



The UNIVERSITY of WESTERN ONTARIO

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SENATE

May 20, 2005

The meeting was held at 1:30 p.m. in Room IR40, Richard Ivey School of Business.

SENATORS: 71

T. Adams	R. Haines	A. Pitman
M-A. Andrusyszyn	R. Harris	N. Rhoden
M. Bartlett	S. Hatibovic-Kofman	C. Ross
I. Baruss	C. Herbert	A. Sells
D. Bhui	S. Hill	R. Semmens
L. Bowman	I. Holloway	S. Singh
M. Broadfoot	I. Hramiak	L. Stephenson
C. Brown	W. Kennedy	J-L. Suarez
S. Camiletti	G. Killan	T. Sumsion
M. Carroll	P. Klein	A. Tarvit
A. Chant	D. Kneale	J. Tennant
A. Clark	M. Kreiswirth	B. Timney
K. Danylchuk	G. Kulczycki	T. Topic
P. Davenport	D. Laird	J. Toswell
P. Dean	S. Majhanovich	S. Usprich
B. Diemert	M. Milde	J. Van Fleet
C. Dudgeon	L. Miller	S. Watt
N. Dyer-Witthford	V. Miransky	J. Weese
N. Ecclestone	G. Moran	J. White
A. Esterhammer	S. Mulligan	M. Witen
J. Etherington	S. Munshi	B. Wood
C. Farber	J. Nash	E. Yanful
T. Gorski	R. Parks	B. Zener
J. Green	A. Pearson	

Observers: R. Dunn, A. Gedalof, L. Gribbon, D. Jameson, G. Tigert, A. Weedon

By Invitation: J. Doerksen

S.05-68

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

With the addition of A. Weedon to the list of Observers present at the meeting of April 15, 2005, the minutes of the April 15, 2005, meeting were approved.

S.05-69 **Report of the President**

Dr. Davenport gave a presentation on the 2005 Ontario Budget announced on May 11, 2005. Overhead slides used to highlight his presentation are attached as [Appendix 1](#).

OPERATIONS/AGENDA [Exhibit I]

S.05-70 **Senate Membership**

S.05-70a **Graduate Student Constituency**

It was moved by A. Pearson, seconded by A. Tarvit,

That the Senate seat held by Derek MacNeil (MBA II) elected representative to Senate for the Graduate student constituency, be declared vacant as a result of his resignation, and,

That Sean Mulligan (PhD Philosophy) be elected to complete Mr. MacNeil's term (to October 31, 2005).

CARRIED

S.05-70b **Undergraduate Student Constituencies**

It was moved by A. Pearson, seconded by A. Tarvit,

That the Senate seat held by Shane Golsalves, elected representative in the undergraduate student Science constituency, be declared vacant as a result of his resignation, and,

That Alexander Clark (Biology IV) be elected to complete Mr. Gonsalves' term (to October 31, 2005).

That the Senate seats held by Michael Rubin elected representative to Senate in the undergraduate At Large constituency, be declared vacant as a result of his resignation, and,

That Greg Donovan (ACS III/King's) be elected to complete Mr. Rubin's term (to October 31, 2005).

That Veronica Granic, elected representative to Senate in the Undergraduate At Large constituency, be granted a leave of absence, and,

That Paris Meilleur (Social Justice and Peace Studies II/King's) be elected to serve as Ms. Granic's alternate (to August 31, 2005).

That the Senate seat held by Trisha Chang, elected representative in the undergraduate Information and Media Studies and Social Science constituency, be declared vacant as a result of her resignation, and,

That Jordan Green (History III/Social Science) be elected to complete Ms. Chang's term (to October 31, 2005).

That the Senate seats held by Nick Badeen and Ryan Dunn, elected representatives to Senate in the undergraduate At Large constituency, be declared vacant as a result of their resignations, {Note: Ryan Dunn will be attending future meetings as a Senate observer in his capacity as the University Students' Council President} and,

That Arzie Chant (Biology III/Science) and John-Paul Farag (Mechanical Engineering III/Engineering) be elected to complete Mr. Badeen's and Mr. Dunn's terms (to October 31, 2005)

CARRIED

S.05-71 **Strategic Planning Task Force: 2005-06**

Dr. Davenport provided an overview of the Strategic Planning Task Force: 2005-06, detailed in Exhibit I, item 2, including the composition and time-line of the process.

It was moved by A. Pearson, seconded by J. Weese,

That the Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors, through the Vice-Chancellor, the terms of reference and composition of the Strategic Planning Task Force 2005-06, as follows:

Terms of Reference:

To review the mission and vision statements formulated in 1995 in *Leadership in Learning*, and the aspirations and strategic directions set out in *Making Choices*, in the context of the new postsecondary environment.

To indicate key initiatives which the University should undertake and directions it should pursue in support of its mission, vision and basic principles, while focusing on the four key groups identified in *Making Choices*: faculty, staff, students, and alumni.

To examine such areas as graduate and undergraduate programming and enrolment, recruitment and support of faculty, staff and students, internationalization, alumni affairs, and propose ways in which to recognize and build on strengths in research, teaching and the learning environment.

To determine Western's placement nationally and internationally in scholarship and learning, and establish effective means to measure its progress in future.

To examine the investment in new construction and renovation to existing space required to fulfill our academic objectives.

Composition

President & Vice-Chancellor, as Chair

Provost & Vice-President (Academic)

Four members elected by the Board of Governors

Seven members elected by Senate, one of whom must be an undergraduate and one a graduate student

One member named by UWOFA

One member named by the Unity Group from among the staff groups

One member named by the UWO Alumni Association
One member named by the Principals of the three Affiliated University Colleges
Two members named by the President and Vice-Chancellor, one of whom will be
a member of the administrative staff

Resource

Vice-President (Administration)
Vice-President (Research & International Relations)
Vice-President (External)
Vice-Provosts and Associate Vice-Presidents, as required by the Task Force.

The Special Advisor to the President and the Executive Assistant to the President
and the Provost will provide direct support to the Task Force.

Mr. Dunn noted that the USC, the University's largest student organization, was a major broker in the University's submission to the Rae Commission. He suggested that the Task Force composition include one member named by the University Students' Council to bring forward the views of the USC thereby addressing Dr. Davenport's directive that people who are the most impacted be included in setting the direction of the Task Force. He acknowledged that Senate will be electing one undergraduate student nominated by the Nominating Committee, but that person might not speak on behalf of the USC in the way the UWOFA appointee will speak on behalf of the of the faculty union.

S.05-71a It was moved by A. Chant, seconded by M. Carroll,

That the composition be revised to add, "One member named by the University Students' Council".

Dr. Davenport spoke against the amendment recalling that during the review of the UWO Act nine years ago discussion included the option of adding representatives from the various groups to the membership of the Senate and the Board. However, it was decided that Senate and the Board work best with a limited number of *ex officio* members. The purpose of the SPTF is to hear from the constituent groups not just to receive input from members. An opportunity exists for Senate to elect a member of the USC to the SPTF. Dr. Moran supported the President's remarks and added that once a committee gets too large, it loses its effectiveness.

Several Senators spoke in support of the amendment. The composition of the SPTF shows that the senior administration wants student voice and perspective, consequently adding a member appointed by the USC reinforces that need. Professor White stated that Mr. Dunn has presented a reasonable argument: the USC plays for students a role similar to that of UWOFA in the case of faculty. Ms. Zener emphasized the need to appropriately represent the large size of the student body. Professor Dyer-Witheyford suggested that the University should view undergraduate student participation in the SPTF as part of an ongoing education in civic participation in institutions and organizations.

Professor Carroll stated that it is important that all interested groups be represented on the SPTF, and the best way is to have the various groups, including the USC, determine who shall be their representative.

The amendment was called and CARRIED.

S.05-71b It was moved by S. Mulligan, seconded by M. Witen,

That the composition be revised to add, "One graduate student named by the Society of Graduate Students".

Professor Carroll supported the amendment and surmised that someone would again raise the concern that the SPTF would be too large. To respond to that, someone who believed the committee to be too large could propose a motion to reduce the membership. In his view, it is crucial to have on the SPTF a member from SOGS, as graduate education will be a big issue at Western over the next few years.

Professor White stated that he did not support this amendment. In his view, the institutional and organizational arguments in favor of adding a USC-appointed member are not the same in the case of SOGS.

Mr. Chant rejected the notion that the SPTF would be too large, noting that 4 students on a body of 21 is not too much to ask. Undergraduate and graduate students who may be elected by Senate do not have the same responsibility to report back to the USC and SOGS as those members who will be named by those organizations to the SPTF.

The amendment was called and CARRIED.

S.05-71c It was moved by G. Moran, seconded by S. Watt,

That the phrase "one of whom must be an undergraduate and one graduate student" be deleted from the seven members elected by Senate.

Dr. Moran stated that the composition of the SPTF as originally proposed had a kind of integrity or wholeness and a balance of representation. Given the two amendments just passed to ensure that the USC and SOGS representatives are named by those organizations, the requirement for Senate to elect one graduate student and one undergraduate student should be removed.

Several Senators opposed the amendment, some arguing that the foregoing two amendments do not reduce the integrity of the Task Force. Mr. Chant objected to the implicit reduction of student representation should the amendment be successful.

The amendment was called and DEFEATED.

The main motion, as amended, was called and CARRIED.

S.05-72 *Appointment Procedures for Senior Academic and Administrative Officers of the University*

It was moved by A. Pearson, seconded by J. Weese,

That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors:

That *Appointment Procedures for Senior Academic and Administrative Officers of the University*, Section R, be changed to reflect a change in the title of the Vice-Provost (Planning, Policy & Faculty) to Vice-Provost (Academic Planning, Policy & Faculty):

R. VICE-PROVOST (ACADEMIC PLANNING, POLICY, & FACULTY)

Composition of Selection Committee

A committee to select a Vice-Provost (**Academic** Planning, Policy, & Faculty) shall consist of:

- (a) the Provost & Vice-President (Academic), who shall be Chair
- (b) the Vice-President (Research and International Relations)
- (c) 3 persons elected by Senate, one of whom shall be a Dean
- (d) 1 faculty member nominated by the University of Western Ontario Faculty Association

Procedure

1. The Chair shall convene the Committee.
2. The Chair shall undertake negotiations with prospective candidates.
3. The Chair shall report to Senate through the President & Vice-Chancellor.

Terms

The term of the Vice-Provost is five years and may be renewed.

CARRIED

S.05-73 **Candidates for Theological Degrees - Huron University College**

S.05-73a **Master of Divinity**

On behalf of the Senate (S.96-125), the Provost approved the list of candidates who received the Master of Divinity degree at the 2005 Spring Convocation at Huron University College (May 5, 2005):

Thomas Charles Anderson
Janet Mary Anstead
Catherine Mary Ascah
Daniel George Bagshaw Bowyer
Elaine Helen Cochrane
Darlene Frances Cunliffe
Christine Ellen Downey
Elizabeth Jane Fletcher
Raquel Elizabeth Mack
Susan Jean Malpus
Linda Louise Nixon
Pierce Allen Russell
Frederick J Schark
Loretta Marie Zimmerman

S.05-73b **Master of Theological Studies**

On behalf of the Senate (S.96-125), the Provost approved the list of candidates who received the Master of Theological Studies degree at the 2005 Spring Convocation at Huron University College (May 5, 2005):

Constance Jervis
Gloria Jane Morgan
Seddigheh Nasiroghli-khiabani

S.05-74 **Fall 2005 Senate Election Schedule**

Senate received for information the Fall 2005 Senate Election Schedule.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE [Exhibit II]

S.05-75 **Selection Committee for the Vice-Provost (Academic Programs and Students) [Registrar]**

Additional nominations were made at the meeting. K. Donovan, M. Cheesman, W. Kennedy, B. Timney, Jerry White, and Mark Workentin were elected to the Selection Committee for the Vice-Provost (Academic Programs and Students) [Registrar].

S.05-76 **Academic Colleague**

J. Doerksen was elected Academic Colleague (term from July 1, 2005, to June 30, 2006).

S.05-77 **University Council on Student Housing**

A. Klenert (term to March 31, 2006) and C. Beynon (term to March 31, 2007) were elected to membership on UCOSH.

S.05-78 **Senate Committee on Housing Policy**

P. Chan, V. Granic, and S. Munshi (terms to April 30, 2006) and D. Shrubsole and A. Sells (terms to April 30, 2007) were elected to serve on SCOHP.

S.05-79 **McIntosh Gallery Committee**

P. Ellis was elected to the McIntosh Gallery Committee (term to May 2007).

S.05-80 **Teacher Education Advisory Committee**

P. Dean (term to June 2007), and D. Dawson and J. Irwin (terms to June 2008) were elected to serve on the Teacher Education Advisory Committee.

S.05-81 **Senate Review Board Academic**

B. Zener (undergraduate student)(term to November 30, 2005) and B. Vrkljan (graduate student) (term from July 1 to November 30, 2005) were elected to serve on SRBA.

S.05-82 **Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Awards**

M. Wilson was elected to serve on SCAPA (term to December 31, 2005).

ACADEMIC POLICY AND AWARDS [Exhibit III]

S.05-83 **Faculty of Science: Five New Biology Modules**

S.05-83a **Honors Specialization in Conservation Biology**

It was moved by J. Tennant, seconded by S. Singh,

That effective September 1, 2005, an Honors Specialization in Conservation Biology, detailed in Exhibit III, item 1a, be introduced in the Faculty of Science.

CARRIED

Professor Watt asked what kind of deliberation occurs regarding selection of the core required courses when new majors come forward. Professor Tennant stated that from the standpoint of SCAPA this proposal came forward after much discussion and consultation initiated within the Faculty of Science. The Science EPC approved the modules. Professor Dean stated that the proposal is put forward by Biology and discussed by the medical sciences and biological sciences EPC and on the basis of those deliberations a module is established. SCAPA assumes that any concerns are addressed in discussions with the EPC and in the consultation process.

S.05-83b Major in Conservation Biology

It was moved by J. Tennant, seconded by J. White,

That effective September 1, 2005, a Major in Conservation Biology, detailed in Exhibit III, item 1b, be introduced in the Faculty of Science.

CARRIED

S.05-83c Major in Ecosystem Health

It was moved by J. Tennant, seconded by J. White,

That effective September 1, 2005, a Major in Ecosystem Health, detailed in Exhibit III, item 1c, be introduced in the Faculty of Science.

CARRIED

S.05-83d Honors Specialization in Animal Physiology

It was moved by J. Tennant, seconded by A. Clark,

That effective September 1, 2005, an Honors Specialization in Animal Physiology, detailed in Exhibit III, item 1d, be introduced in the Faculty of Science.

CARRIED

S.05-83e Major in Genetics

It was moved by J. Tennant, seconded by P. Dean,

That effective September 1, 2005, a Major in Genetics, detailed in Exhibit III, item 1e, be introduced in the Faculty of Science.

CARRIED

S.05-84 Faculty of Social Science: Honors Specialization in International Relations

It was moved by J. Tennant, seconded by S. Hill,

That effective September 1, 2005, an Honors Specialization in International Relations leading to a Bachelor of Arts, detailed in Exhibit III, item 2, be introduced in the Faculty of Social Science.

CARRIED

S.05-85 **Faculty of Graduate Studies: Change in degree designation from an MA to an MSc in Psychology**

It was moved by J. Tennant, seconded by M. Kreiswirth,

That Senate approve the renaming of the Master of Arts in Psychology degree as the Master of Science in Psychology, effective September 1, 2005, and,

That students be permitted to graduate with the MSc degree designation, effective June 2006.

CARRIED

S.05-86 **Articulation Agreement between Western and Fanshawe: Transfer Credit for Students in the General Arts and Science Program - Liberal Studies Major**

It was moved by J. Tennant, seconded by C. Herbert,

That the Articulation Agreement between The University of Western Ontario and Fanshawe College of Applied Arts and Technology with regard to transfer credit for students in the General Arts and Science Program - Liberal Arts Major be approved, effective September 1, 2005, as detailed in Exhibit III, item 4.

CARRIED

S.05-87 **Admission Requirements for the Bachelor of Health Sciences (BHSc)**

It was moved by J. Tennant, seconded by A. Tarvit,

That effective for entry in September 2006, the admission requirements for students applying to the Bachelor of Health Sciences program from Ontario Grade 12 include Math of Data Management Grade 12 U, as recommended by the Faculty of Health Sciences.

CARRIED

S.05-88 **Elective Course Credit for All Music Courses**

It was moved by J. Tennant, seconded by B. Wood,

That Senate approve that all Music half (0.5) and full (1.0) credit courses be accepted as elective options in all undergraduate degree programs that participate in New Academic Choices, subject to graduation requirements.

CARRIED

S.05-89 **Eligibility for HBA Honors Designations**

The Chair of SCAPA proposed amended wording of the motion which was discussed and subsequently revised to read as shown below.

It was moved by J. Tennant, seconded by A. Tarvit,

That eligibility criteria for the Ivey Scholar and Gold Medal honors designations for the Bachelor of Arts (Honors Business Administration) be revised as indicated in the highlighted text shown in Exhibit III, item 7.

When asked why the policy stated that a student found in breach of the Ivey Student Code of Professional Conduct “may” be ineligible to receive any Ivey honors designation, J. Tennant replied that this point had been discussed at SCAPA and it was determined that the School would like to have some discretion in this regard. R. Harris added that the seriousness of the penalties may depend on the seriousness of the offence.

The motion was called and CARRIED.

S.05-90 **New Scholarships and Awards**

SCAPA approved on behalf of Senate the following Terms of Reference for new awards, for recommendation to the Board of Governors through the Vice-Chancellor:

Dr. Arthur A. Nareff Scholarship in Medical Sciences (Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, Medical Sciences)
Theodor Ackermann Continuing Award (Faculty of Science, Chemistry)
Alwyn F. Patience Memorial History Fellowship (Faculty of Graduate Studies, History)
Wail El Awad Memorial Award (Faculty of Graduate Studies, Business Administration)
HBA '94 McCleary Memorial Award (Richard Ivey School of Business)

S.05-91 **Brescia University College: Minor in Sociology**

Senate was informed that through an oversight, the SCAPA Report to Senate of September 19, 2003, (S.03-152) did not list the Minor in Sociology among the modules to be introduced in September 2004 as part of the undergraduate program reform. The module is identical to that offered by Main Campus and King's. (See pages 172 and 345 of the 2005 Academic Calendar.)

S.05-92 **REPORT OF THE ACADEMIC COLLEAGUE** [Exhibit IV]

The report of the Academic Colleague on the 275th Meeting of the Council of Ontario Universities, detailed in Exhibit IV, was received for information. Issues discussed at the meeting included the Rae Report and two papers by Council members, one entitled “Universities and Democracy” and the other on interdisciplinarity. Dr. McQuillan suggested that Senators might wish to review the two papers that are available as PDF files on the University Secretariat web site. The URLs will also be posted.

S.05-93 **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS** [Exhibit V]

Announcements and Communications, detailed in Exhibit V, were received for information. Ms. Van Fleet reported that C. Gitting should be C. **Gittings**.

ENQUIRIES AND NEW BUSINESS

S.05-94 **Policy 1.20 - Computing Resources Security**

Responding to Mr. Chant's suggestion that "or permitted" be deleted from Section 16 (e), Security and Privacy, Dr. Davenport advised that the Board approved the policy at its meeting in April but agreed to refer this point to the appropriate Vice-President for consideration. Ms. Jones stated that all the cases included attempted to show the seriousness with which Western takes its responsibility of maintaining privacy and safety. Emails are not routinely examined, but if something goes wrong the University needs the ability to examine the area to deal with emergencies. Mr. Jarrett stated that originally Section 16 included the phrase "unless prohibited by law or University policy" which would require express prohibition in the University policies so by changing it to "permitted" it now requires express permission in another policy to authorize going into email. If none of the first four categories care applicable, authorization must be set out in another Board-approved policy.

Ms. Zener asked why non-Ivey students cannot access the wireless system given that many students attend classes in the Ivey building. Ms. Jones stated that the Ivey wireless LAN system, installed first, includes a significant infrastructure consequently it is not a simple change.

S.05-95 **Honorary Degrees Committee - Governance and Confidentiality**

Dr. Davenport advised Senate that the Secretary had been given prior notice of questions to be raised regarding the Honorary Degrees Committee and, in particular, the decision of that Committee to confer an honorary degree on Dr. Henry Morgentaler on June 16, 2005. He asked that Dr. R. Harris inform Senate of special arrangements for the June 16th ceremony, following which questions would be entertained. Since some questions would be directed to him as the Chair of the Senate Honorary Degrees Committee, Dr. Davenport asked that Dean Pearson, Vice-Chair of Senate, preside over this part of the Senate meeting.

Dr. Harris reported that some 517 students are eligible to participate in convocation on the morning of June 16, at which time Dr. Henry Morgentaler will receive an honorary degree. The typical rate of participation in convocation by graduating students is between 70 and 80% . Staff members in the Office of the Registrar have telephoned or tried to make email contact with every student who is eligible to graduate at the convocation ceremony in question to discuss with them the fact that special tickets will be issued for that ceremony. Guest tickets will have the name of the guest and the name of the student who has issued the invitation. The ticket and photo identification will be required to get into Alumni Hall.

To date, 382 students have confirmed that they will be attending the June 16 morning convocation ceremony. Of all the students contacted by the Office of the Registrar, two students have advised that they do not wish to attend that ceremony because Dr. Morgentaler will be receiving a degree, and as a result, the Office of the Registrar has made arrangements for them to participate in another convocation ceremony. The primary issue for students has been the number of guest tickets they can have.

Dr. Harris explained that the usual process is that each graduating student is sent two guest tickets. In addition, some extra tickets are issued to departments which are then distributed on a first come,

first served basis until all tickets are gone. In the case of the June 16th convocation, because the tickets will have guest and student names on them, the Office of the Registrar initially advised students that they would each get two tickets. There were a number of students who wished to have tickets for more guests and a list of those individuals was created. Now that the Office of the Registrar is in a position to know what the likely attendance will be, the students who asked to have additional tickets will be provided with them.

Professor Carroll stated that he had a number of questions relating to the reaction to the decision of the Senate Honorary Degrees Committee to confer an honorary degree on Dr. Henry Morgentaler, but before posing them he referred to an article that appeared in *Western News* in January 2005 entitled "Governors offer defence against political interference." The article was about a speech given by Board Chair Don McDougall to the Senior Alumni wherein he stated that one of the prime functions of the Board of Governors is to defend the university's autonomy in the face of political interference. Mr. McDougall had taken that opportunity "to praise Western President Paul Davenport for exceptional stewardship over the past ten years and for his efforts in providing strategic direction for Western."

Professor Carroll said that he, too, wished to praise the President's behavior, in this case relating to the criticism of the University for the decision to award an honorary degree to Dr. Henry Morgentaler. "Leadership does not consist, in my view, in getting a big salary, doing the rubber chicken circuit, and putting in time. Leadership consists in what you do when things get tough. It means not simply standing up for what this University stands for, but also doing it in such a way that displays reasonableness and civility. In my view, that is exactly what the President has done in the past month or so."

Professor Carroll posed a series of questions:

- Has the administration kept track of the letters and emails commenting upon the decision to award Dr. Morgentaler an honorary degree, and if so, roughly how many letters and emails have been received and what roughly is the pro/con breakdown?

Professor Carroll referred to the Open Letter that was recently published by Mr. McDougall. He observed that although Mr. McDougall often refers to himself as Chair of the Board of Governors and mentions talking with other members of the Board of Governors, there's nothing in the letter to suggest he is speaking on behalf of the Board of Governors. However, there are at least two websites, one maintained by an anti-abortion group in Denton, Texas, which regard him as speaking on behalf of the Board of Governors.

- Has the Board taken an official position on the decision by the Senate Honorary Degrees Committee in regard to Dr. Morgentaler? If so, what is that position, and if not, is it correct to assume that Mr. McDougall was indeed expressing a personal opinion unrelated to his official status as Chair of the Board?

Professor Carroll noted that Senate by-laws are very clear with regard to confidentiality of the proceedings of Senate committees, and yet statements made in Mr. McDougall's Open Letter and articles in the *London Free Press* by Herman Goodden reveal details that suggest that there was a breach of confidentiality.

- Are members of a Senate committee free to reveal the particular position taken by a member during committee discussions, or is that a breach of Senate regulations regarding confidentiality? If it is a breach of confidentiality, does the President who is Chair of the Senate Honorary Degrees Committee have any information as to which member(s) of the Committee violated confidentiality in this case, and if not, can Senate at least ask that all

members of this Senate committee, including the member who reportedly (according to Goodden) resigned, be reminded that although they are free to criticize the final decision, they are not free to reveal what particular members said during the deliberations?

Professor Carroll stated that Mr. McDougall, in his Open Letter to the community, called the procedure by which the Senate Honorary Degrees Committee decided to award an honorary degree to Dr. Morgentaler “corrupt” because it violated what he calls the “Consensus Protocol”. As all members of Senate now know, given the published statement from the President, there is no such thing as a “Consensus Protocol”. The Honorary Degrees Committee, like all Senate committees, operates by majority vote, and the procedure was fully in accord with Senate policy. Given this, Professor Carroll suggested that Mr. McDougall owes an apology.

- Has any such apology been offered by Mr. McDougall? If not, does the administration truly believe that someone who holds this view of the Senate Honorary Degrees Committee whose procedure he called “corrupt”, and who refuses to retract such a derogatory statement when it becomes clear that it is based on misinformation, can function as an effective leader of the Board of Governors?

Dr. Davenport thanked Professor Carroll for his preliminary remarks. He responded to each of the questions posed by Professor Carroll, as follows:

- The administration has kept track of communications received in response to the decision to award Dr. Morgentaler an honorary degree. As of May 19, the University has received 7,728 communications, of which 5,372 have been supportive of the decision and 2,356 have been negative. This reflects about a 70% positive, 30% negative, split.
- Has the Board taken an official position on the decision to confer an honorary degree on Dr. Morgentaler, in the sense that the Board has announced a position? No, the Board has not taken an official position. Therefore, in Dr. Davenport’s view, the statement that Mr. McDougall made in his Open Letter was a personal one.
- Is the Senate Honorary Degrees Committee confidential? Dr. Davenport stated unequivocally that the proceedings of the Senate Honorary Degrees Committee are confidential. He confirmed that he will continue to remind the committee of the confidential nature of its proceedings when it next meets, as he always does. Considering the various Senate committees, there is none where confidentiality is more important than the Honorary Degrees Committee.
- Dr. Davenport stated that he does not know of any member of the Senate Honorary Degrees Committee who has breached the confidentiality.
- In response to Professor Carroll’s final question, Dr. Davenport stated that as President, a very important part of his job is to work effectively with all members of the Board of Governors and he will continue to do so to the best of his ability.

Professor A. Gedalof, President of the UWO Faculty Association, reported that in addition to the 5,372 supportive communications out of 7,728 received by the University to date, the Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT) supports the University’s decision. CAUT represents 48,000 academics who stand behind the leadership of the organization. As well, the Elementary Teachers’ Federation of Ontario regards the decision to award Dr. Morgentaler an honorary degree as an important social justice issue and is circulating a petition in support. The President of the London & District Labour Council, which represents 27,000 unionized workers in London and area,

wrote that the Council passed a motion at a recent meeting of the general membership conveying strong support for the University's decision.

Professor Gedalof advised Senate that UWOFA is currently circulating a petition on campus that is narrowly focussed on some of the issues that were raised by Professor Carroll in his remarks at this meeting; however, the position of UWOFA differs from that of Professor Carroll on the positioning of Mr. McDougall with respect to his position as Chair of the Board of Governors. Mr. McDougall's Open Letter begins with these statements:

“After much consultation with my associates on the Board of Governors and friends on the faculty and staff of the university, I have decided to share with you my perspective on the decision of a Senate committee to award Dr. Morgentaler an honorary degree at the Spring Convocation.”

In Professor Gedalof's view, by referring to his associates on the Board of Governors, Mr. McDougall purports to speak for at least a subset of the membership of the Board of Governors. He drew Senators' attention to the beginning of the next sentence from the Open Letter [emphasis added]:

“**As Chair of the Board**, I am very disappointed by this decision of the selection committee.”

Professor Gedalof stated that UWOFA believes that Mr. McDougall invokes in this sentence his official capacity as Chair of the Board to bring allegations about impropriety or irregularities in the behavior of the committee selecting honorary degree candidates into the public on the basis of improper consultations with members of the committee. Professor Gedalof reported that the members of UWOFA have made complaints about what UWOFA regards as an infringement of academic freedom “while maintaining that Mr. McDougall as a private individual has every right to express an opinion, but not in his role as Chair of the Board of Governors.” The UWOFA petition states:

“WHEREAS: by these statements [cited above] the Chair of the Board of Governors has arrogated the authority of his position to oppose an academic decision of the Senate of the University,

“AND FURTHERMORE: he has improperly attempted to undermine the authority of Senate by purporting to consult faculty and staff of the University on a matter under the jurisdiction of Senate, and publishing the results of such purported consultation,

“WE THE UNDERSIGNED call on him to retract these statements or resign his post.”

Professor Gedalof advised Senate that the petition has been circulated to departments and units throughout the University. He invited Senators to sign the petition following the Senate meeting to assert “the rights of Senate as the highest body on academic matters and to protest the improper interference in those matters by Don McDougall in his role as Chair of the Board of Governors.”

Professor Toswell observed that in his public statements, Mr. McDougall has suggested that the University has not responded to the three questions he posed in his Open Letter:

“In my opinion our University community, particularly the Senate, should deliberate on three important questions. First, why was Dr. Morgentaler, who has no previous association with Western, chosen to receive our highest honor? Secondly, why were the protocols for making

such appointments breached in this case? Thirdly, have we made the right choices to minimize disruption to our graduates and all other participants on this Convocation Day?"

Professor Toswell, who is the Marshal of Convocation, undertook to respond to these questions:

- On average, about 50% to 60% of honorands have no previous connection to Western. At Spring Convocation this year, 50% of those who will receive honorary degrees have a connection to Western, and 50% do not.
- Apparently no protocols were breached. There is no such thing as the "Consensus Protocol" on any Senate committee.
- With potential disruption to the graduates, their guests, and other participants in the June 16 convocation, it appears that the University has made the right choices to minimize disruption. There have been extensive meetings involving Elgin Austen, the chief of the police force on campus, Officers of Convocation, the Registrar's Office, the University Secretariat, and others.

Professor Toswell expressed her concern that by posing the question about minimizing disruption, Mr. McDougall may be "fomenting precisely the kind of opportunity that he would like to take advantage of," when in fact he objects to the decision itself and is attempting to find a way to continue that objection.

Dean Ross informed Senate that the Deans recently signed a letter in which they express their very strong support for President Davenport's leadership in defending the rights of Senate to award honorary degrees. The issues of greatest concern to the Deans are academic freedom and the need to respect the rules and procedures of the University. She stated that the Deans feel very proud to belong to a university which respects its academic integrity and is not overly worried about avoiding controversy.

Professor Laird stated that he was interested to hear that communications received by the University are approximately 70% favorable and 30% against the decision to award Dr. Morgentaler an honorary degree. He surmised that those figures may represent what Londoners and Canadians in general think about the decision. He asked for some comment about the rationale for the decision, knowing that the level of controversy would be so high, and about the financial cost of the decision to the University. Are the rumors about withdrawn bequests and unfulfilled endowments real or are they myths?

Dr. Davenport responded:

- As stated in the media release announcing the candidates for honorary degrees to be awarded at Spring Convocation 2005, Dr. Morgentaler is being honored for his long commitment to "a woman's right to choose", a principle that was upheld by the Supreme Court of Canada in 1988. The members of the Honorary Degrees Committee were very aware of the controversial nature of the issue and of the man. The potential controversies were discussed at great length and the committee made its decision.
- The Vice-President (External), if he were present, could give a better accounting of the financial implications of the decision. One person has cancelled a bequest of \$2 million, as reported in the newspapers. Some people who have written in support of the decision have made contributions. Speaking generally with regard to controversial issues, outsiders sometimes think that the only thing the university President is interested in is raising private money, so they quickly make reference to their position on donating to the University.

Dr. Davenport concluded by stating that in the long run, Western is an attractive university for alumni and donors if it has a clear sense of direction and mission, provides the best university experience for students at a research-intensive university, and maintains high academic standards. He expressed the view that the University cannot drive academic decisions by trying to guess how donors will respond. Western recently concluded the biggest fund raising campaign in its history, raising \$327 million; there are a lot of people who believe in what Western does and, in Dr. Davenport's view, will continue to believe in what the University does in the future.

Mr. J. Nash, a Board appointee to the Senate, reported that he had spoken with Mr. McDougall earlier in the day and that with the single exception of the decision to award an honorary degree to Dr. Morgentaler, Mr. McDougall is totally supportive of the President. The Board felt that it was very important to separate the Board from the decision itself. While the Senate is responsible for determining who will receive honorary degrees, the Board is responsible for the overall university environment and has to concern itself with the safety risks that arise in this particular case.

Mr. Nash stated that "the Board is responsible to see that procedures were carried through properly," and the Board Chair believes that there were unusual practices that took place in the confidential meeting of the Senate Honorary Degrees Committee. Because the decision was made in confidence, however, this issue is not going to be resolved. As far as the Board is concerned, members are as diverse in their collective assessment as are Senators, but they are confirmed in two things: that they "support the President 100%" and that they "support the Board 100%."

Professor Carroll asked for clarification: Has the Board taken a collective position on this issue? Mr. Nash responded that the Board did not take a position, but did ask the Chair of the Board to make it clear that the decision to award the degree was not a decision made by the Board or necessarily endorsed by the Board.

One point of contention concerning the procedure followed by the Honorary Degrees Committee relates to "consensus". Mr. Nash explained that the Chair of the Board defines "consensus" as a situation where there is a split vote, but in the end those who voted against the motion "will go along with the decision even though they continue to object." Mr. Nash stated that the Board Chair contends that in the case in question, at least two members, when they left the meeting, were under the impression that the Morgentaler nomination was not going forward.

Professor Milde stated that all Senate committees work by majority vote and he expressed his amazement that committee members would not understand that. He noted that the Board Chair has stated publicly that a certain procedure has not been followed and the President has said that Senate committee procedures have been followed. In the view of Professor Milde, the Board Chair's public statements, based on a belief of the internal workings of a Senate committee, have been damaging to the University and are inappropriate. If the Board Chair has some evidence to back his claims, he should produce it, but if he doesn't, he should apologize.

Mr. Nash advised Senate that members of the Honorary Degrees Committee have spoken to him directly on the matter of procedure, but he conceded that what is an irregularity to one person may not be an irregularity to another. He said he would accept the word of the President, as chair of the committee, as to whether or not there were irregularities, that is, something unusual at that particular meeting that has not happened in others.

Dr. Davenport stated that, with the exception of the member who resigned, not one member of the Honorary Degrees Committee has complained to him about the procedures that were followed. The notion that "consensus" means unanimity suggests that any one member would have a veto. That is not the way the Honorary Degrees Committee works, nor the way it has worked in the past 11

years while he has been its chair. For that to be the mode of operation of the committee, Senate would have to pass a resolution to the effect that decisions of the Honorary Degrees Committee would have to be unanimous, unlike other Senate committees which operate by majority vote. The Senate, to date, has not made such a ruling.

Professor Carroll again raised the matter of confidentiality on Senate committees, observing that Mr. Nash stated that members of the Honorary Degrees Committee had spoken to him about what transpired at a committee meeting. If this is the case, there was a clear violation of Senate's rules of procedure. Dean Pearson stated that the terms of reference of the Senate Operations/Agenda Committee include oversight of the committees of Senate. The allegation of a breach of confidentiality in this case concerns the operation of one Senate committee. As chair of Operations/Agenda, Dean Pearson undertook to have the committee consider the issue of confidentiality and report back to Senate, with recommendations if appropriate.

Ms. Zener stated that someone who is in a position of power, as in the case of Mr. McDougall as Chair of the Board of Governors, has a responsibility to the University to consider when it is appropriate or inappropriate to make public statements. Even personal statements, when coupled with the title of the individual, can lead the public to believe that the individual is speaking on behalf of the body he leads.

With reference to arrangements for the June 16 convocation, Mr. Chant asked that in future more thought be given well in advance when controversial decisions are made that affect students, so as not to inconvenience students. Dr. Harris clarified that by describing the ticketing process, she intended to make it clear that the participation rate for the June 16 morning convocation is as high as would normally be the case, and that only two students have indicated that they do not want to participate in that convocation because of Dr. Morgentaler's presence. Those students will be accommodated at another ceremony. There has not been a great deal of disruption for graduating students. Professor White, Assistant Director of Convocation, added that making convocation a special event for graduating students is the foremost objective of the Convocation Board in planning for any convocation ceremony.

Professor White thanked Dr. Davenport for his "timely, thoughtful, and ethics-based decisions" and for his stewardship in the controversy over the decision to award an honorary degree to Dr. Morgentaler.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

P. Davenport
Chair


J.K. Van Fleet
Secretary



The University of Western Ontario

**President's Report to Senate
Ontario Budget – May 11, 2005**

Dr. Paul Davenport
May 20, 2005



The University of Western Ontario

Largest Multi-Year Investment in 40 Years

- \$6.2 billion cumulative investment by 2009-10
- \$685 million additional in 2005-06, rising to \$1.6 billion by 2009-10
- Represents 39% increase over 2004-05

President's Report to Senate



The University of Western Ontario

2005 Ontario Budget

A Significant Investment in Postsecondary Education

- Implementation of Rae Report recommendations
- Support of Premier McGuinty, Ministers Sorbara and Chambers, Local MPP's: Bentley, Matthews, Peters, Ramal, Wilkinson
- Ryan Dunn and I invited to Queen's Park

President's Report to Senate



The University of Western Ontario

Access, Quality, Accountability

- Double base funding for student assistance by 2009-10
- New tuition framework for 2006
- New grants for low-income and under represented
- New groups including plan for endowments for student assistance
- Increase first-year medical places by 15%
- Expand graduate education: 12,000 places in 2007-08; 14,000 by 2009-10, additional \$220 million annually

President's Report to Senate



The University of Western Ontario

Access, Quality, Accountability

- Increase faculty – bring down student:faculty ratio
- Increase staff, bring down student:staff ratio
- Capital funding to accommodate increased enrolment
- Research Council of Ontario
- College-University collaboration

President's Report to Senate



The University of Western Ontario

**Premier McGuinty at Ryerson
May 13, 2005**

“Our government is passionate about learning for Ontarians”

“I didn't ask Bob Rae to prepare his report so that I could shelve it. We're moving forward”

“Education is the prerequisite for sustained prosperity”

“This is why I'm Premier, why I ran for office, why I'm in public life”

President's Report to Senate



The University of Western Ontario

Access, Quality, Accountability

- Multi-year agreements setting measurable performance targets
- Higher Education Quality Council
- Institutional autonomy and transparency, consistent with privacy protection and academic freedom

President's Report to Senate



The University of Western Ontario

President's Report to Senate

Ontario Budget – May 11, 2005

Dr. Paul Davenport
May 20, 2005