

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SENATE

December 8, 2017

The meeting was held at 1:30 p.m. in Room 1R40, Arts and Humanities Building.

SENATORS: 71

R. Andersen	Y. Hassan	D. Moser
W. Avusuglo	J. Hatch	S. Mumm
T. Baerg	H. Hill	K. Myers
G. Belfry	A. Hrymak	V. Nielsen
M. Blackwood	C. Jones	C. Olivier
A. Bowlus	P. Jones	G. Parraga
J. Capone	D. Jorgensen	I. Paul
T. Carmichael	A. Katz	W. Pearson
A. Chakma	J. Kim	C. Roulston
E. Chamberlain	J. Knowles	D.R. Sainani
C.L. Chambers	G. Kopp	P. Schmidt
A. Chant	D. Kotsopoulos	Z. Sinel
L. Charland	D. Laird	J. Siou
K. Cole	K. Lawless	W. Siqueira
R. Collins	L. Logan	V. Staroverov
M. Crossan	E. Macpherson	C. Steeves
R. Damji	J. Matthews	T. Straatman
R. Datta	M. McDayter	M. Strong
J. Deakin	A. Meyer	M. Vandebosch
I. Decoito	J. Michalski	E. Walsh
P. Doyle	M. Milde	J. Wihlidal
O. Enbar	K. Miller	B.A. Younker
J. Garland	L. Miller	K. Zhou
C. Hardy	J. Mitchell	

Observers: M.B. Bonn, K. Campbell, J. Doerksen, J. Sadler, T. Solebo, J. Weese

Land Acknowledgement

J. Hatch read the Land Acknowledgement.

S.17-237 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting of November 17, 2017 were approved as circulated.

Business Arising from the Minutes

S.17-238 **Report on Scholastic Offences** [S.17-211]

At the October Senate meeting a Senator asked for clarification of the sanction “negative the weight of the assignment” listed in the Report on Scholastic Offences. J. Doerksen, Vice-Provost (Academic Programs), said that he followed up with Ivey, and the sanction meant that the mark on the participation grade was decreased.

S.17-239 **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT** [Exhibit I]

The President's report, distributed with the agenda, contained information on the following topics:

- Western's 23rd Rhodes Scholar named – Levi Hord
- Community Engaged Learning (CEL) programs honoured
- Polanyi Prize recognizes Robarts postdoctoral fellow – Sarah Svenningsen
- Scholar-athlete achievements recognized
- Western leadership update

S.17-240 **UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGENDA** [Exhibit II]

It was moved by A. Chant, seconded by M. Milde,

That the items listed in Exhibit II, Unanimous Consent Agenda, excluding item 4: School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies: Introduction of a Dual-Credential Doctoral Degree Program – Engineering between Western and Zhejiang (China), be approved or received for information by Senate by unanimous consent.

CARRIED

REPORT OF THE SENATE OPERATIONS/AGENDA COMMITTEE [Exhibit III]

S.17-241 **Senate Membership – Richard Ivey School of Business Constituency**

It was moved by A. Chant, seconded by M. Milde,

That the seat held by Mary Crossan, representative of the Richard Ivey School of Business constituency, be declared vacant as a result of her resignation and that Vaughan Radcliffe be elected to fill this vacancy for the remainder of the term (January 1, 2018 to June 30, 2018).

CARRIED (By Unanimous Consent)

S.17-242 **Information Item Reported by the Senate Operations/Agenda Committee**

The Report of the Senate Operations/Agenda Committee, detailed in Exhibit III, contained the following item that was received for information by unanimous consent:

- Annual Report on Convocation Statistics – 2017

REPORT OF THE SENATE NOMINATING COMMITTEE [Exhibit IV]

S.17-243 **Selection Committee/Review Committee for the Vice-President (External)**

One additional student nomination was received from the floor for membership on the Selection Committee/Review Committee for the Vice-President (External). Senators were advised that an e-vote would be conducted to determine which of the two student nominees, Y. Hassan or H. Qian, would be elected to the committee.

[Secretary's note: H. Qian was elected by Senate by an e-vote.]

H. Berman, A. Hrymak, and S. MacDougall-Shackleton were elected by acclamation to the Selection Committee/Review Committee for the Vice-President (External).

S.17-244 **Selection Committee for the Associate Vice-President (Student Experience)**

L. Davies, J. Faflak, S. Knabe, and A. Mandich were elected by acclamation to the Selection Committee for the Associate Vice-President (Student Experience).

A Senator asked how the five members listed under point (f) would be selected. E. Hegedues, Associate University Secretary, responded that those members are appointed by the Provost & Vice-President (Academic), who is also the Chair of the committee.

S.17-245 **Selection Committee for the University Registrar**

J. Finegan, J. Hatch, S. Macfie, and R. Datta were elected by acclamation to the Selection Committee for the University Registrar.

S.17-246 **Information Item Reported by the Senate Nominating Committee**

Exhibit VI, Report of the Senate Nominating Committee, contained the following item that was received for information by unanimous consent:

- Appointment of Alternate Member on the Senate Committee on University Planning – H. Hill

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

S.17-247 **School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies: Introduction of a Dual-Credential Doctoral Degree Program – Engineering between Western and Zhejiang University (China)**

It was moved by J. Hatch, seconded by L. Miller,

That, effective December 1, 2017, Senate approve the introduction of a Dual Doctoral Degree Program – Engineering between Zhejiang University and The University of Western Ontario as outlined in the Dual Doctoral Degree Program Agreement included as Exhibit V, Appendix 1.

A member expressed concern regarding article 4.4. of the agreement, which states that leaves of absence must be approved by the relevant authorities at both Universities. Noting that not all universities may be progressive in terms of recognizing the need to grant students a leave of absence under various circumstances, the member suggested that future agreements state that a request for a leave of absence granted by one university shall not be unreasonably denied by the other.

L. Miller, Vice-Provost (Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies), explained that students move back and forth between the two institutions. Any request for a leave of absence would be submitted to the university where the student was currently studying. She noted that Western could not compel a partner university to grant a leave of absence while the student was at that institution.

In response to a question regarding the funding window and normal expectations of completion time, L. Miller clarified that the institution that granted the leave of absence would also be extending the window of funding at their own institution.

The President noted that the Senator's suggestion would be taken under advisement.

The question was called and CARRIED.

S.17-248 **Faculty of Social Science and Faculty of Arts and Humanities: Introduction of Politics, Philosophy and Economics (PPE) as a New Subject Area**

It was moved by A. Chant, seconded by M. Milde,

That the new subject area of Politics, Philosophy and Economics (PPE) be introduced into the undergraduate offerings of the Faculty of Social Science and the Faculty of Arts and Humanities, and included in Category A for Breadth Requirements for Graduation, effective September 1, 2018, detailed in Exhibit V, item 2.

CARRIED (By Unanimous Consent)

S.17-249 **Brescia University College: Withdrawal of the Minor in Canadian Studies and Major in Canadian Social and Environmental History**

It was moved by A. Chant, seconded by M. Milde,

That effective September 1, 2017, the Minor in Canadian Studies and the Major in Canadian Social and Environmental Studies be discontinued.

CARRIED (By Unanimous Consent)

S.17-250 **Brescia University College: Withdrawal of French Modules and Introduction of an Honors Specialization in French Studies**

S.17-250a. **Withdrawal of French Modules**

It was moved by A. Chant, seconded by M. Milde,

That effective September 1, 2018, admissions to the Honors Specialization in French Linguistics and Literature
Honors Specialization in French Language and Literature
Honors Specialization in French Language and Linguistics
be discontinued, and

That students currently enrolled in these modules be allowed to graduate until August 31, 2021 upon fulfillments of the module requirements, and

That effective September 1, 2021 the modules be discontinued.

CARRIED (By Unanimous Consent)

S.17-250b. **Introduction of an Honors Specialization in French Studies**

It was moved by A. Chant, seconded by M. Milde,

That effective September 1, 2018, the Honors Specialization in French Studies be introduced, as detailed in Exhibit V, item 4b.

CARRIED (By Unanimous Consent)

S.17-251 **Huron University College: Introduction of the Specialization in Global Gender Studies**

It was moved by A. Chant, seconded by M. Milde,

That the Specialization in Global Gender Studies be introduced at Huron University College, effective September 1, 2018, as shown in Exhibit V, Appendix 2.

CARRIED (By Unanimous Consent)

S.17-252 **King's University College: Renaming of the Honors Specialization and Major in Continental Philosophy**

It was moved by A. Chant, seconded by M. Milde,

That effective September 1, 2018 the Honors Specialization and the Major in Continental Philosophy be renamed to the Honors Specialization and the Major in Social and Political Thought.

CARRIED (By Unanimous Consent)

S.17-253 **King's University College: Withdrawal of the Honors Specialization and Major in Philosophy and Religion**

It was moved by A. Chant, seconded by M. Milde,

That effective September 1, 2018, admissions to the Honors Specialization and Major in Philosophy and Religion be discontinued, and

That students currently enrolled in these modules be allowed to graduate until August 31, 2021 upon fulfillments of the module requirements, and

That effective September 1, 2021 the modules be discontinued.

CARRIED (By Unanimous Consent)

S.17-254 **Information Items Reported by the Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Awards**

Exhibit V, Report of the Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Awards, contained the following items that were received for information by unanimous consent:

- Faculty of Law and Richard Ivey School of Business: Revisions to the Description of the JD/MBA Combined Program
- New Scholarships and Awards

REPORT OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON UNIVERSITY PLANNING [Exhibit VI]

S.17-255 **J.C. Kennedy Chair in Orthopaedic Surgery – Revised Terms of Reference**

It was moved by A. Chant, seconded by M. Milde,

That the terms for the J.C. Kennedy Chair in Orthopaedic Surgery be updated as described in Exhibit VI, item 1, effective January 1, 2018.

CARRIED (By Unanimous Consent)

REPORT FROM THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS ON THE NOVEMBER 23, 2017 MEETING
[Exhibit VII]

S.17-256 **Information Item Reported from the Board of Governors**

Exhibit VII, Report from the Board of Governors, contained the following item that was received for information by unanimous consent:

- Report on the November 23, 2017 Meeting of the Board of Governors

S.17-257 **ANNOUNCEMENTS** [Exhibit VIII]

Announcements, detailed in Exhibit VIII, were received for information by unanimous consent.

DISCUSSION AND QUESTION PERIOD

S.17-258 **Status of Recommendations made in the Senate ad hoc Committee on Renewal Report**

A Senator submitted a request for an update on the status of the recommendations made within the Senate ad hoc Committee on Renewal's report. M. Milde, Chair of the Operations/Agenda Committee, referred Senators to the *Report on Implementation of Recommendations* included in the September Senate Agenda. He noted that this report outlined the status of all recommendations. Additionally, he drew Senators' attention to the number of recommendations requiring the resources of the Secretariat. He informed Senators that they would be kept apprised of progress.

S.17-259 **Reorganization of the Western Libraries**

A Senator submitted a question regarding the reorganization of Western Libraries, specifically in relation to the Director of the Law Library as well as other professional and staff librarian positions dedicated solely to the functioning of the John & Dotsa Bitove Family Law Library. The Senator asked why the reorganization had not been discussed explicitly, accepted, or authorized by Senate.

J. Deakin, Provost and Vice-President (Academic), provided clarifications in response to the question. She informed Senators that the Director of the Law Library position was not being eliminated, and that the reference to this in the first paragraph of the question was incorrect.

J. Deakin also mentioned that in 2013, during the search for a new Vice-Provost & Chief Librarian, the external reviewers commented that Western Libraries were operating in a 20th century library service model and that their new leader would need to review and renew the organization for the 21st century. This was one of the reasons for the organizational renewal initiative that began 18 months ago.

In response to the questions regarding the role of Senate with respect to the reorganization of the libraries, J. Deakin provided the following comments:

- Section 19(b) of the Act speaks only to the policies and procedures for the appointment of the Director of the Libraries, and does not speak to the reorganization of the libraries.
- Section 18 of the Act gives powers to the Board over all matters not assigned to the Senate, whether they are referenced in Section 19 or not. She noted that the fact that there is no mention of Western Libraries in the Act, other than 19(b), would support the position that the organization of the libraries is solely a matter for the board.
- Section 20 of the Act speaks to the termination of programs of instruction. J. Deakin noted that she was not aware that the reorganization would involve the termination of any programs of instruction.

In response to a question regarding the elimination of professional and staff librarian positions, C. Steeves, Vice-Provost and Chief Librarian, clarified that the new organization model released to staff in June 2017 did not propose the elimination of any positions, and has a place for every incumbent, both professional and support staff.

J. Deakin informed Senators that the reorganization of the libraries has been an inclusive library-driven undertaking over the past 18 months. The process has been driven by working groups and a steering team comprised of librarians, archivists and staff and informed by input from users of the library. The library has also worked closely with UWOFA-LA to determine appropriate processes to support the reorganization.

A Senator indicated that some library staff are concerned that they might be assigned other functions, and will not be able to continue performing the teaching duties they currently perform. C. Steeves clarified that the law librarians will still have the opportunity to provide instruction. She explained that one element of the reorganization is that professional staff are being organized into teams to focus on supporting the teaching, learning and research outcomes of faculties.

A Senator noted his appreciation that the question concerning staff positions was brought forward by a faculty member. He expressed concern that with the growth in enrolment the number of full-time staff positions has fallen, and that many staff members are part-time or on contract. He encouraged Senators to engage with the staff in their units, to find out who is on contract, and he hoped that this would change how staff are viewed.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

A. Chakma
Chair

E. Hegedues
Associate University Secretary