blue Ribbon Panel consultations via written submission, noting a sector wide focus on ending the freeze on government grants and tuition; work that continued with the Council of Ontario Universities and individual Executive Heads to further engage with the Blue Ribbon Panel.

- ii. Report of the Interim Provost and VP Academic, H. Northwood Laurier's Tuition Anomaly Program submission was approved by the government and work was being done to bring an updated tuition fee report to the Senate Executive & Finance Committee and Senate for approval.

Vanessa Oliver was welcomed as the interim AVP Equity, Diversity & Inclusion. It was announced that Jennifer Casey, AVP Enrollment Services & Registrar would be retiring, Jennifer was thanked for all of her contributions to the University throughout her career.

Changes were made to the Teaching & Learning departments and overall structure. Any questions regarding these changes can be directed to Trish McLaren or Heidi Northwood.

Winners of various teaching and service awards were announced. A congratulations went out to all recipients of these awards.

The Senate discussed: the increase rate of the approved programs through the tuition anomaly program.

- iii. Report of the Board of Governors, D. Treleaven
The Board of Governors approved the University's operating and ancillary budgets as well as the Non-Tuition Fee Report. An external debt update was brought forward as well as the pension compliance plan and fiscal report.

- iv. Question Period: Written or Verbal

None.

- c. Business Arising from the Previous Minutes, D. MacLatchy
None.

- d. Indigenous Strategic Plan, D. Thomas
An overview was provided to the Indigenous Strategic Plan noting key goals of Inclusion Indigenization, Reconciliation Indigenization, and Decolonial

Indigenization. Inputs and action items were outlined as well as short, medium and long term outcomes which would also enable to the university to fulfill and honour Treaty obligations.

The Senate discussed: consultations conducted with Six Nations; recruitment efforts for Indigenous students; timelines for OneMarket based initiatives; plans to collaborate with the Community to implement the Indigenous Strategic Plan; the ongoing colonial violence faced by students, staff and faculty.

Motion (D. Thomas/C. VanEvery-Albert): that the Senate approve the Indigenous Strategic Plan as presented. **Carried.**

2. Reports and Recommendations from Standing Committees

a. Senate Executive and Finance Committee, D. MacLatchy

i. Tuition Anomaly Program Update

The University's Tuition Anomaly proposal was approved by MCU. Work would be done to bring a revised tuition fee report to the Senate Executive & Finance Committee and the Finance, Investments & Property Committee to be recommended to the Board for approval at its June 1, 2023 meeting.

The Senate discussed: if there was any anticipated market pushback and how this would align with other programs.

ii. Milton Business Case Discussion, H. Northwood / L. Noronha

Prior to presenting the overview, it was reiterated that the motion included in the briefing material was an oversight.

The Senate was provided an overview of how the Milton campus would allow the University to access additional grant funding which was at capacity on its existing campuses. This additional grant funding would be utilized to support all campuses while continuing to ensure differentiation across the campuses. A motion would be coming forward later in the meeting to expand the University's existing Computer Science and Psychology programs to the Milton campus.

The capital expansion proposal was rooted in opportunities for growth noting Laurier's growing student population and the approved additional corridor funding from the province. It was noted that the additional funding that would be received from this expansion would be utilized to support and address disparities between campuses and that the University would continue investing in all campuses.

Senators discussed: balancing messaging surrounding commuter campus while also focusing on local students catering to the University's strengths;

the rationale for removing the shared services line which was shared in previous budgets; the repercussions of pulling out of the campus; discrepancies between the business plan documents and the Senate Academic Planning materials and concerns about these not matching; concerns surrounding student demand and the need for a strong analysis of market demand; concerns surrounding rushing into enrollment when demand is not certain; concerns surrounding the capital investments this will entail given the University's current financial position and the austerity measures implemented in the budget; concerns surrounding Brantford support given the Milton campus and the missing pieces of RCM going forward; concerns surrounding unforeseen costs and programming which may arise; what resources will be available for students; the need for shared services costs as this is a current practice on existing campuses; changes in the approach to recruitment of international students from what was presented at SAPC; how to ensure the student experience is up to par with the Waterloo and Brantford campuses; how to make public transportation available to students; what the partnership with Conestoga College would look like; how to differentiate between campuses and other institutions; what plans there are to collaborate with student associations and provide essential services; if students will be able to transfer to the Waterloo campus from the Milton campus and if there are concerns about this being a backdoor entrance; concerns surrounding the recovery taking longer than projected; if Senate will be given the opportunity to voice its support for this business case to the Board; the Board of Governors focus on financial sustainability and assurance that they will making decisions in alignment with this when it comes to the Milton campus; the University's need to adapt to the growing student population and the strong opportunities that exist with expanding to Milton and the ability to better service students with this expansion.

Motion (S. Ramsay/D. Treleven): that the Senate approve the addition of a motion to endorse the Milton Business Plan as presented. **Carried.**

Motion (K. Werbin/P. Ironstone): to vote by ballot. **Carried with 9 opposed and 2 abstentions.**

Motion (S. Ramsay / J. Mueller): that the Senate endorse to the Board of Governors, the Milton Leased Space Business Plan, as proposed. **Carried with 30 in favour, 23 opposed and 3 abstentions.**

b. Senate Governance Committee, S. Ramsay

i. Annual Review of Senate By-Laws

The proposed changes brought forward mainly brought processes up to date and tidied up language to better clarify intent.

Motion (S. Ramsay/M. Abu Rshaid): that on the recommendation of the Senate Governance Committee, the Senate approve the revisions to the Senate By-Laws, as presented. **Carried.**

ii. Annual Nominations Report

The annual nominations report which included a slate of committee membership was brought forward as well as an opportunity to nominate from the Senate floor.

Motion (S. Ramsay/H. Northwood): that on the recommendation of the Senate Governance Committee the Senate approve the annual nominations report, as presented. **Carried.**

c. Senate Academic Planning Committee, H. Northwood

i. Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies, P. Goff

a. Major Modification, Mathematics

Item and motion moved to the consent agenda.

Motion: that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, the Senate approve the addition of a part-time option for the PhD in Mathematical and Statistical Modelling Program. *Carried via consent.*

ii. Faculty of Arts, S. LaChapelle

a. Major Modification

Item and motion moved to the consent agenda.

Motion: that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, the Senate approve changes to the program requirements for the Honours BA History program and the Honours BA History in Combination with another Honours BA program in the Faculty of Liberal Arts. *Carried via consent.*

iii. Faculty of Liberal Arts, J. Leung

a. Major Modification, Departmentalization of Indigenous Studies, Social and Environmental Justice, Law and Society, and Social Justice and Community Engagement

The proposed request combined the existing Indigenous Studies, Social and Environmental Justice, Law and Society and Social

Justice and Community Engagement departments to create the Department of Indigenous Studies, Law and Social Justice. It was noted that there was a lot of intersectionality amongst this program and this departmentalization request would allow for greater efficiency.

Motion (J. Leung/A. Clarke): that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, the Senate approve the departmentalization request for the Department of Indigenous Studies, Law and Social Justice, and that the Senate forward the request to the Board of Governors. **Carried.**

iv. Faculty of Science, A. Clarke

a. Major Modification, Physics and Computer Science

Items a-c were presented as an omnibus motion.

It was noted that the introduction of the proposed programs to the Milton program would provide opportunities to students who otherwise would not be able to access post-secondary education given the cohort model proposed as well as Milton's proximity to the Greater Toronto Area. The Faculty of Science had consistently made money for the University which helped fund other programs in the red. It was noted that this expansion would serve to support the University and other programs as a whole. There were significantly more students applying to these programs than the University had space for. It was explained that the University's operations within the Faculty of Science were not sustainable with current practices and the additional ministry funding through this expansion would bring it back to a sustainable level.

Motion: (K. Werbin/A. Essaji): to vote by ballot. **Carried with 9 opposed, 1 abstention.**

Motion (A. Clarke/J. Newman): that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, the Senate approve offering the existing Honours BSc Computer Science program in Milton. **Carried with 10 opposed, 1 abstention.**

b. Major Modification, Physics and Computer Science

Motion (A. Clarke/J. Newman): that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, the Senate approve offering the existing Honours BA in Computer Science in Combination with another BA program in Milton. **Carried with 10 opposed, 1 abstention.**

- c. Major Modification, Physics and Computer Science

Motion (A. Clarke/J. Newman): that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, the Senate approve offering the existing Minor in Computer Science in Milton. **Carried with 10 opposed, 1 abstention.**

- d. Major Modification, Psychology

Items d and e were present as an omnibus motion.

The Senate discussed: if the considerations and reputational risks are consistent with the Physics and Computer Science program brought forward.

Prior to voting, it was noted that Senate had lost quorum due to the meeting running longer than anticipated. As per the Senate By-Laws (s. 4.5), quorum could continue to be assumed unless challenged. Senators were given the opportunity to challenge quorum before the vote, no one challenged quorum and the meeting proceeded.

Motion (K. Werbin/P. Ironstone): to vote by ballot. **Carried with 9 opposed, 1 abstention.**

Motion (A. Clarke/J. Newman): that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, the Senate approve offering the existing Honours BA Psychology and Honours BA Psychology in Combination with Another BA programs in Milton. **Carried with 7 opposed, 3 abstentions.**

- e. Major Modification, Psychology

Motion (A. Clarke/J. Newman): that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, the Senate approve offering the existing Minor in Psychology in Milton. **Carried with 7 opposed, 3 abstentions.**

3. Matters from the Consent Section of the Agenda

None.

4. Other Business

None.

5. *In Camera* Session

Motion (M.L. Byrne/L. King): to move *in camera*. **Carried.**

6. Adjournment

7. Consent Items

The following items were provided for approval or information. The items noted for approval were approved by consent unless otherwise highlighted during item 1.a.

a. Items for Approval

- i. Agenda
- ii. Draft Minutes of the April 12, 2023 Senate Meeting
- iii. Senate & Committee Meeting Dates
Motion: that the Senate approve the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 meeting dates as proposed.
- iv. Faculty of Arts - Substantive Minor Modification
Motion: that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, the Senate approve five substantive minor modifications from English & Film Studies, pertaining to Film Studies course requirements in film theory for the following areas: HBA Film Studies, HBA Film Studies in Combination, HBA Film Studies with Vancouver Film Studies Pathway, and Film Theory Specialization.
- v. Faculty of Education – Substantive Minor Modification
Motion: On the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, that Senate approve the substantive minor change to the Education Minor.
- vi. Faculty of Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies - Substantive Minor Modification, Geography & Environmental Studies
Motion: that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, that Senate approve changes to the Environmental Data Analytics field of the Master of Arts in Geography and Master of Environmental Studies in Geography programs

b. Items for Information

- i. Report of the Senior Executives
- ii. EMBARGOED – Statement of Intent, New Program Proposal, User Design Experience

- iii. Innovation & Entrepreneurship Plan
- iv. Student Teaching Awards

Note: If you need assistance or have a question about this agenda or the Senate, please contact the University Secretariat office, by email to skelly@wlu.ca or +1-548-889-4198.