

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SENATE**

**March 11, 2016**

The meeting was held at 1:30 p.m. in Room 56, University Community Centre.

SENATORS: 67

E. Addison	T. Hunt	C. Nolan
R. Andersen	G. Hunter	K. Olson
N. Bhatia	L. Jackson	H. Orbach-Miller
I. Birrell	C. Jones	W. Pearson
P. Bishop	J. Knowles	A. Rice-Hoyt
M. Blagrove	G. Kopp	S. Rodger
J. Boland	R. Kurji	S. Roland
J. Capone	B. Leipert	L. Rosen
A. Chakma	G. Lucas	V. Schwean
C. Chambers	S. Macfie	I. Scott
M. Cheesman	J. Malkin	Z. Sinel
K. Clark	C. Manjunath	C. Sprengler
R. Collins	M. McDayter	V. Staroverov
E. Cormor	L. McKivor	L. Sunseri
J. Cuciurean	K. Mequanint	A. Sussman
K. Danylchuk	R. Mercer	D. Sylvester
J. Deakin	M. Milde	M. Thomson
C. Dean	J. Millaire	G. Tigert
G. Dresser	L. Miller	J. Toswell
N. Dyer-Witthford	J. Mitchell	N. Wolfe
J. Garland	D. Mok	B. Younker
D. Hooper	K. Moser	
Y. Huang	D. Murdoch	

Observers: K. Campbell, E. Chamberlain, M. Fox, L. Gribbon, T. Hinan, K. Hoffmann, J. Luker, J. McMullin, C. Waugh, A. Weedon

By Invitation: P. Eluchok, J. Grieve, J. Hutter, P. White

S.16-62 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting of February 12, 2016 were approved as circulated.

S.16-63 **Academic Policies** [S.16-47]

With respect to timing, G. Tigert reported that synchronization of the academic calendar and the academic policies manual is underway with the bulk of the work to be done over the summer and completion of the project by the end of the year.

S.16-64 **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

The President reported on Western's Indigenous Awareness Week, March 12 Open House, Teaching Excellence Award recipients, updates on the 2016 Ontario budget, funding for the Advanced Manufacturing Consortium (which is a partnership between Western, McMaster and Waterloo), an update on the Federal budget and an update on Ontario's International Education Strategy.

**REPORT OF THE OPERATIONS AGENDA COMMITTEE** [Exhibit I]

S.16-65 **Senate Membership: Faculty of Information and Media Studies Constituency**

It was moved by M. Milde, seconded by P. Bishop,

That Edward Comor be elected to replace Carole Farber on Senate as a representative of the Faculty of Information and Media Studies Constituency for a term to June 30, 2016.

CARRIED

S.16-66 **Board Report on Senate Agenda**

It was moved by M. Milde, seconded by N. Dyer-Witheyford,

That a Report from the Board of Governors be added as a standing item to Senate agendas.

CARRIED

S.16-67 **Senate Orientation**

- (a) Notice of Motion – Annual Governance Workshop
- (b) Joint Orientation Session for Board and Senate

At the last meeting of Senate, Senator Amanda Grzyb presented the following notice of motion:

That effective July 1, 2016, Senate institute a mandatory annual full-day training workshop on university governance for all elected and ex-officio senators. This workshop will be conducted annually prior to the first Senate meeting of the year.

Coincidentally, the Chair of the Board wrote to the Chair and Vice-Chair of Senate suggesting that consideration be given to developing a governance orientation session that might be commonly available to new members of the Board and of Senate. This arose out of the recommendations of the Board's Governance Review Task Force.

As one of the issues noted in the interim report of the Senate ad hoc Committee on Renewal is the need for more comprehensive orientation for senators, the Operations/Agenda Committee referred both the notice of motion and the Board's request to the ad hoc Committee for its consideration.

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

S.16-68 **Faculty of Arts and Humanities, Department of Film Studies: Withdrawal of the Minor in National Cinemas**

It was moved by S. Macfie, seconded by M. Milde,

That effective September 1, 2016, the Minor in National Cinemas be withdrawn.

CARRIED

S.16-69 **Faculty of Arts and Humanities, Department of French Studies: Revisions to the Diploma in Practical French (Diplôme de Français Pratique)**

It was moved by S. Macfie, seconded by M. Milde,

That effective September 1, 2016, the Diploma in Practical French be revised as shown in Exhibit II, item 2.

CARRIED

S.16-70 **School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies: Introduction of a 2+2 Agreement for a Doctoral Degree in Basic Medical Science between Soochow University, China and The University of Western Ontario**

It was moved by S. Macfie, seconded by L. Miller,

That effective March 1, 2016 Senate approve the introduction of a 2+2 Agreement for a Doctoral Degree in Basic Medical Science between Soochow University, China and The University of Western Ontario as shown in Exhibit II, Appendix 1.

CARRIED

S.16-71 **Faculty of Health Sciences, School of Health Studies and Brescia University College: Withdrawal of the Honors Specialization in Community Rural Health Development**

It was moved by S. Macfie, seconded by J. Garland,

That effective September 1, 2016, admissions in the Honors Specialization in Community Rural Health Development be discontinued, and

That students currently enrolled in the module be allowed to graduate until September 1, 2020, upon fulfillment of the requirements, and

That effective September 1, 2020 the module be withdrawn.

CARRIED

S.16-72 **Faculty of Information and Media Studies: Revisions to the Minor in Media, Information and Technoculture**

It was moved by S. Macfie, seconded by N. Dyer-Witthford,

That effective January 1, 2016, the Minor in Media, Information and Technoculture be revised as show in Exhibit II, item 5.

CARRIED

S.16-73 **Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry: Revisions to the Progression Requirements of the MD Program and Revisions to the Admission Requirements of the DDS Program**

S.16-73a **Revisions to the Progression Requirements of the MD Program**

It was moved by S. Macfie, seconded by P. Bishop,

That the MD program's Progression Requirements in the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry be revised as set out in Exhibit II, Appendix 2, effective September 1, 2016.

CARRIED

S.16-73b **Revisions to the Admission Requirements of the DDS Program**

It was moved by S. Macfie, seconded by P. Bishop,

That the DDS program's Admission Requirements in the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry be revised as set out in Exhibit II, Appendix 3, effective March 1, 2016.

CARRIED

S.16-74 **Faculty of Science: Introduction of the Western Integrated Science (WISc) Program and New Modules; Introduction of "Integrated Science" as a New Subject Area and New Courses in Integrated Science**

Prior to considering the recommendations regarding the introduction of the Western Integrated Science program and new modules, it was moved by S. Macfie, seconded by J. Deakin,

That Dr. J. Hutter, Associate Dean (Academic) for the Faculty of Science, be allowed speaking privileges to respond to questions relating to this matter.

CARRIED

S.16-74a **Introduction of the Western Integrated Science (WISc) Program and New Modules**

It was moved by S. Macfie, seconded by C. Dean,

That the Western Integrated Science (WISc) program be introduced in the Faculty of Science effective September 1, 2016, contingent upon Quality Council approval, and

That effective September 1, 2017 the following modules in Integrated Science be introduced as shown in Exhibit II, Appendix 4:

Honors Specialization in Integrated Science with Biology  
Honors Specialization in Integrated Science with Chemistry  
Honors Specialization in Integrated Science with Computer Science  
Honors Specialization in Integrated Science with Earth Sciences  
Honors Specialization in Integrated Science with Environmental Science  
Honors Specialization in Integrated Science with Genetics  
Honors Specialization in Integrated Science with Mathematics  
Honors Specialization in Integrated Science with Physics

Concern was expressed that the program as proposed was contrary to the intent of the modular structure which was to give students a wide range of independent choice in setting up their programs. This could have been established as two separate modules that would work well together; instead, the program has 13.5 required courses. It was also noted that the program

appeared to be intended to be an elite program for a small number of students and it was questioned whether there was any guarantee it would stay that way.

In response, the Provost pointed out that there are a number of precedents for programs that are structured somewhat outside the parameters of the modular system or have a focused area of study. The Dean of Science noted that all of the words following “integrated science” defined the honors specialization element. Breadth requirements remained the same as for all other programs and essay requirements were embedded in the courses associated with the program. Had the program been set up as an honors specialization in “x” with a minor in integrated science, the integrated science element would not appear on the diploma and an important part of the branding for the program would be lost. She pointed out that other universities with which Western competes, such as McMaster, were developing these types of programs. With respect to whether the program would remain “elite,” she noted that SCAPA had had the opposite concern and wondered whether the program might be opened up to more students who might want this “case based” approach to learning science. At this point, 60 students is the maximum that can be supported because of the very expensive labs needed. If there were to be high student demand, potential for growth could be explored. Nonetheless, given SCAPA’s remarks, the Faculty was reviewing how it might allow other students to have a taste of the program.

The question was called and CARRIED.

S.16-74b **Introduction of “Integrated Science” as a New Subject Area and New Courses**

It was moved by S. Macfie, seconded by C. Dean,

That “Integrated Science” be introduced as a new subject area effective September 1, 2016, and

That new courses in Integrated Science be introduced with sequential start dates, as shown in Exhibit II, Appendix 6.

CARRIED

S.16-75 **Faculty of Social Science, Department of Management and Organizational Studies and Western Centre for Continuing Studies: Introduction of the New Diploma in Human Resources and New Diploma Courses**

Prior to recommending the motion, S. Macfie presented the following amendment to Exhibit II, Appendix 7, page 2: The description of the course HURS6007: Labour Relations be revised to delete the partial sentence at the beginning of the course description.

It was moved by S. Macfie, seconded by D. Murdoch,

That effective March 1, 2016 a Diploma in Human Resources be introduced by the Faculty of Social Science, Department of Management and Organizational Studies in collaboration with the Western Centre for Continuing Studies, and

That new Diploma courses be introduced as shown in Exhibit II, Appendix 7.

CARRIED

S.16-76 **King’s University College: Revisions to the Management and Organizational Studies Modules**

It was moved by S. Macfie, seconded by D. Sylvester,

That effective September 1, 2016, the following modules in Management and Organizational Studies be revised as shown in Exhibit II, Appendix 8.

Honors Specialization in Accounting  
Honors Specialization in Finance and Administration  
Honors Specialization in Global Commerce  
Honors Specialization in Organizational and Human Resources

Major in Accounting  
Major in Global Commerce  
Major in Organizational and Human Resources

Specialization in Accounting  
Specialization in Finance and Administration  
Specialization in Global Commerce  
Specialization in Organizational and Human Resources

CARRIED

S.16-77

**Revisions to the Policy on Evaluation of Academic Performance**

It was moved by S. Macfie, seconded by M. Cheesman,

That the policy on Evaluation of Academic Performance be revised as shown in Exhibit II, item 10, effective February 1, 2016.

Senate discussed the proposed policy amendment at length. Those in support of the change spoke to the importance of students receiving information about their performance at a pivotal point, while they could still drop a course without academic consequence. It was noted that the change had been initiated because of a student complaint that faculty were not following the current policy which was less stringent. Providing an assessment worth 15 percent of a final mark was fair to students without being unduly onerous on faculty, and while a 15 percent assessment might not be determinative of a final grade, it would at least give students a sense of how they were doing. It was noted that even in essay-based courses, there were often pre-assignments or thesis proposal assignments that might make up the 15 percent.

Other members expressed concerns about the impact of the proposed policy on senior courses, student workload, and the ability of faculty to make pedagogical decisions. Some senior courses are structured in such a way that building in a separate 15 percent assessment would be difficult. A survey of students within the Economics department had indicated that those students preferred to have their graded assessments back-loaded to allow them to manage their time more effectively. There was no issue with the notion of giving students feedback, but the current guideline is flexible enough to allow faculty to make a decision as to how to give students feedback in a sound pedagogical way. There was also concern about how the requirement would be dealt with in the case of independent study, internships, field studies and other, less traditional, courses. It was suggested that further consultation with faculty EPCs and others was warranted; Senate was proposing to move from what was a guideline to a policy requirement on the basis of a discussion at SCAPA last week.

It was moved by J. Deakin, seconded by M. Milde

That the proposal be referred back to SCAPA for further review.

Speaking to the motion to refer, the Provost noted that while she remained supportive of the proposal, she recognized the need to identify courses which might be excepted from the rule. It was suggested that in identifying potential exceptions, EPCs should be canvassed.

Some spoke against the motion to defer with concerns on two counts. First, this is an issue that is very important to students and they should have the information available to them necessary to make a responsible decision. Second, if there is delay in bringing back the proposal beyond the

April meeting of Senate, the student voice would be diminished as many student Senators would have left for the summer following exams.

The vote was taken on the motion to refer back and CARRIED.

The Chair of SCAPA assured members that every attempt would be made to bring the proposal back in April.

S.16-78

**New Scholarships and Awards**

Senate was informed that SCAPA had approved the terms of reference for the new scholarships and awards shown in Exhibit II, Appendix 9, for recommendation to the Board of Governors through the Vice-Chancellor.

S.16-79

**Report of the Subcommittee on Teaching Awards (SUTA)**

The Report of the Subcommittee on Teaching Awards (SUTA) announcing the recipients of Western's Excellence in Teaching Awards, listed below, was distributed via email prior to the Senate meeting.

**The Edward G. Pleva Award for Excellence in Teaching**

Ann Bigelow, Faculty of Social Science, Department of Management and Organizational Studies  
George Gadanidis, Faculty of Education  
Wendy Pearson, Faculty of Arts and Humanities, Department of Women's Studies and Feminist Research

**The Marilyn Robinson Award for Excellence in Teaching**

Shauna Burke, Faculty of Health Sciences, School of Health Studies

**The Angela Armitt Award for Excellence in Teaching by Part-Time Faculty**

Jane Edwards, Faculty of Education  
Heather Gillis, Faculty of Health Sciences, School of Physical Therapy

**Western Award for Innovations in Technology-Enhanced Teaching**

Barbara Sinclair, Faculty of Health Sciences, School of Nursing

S.16-80

**Mental Health Supports at Western**

The President noted that he had asked the Associate Vice-President (Student Experience), J. Luker, to speak to recent news reports about wait times to see a psychiatrist at Student Health Services. To accommodate her schedule, the President asked Senate's permission for her to speak at this juncture rather than waiting until the end of the meeting under Other Business.

J. Luker noted that it was recently reported in the local media that Western's wait time for psychiatrists is 4 weeks. While this was true, she pointed out that in the broader community the wait time to see a psychiatrist is between 8-12 months. Western currently has no wait lists for other mental health supports such as psychologists, counsellors, social workers, or peer support. The Wellness Education Centre is now open in the UCC and will help students identify what support is available to them. A media release regarding the Wellness Education Centre will be issued soon. The Provost expressed her frustration at the way the media had portrayed this story. Western is one of only a few universities that has access to psychiatrists for students and there are many other supports available to our students which should be recognized.

**REPORT OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON UNIVERSITY PLANNING** [Exhibit III]

S.16-81 **Vicky Blair Fellowship in Vascular Surgery – Name Change**

It was moved by B.A. Younker, seconded by H. Orbach-Miller,

That the existing Vicky Blair Fellowship in Vascular Surgery established December 4, 2000 at the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry be renamed Bill & Vicky Blair Foundation Fellowship in Vascular Surgery.

CARRIED

S.16-82 **Update on Rapid Transit**

In the absence of G. Kulczycki, Vice-President (Resources and Operations), P. White, Executive Director, Government Relations and Strategic Partnerships, provided an update on London's Rapid Transit project. He reported that the formal consultation process on Rapid Transit closes on March 24. Comments can be submitted to [transit@uwo.ca](mailto:transit@uwo.ca). Western has included a link to the Rapid Transit Initiative site: [http://www.uwo.ca/ipb/publicaccountability/rapid\\_transit.html](http://www.uwo.ca/ipb/publicaccountability/rapid_transit.html) to inform the community as the process moves forward.

Recommendations regarding the Rapid Transit initiative will be formulated later in April for consideration by the Property & Finance Committee and Board.

Responding to the questions about the recently announced route changes by the London Transit Commission (LTC) due to the structural safety of the University Drive bridge, P. White said that following the annual visual inspection of the bridge, it was determined that repairs would be required. Consulting engineers advised Western on February 25 that they had concerns about the large buses using the bridge. Western provided that information to the LTC, orally, on February 26 and provided a written notice on February 29. On March 3, late in the afternoon, LTC informed Western about re-routing. It was, thus, not possible to seek student input on this matter due to the condensed timeframe. The construction company is on site now repairing the bridge. This project should be completed in three weeks. He noted that Ministry regulations require an annual inspection of the bridge.

S.16-83 **Annual Report of the Working Group on Information Security** (WGIS)

Senate received for information the Annual Report of the Working Group on Information Security (WGIS) detailed in Exhibit III, Appendix 1. The Chair noted that the Executive Director of Information Technology Services, J. Grieve, and P. Eluchok, the University's Privacy Officer, were in attendance to assist with questions.

In answers to questions about privacy and access to emails by US security services as a result of the proposed migration of faculty email to Microsoft, J. Grieve pointed members to the section of the report entitled "Cloud Service Risk Assessment." A framework had been developed to evaluate the risks of third-party software systems and that had been used to do the privacy impact assessment (PIA) of the Microsoft proposal. P. Eluchok noted that the PIA had been done prior to the migration of student and staff accounts. He noted that members of faculty could obtain a copy of the PIA and that he would be pleased to respond to specific questions that anyone might have.

S.16-84 **REPORT OF THE ACADEMIC COLLEAGUE** [Exhibit IV]

Senate received for information the Report of the Academic Colleague detailed in Exhibit IV.



**DISCUSSION AND QUESTION PERIOD**

S.16-85

**Western Degree Outcomes**

Senators had received prior notification of Senator McDayter's suggestion that Senate have a discussion of what having a Western Degree means, noting that this was part of the discussion around learning outcomes. However, he asked that the discussion be postponed until the next meeting to give Senators time to review the Draft Report of the Working Group on Western Degree Outcomes. The draft report is found at:

[http://www.uwo.ca/pvp/vpacademic/igap/doc/undergrad\\_program/Report\\_of\\_the\\_Working\\_Group\\_on\\_WDOs\\_March\\_2016.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/pvp/vpacademic/igap/doc/undergrad_program/Report_of_the_Working_Group_on_WDOs_March_2016.pdf)

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 3:27 p.m.

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A. Chakma  
Chair

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I. Birrell  
Secretary