

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SENATE

DECEMBER 7, 2018

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

SENATORS:

R. Andersen	A. Grzyb	D. Olteanu
S. Barghi	M. Heath	G. Parraga
S. Basu	A. Holm	I. Paul
G. Belfry	A. Hrymak	W. Pearson
L. Beres	L. Jiang	P. Peddle
A. Borchert	A. Kanji	V. Radcliffe
A. Bowlus	J. Kim	A. Ray
D. Brou	K. Kirkwood	G. Read
S. Burke	S. Knabe	M. Robinson
J. Capone	R. Konrad	C. Roulston
A. Chakma	G. Kopp	J. Rylett
E. Chamberlain	K. Kwan	P. Schmidt
A. Chant	D. Laird	V. Schwean
K. Clark	K. Lawless	K. Shuey
K. Cole	L. Logan	N. Shuva
R. Collins	D. Macpherson	Z. Sinel
J. Corrigan	J. Malcolm	V. Smye
J. Cuciurean	J. Matthews	C. Steeves
V. Dalal	M. McDayter	P. Thomlinson
S. Datars Bere	D. McDonald	G. Tigert
C. Dick	A. Meyer	M. Vandenbosch
B. Faubert	J. Michalski	J. Wilson
L. Federking	M. Milde	K. Yeung
J. Garland	K. Miller	B.A. Younker
R. Garno	L. Miller	P. Yu
L. Ghattas	S. Mumm	

Observers: C. Alencar, D. Belliveau, T. Belton, K. Campbell, J. Doerksen, L. Gribbon, M. Pratt, M.B. Rose

Land Acknowledgement

M. Robinson read the Land Acknowledgement.

S.18-185

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of November 16, 2018 were approved as circulated.

S.18-186 **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT** [Exhibit I]

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

City of London municipal elections; Western's sixth Killam laureate, Dr. Vladimir Hachinski; Dr. Isaac Luginaah was named a Fellow of the African Academy of Sciences; Catherine Steeves' renewal to a second five-year term as Vice-Provost & Chief Librarian.

The President noted that the incoming President, Dr. A. Shepard, would be transitioning over the next several months, and that Dr. A. Hrymak would be chairing the transition committee. The selection committees for the Deans of the Ivey Business School, Faculty of Engineering, and Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry as well as for the Vice-Provost (Academic Programs), and Vice-Provost (Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies) are ongoing.

S.18-187 **UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGENDA** [Exhibit II]

It was moved by A. Chant, seconded by L. Ghattas,

That the items listed in the Unanimous Consent Agenda (Exhibit II) be approved and received for information by Senate by unanimous consent.

CARRIED

REPORT OF THE OPERATIONS/AGENDA COMMITTEE [Exhibit III]

S.18-188 **Revisions to the Senate Election Procedures**

It was moved by J. Wilson, seconded by A. Chant,

That effective December 1, 2018 the Senate Election Procedures be revised as shown in Exhibit III.

CARRIED

S.18-189 **2017 - 2018 Annual Report of the Senate Review Board Academic**

The 2017-2018 Annual Report of the Senate Review Board Academic, detailed in Exhibit III, Appendix 1, was received for information.

S. 18-190 **Convocation Statistics – 2018**

Senate received for information the 2018 Convocation Statistics, detailed in Exhibit III, Appendix 2(a) and 2(b).

REPORT OF THE SENATE NOMINATING COMMITTEE [Exhibit IV]

S. 18-191 **Senate Committee on University Planning**

J. Cuciurean was elected to the Senate Committee on University Planning to complete the term of K. Verwaayen who has resigned (term to June 30, 2019).

S.18-192 **Faculty Scholar Selection Committee**

J. Gilroy was elected to the Faculty Scholar Selection Committee to complete the term of B. Baruah who will be on leave (January 1 – June 30, 2019).

S.18-193 **Distinguished University Professor Selection Committee**

J. Rylett was elected to the Distinguished University Professor Selection Committee to complete the term of K. Shoemaker (for a term to June 30, 2019).

A Senator requested clarification on the definition of a Senior Scholar, further requesting that the University Secretary review and revise the Terms of Reference for the Distinguished University Professor Selection Committee to outline how a Senior Scholar would be defined for future nomination periods.

The University Secretary noted the request and advised that the revision would come to Senate before the April 2019 meeting.

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

Faculty of Arts and Humanities, Department of Visual Arts: Reorganization of the Undergraduate Programs in Visual Arts

S.18-194a **Introduction of "Art History", "Museum and Curatorial Studies" and "Studio Art" as New Subject Areas and Removal of the Subject Areas "Visual Arts History" and "Visual Arts Studio"**

It was moved by A. Chant, seconded by L. Ghattas,

That effective September 1, 2019 the following new subject areas be introduced in the Faculty of Arts and Humanities, Department of Visual Arts:

Art History, Museum and Curatorial Studies, Studio Art; and

That these subject areas be included in Category B for Breadth Requirements for Graduation as shown below; and

That the following subject areas be removed from the Faculty of Arts and Humanities, Department of Visual Arts:

Visual Arts History, Visual Arts Studio

CARRIED (By Unanimous Consent)

S.18-194b **Introduction of Minors and Certificates in Art History; Museum and Curatorial Studies; Photography; Studio Art**

It was moved by A. Chant, seconded by L. Ghattas,

That effective September 1, 2019 the following new Minors and Certificates be introduced in the Faculty of Arts and Humanities, Department of Visual Arts, as shown in Exhibit V, Appendix 1:

Minor and Certificate in Art History, Minor and Certificate in Museum and Curatorial Studies, Minor and Certificate in Photography, Minor and Certificate in Studio Art

CARRIED (By Unanimous Consent)

S.18-195 **School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies: Withdrawal of the “Entrepreneurship and Innovation” Field and Introduction of the “Digital Management” Field in the MSc in Management Program**

It was moved by A. Chant, seconded by L. Ghattas,

That effective January 1, 2019 the “Entrepreneurship and Innovation” Field be withdrawn, and the “Digital Management” Field be introduced in the MSc in Management Program at the Richard Ivey School of Business as shown in Exhibit V, Appendix 2.

CARRIED (By Unanimous Consent)

S.18-196 **School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies: Introduction of a Graduate Diploma in Management (GDM)**

It was moved by A. Chant, seconded by L. Ghattas,

That, pending Quality Council approval, the new Graduate Diploma in Management (GDM) be introduced in the School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies, effective September 1, 2019 as shown in Exhibit V, Appendix 3.

CARRIED (By Unanimous Consent)

S.18-197 **Faculty of Health Sciences, School of Kinesiology: Renaming of the Honors Specialization in Professional Kinesiology**

It was moved by A. Chant, seconded by L. Ghattas,

That effective September 1, 2018 the Honors Specialization in Professional Kinesiology be renamed to the Honors Specialization in Clinical Kinesiology.

CARRIED (By Unanimous Consent)

S.18-198 **Revision to the Graduation with Distinction – Undergraduate Students Policy (Richard Ivey School of Business)**

That the Graduation with Distinction Policy be revised, effective January 1, 2019, as shown in Exhibit V, Appendix 4.

CARRIED (By Unanimous Consent)

S.18-199 **Report of the Subcommittee on Program Review – Graduate (SUPR-G): Cyclical review of Graduate Program of Philosophy**

Senate received for information the Philosophy Program Final Assessment Report & Implementation Plan of the Subcommittee on Program Review – Graduate (SUPR-G), detailed in Exhibit IV, Appendix 6.

S.18-200 **Establishment of the *ad hoc* Subcommittee on Fall Reading Week**

M. Workentin, Vice-Chair of SCAPA, reported that SCAPA established a Subcommittee to review the feasibility to continue the Fall Study Week for 2019 and beyond, as well as to review any additional policy changes that might be necessary to accommodate it. He reminded Senate that the two-year trial period of the Fall Reading Week ended in October 2018. The *ad hoc* Subcommittee is expected to

provide its recommendations to SCAPA and Senate over the next few months as it progresses with its work. He mentioned that the numerous academic policy changes introduced over the past few years had unintended consequences on the academic lives of students and created a broader range of issues. He advised Senate that SCAPA will bring forward a motion to the January 2019 meeting to sustain the Fall Reading Week in its current format for 2019 so the Subcommittee would have enough time to bring forward its recommendations for policy changes.

M. Workentin mentioned that the next item regarding the changes to “Scheduling of Examinations and Responsibility for Printing” policy, and ultimately re-establishing the option for Sunday exams is intended to address the immediate issues associated with the introduction of the numerous policy changes over the years.

S.18-201

Revisions to the “Scheduling of Examinations and Responsibility for Printing” Policy

It was moved by G. Tigert, seconded by S. Knabe,

That the “Scheduling of Examinations and Responsibility for Printing” policy be revised effective January 1, 2019 for an 18-month period (to June 30, 2020), as shown in Exhibit V, Appendix 5.

Senator D. Olteanu submitted some concerns from his constituency – Faculty of Science – in relation to this proposed policy change which was circulated to Senate in advance of the meeting (see [Appendix 1](#)). He asked Senate not to pass the motion as a permanent solution and wait until the committee could find alternatives to the reintroduction of Sunday exams.

J. Doerksen, Vice-Provost (Academic Programs), provided Senate with a presentation on the impact of the Fall Reading Week and subsequent policies that have impacted the scheduling of exams. He noted that current policies prevent examinations from taking place during the last three weeks of the term, and that the 15% rule removed an additional two weekends from consideration for exam scheduling. The introduction of the Fall Reading Week further impacted two additional weekends, as it is prohibited to schedule examinations on the weekends before or after the break. In addition, there are additional constraints due to the deadlines for submission of grades to meet the 15% deadline. The cumulative effect of these policy changes resulted in a couple of Saturdays and Friday nights as potential options available for examinations, which created additional stress for students.

The Vice-Provost (Academic Programs) noted that academic units also report more scheduling conflicts which has led to more make-up exams. He also noted that Senate’s policy requires that a common exam should be scheduled for multiple sections of the same course at the same time. He noted that the intent of the motion is to provide more flexibility over the next 18-month period in scheduling of examinations, and to allow the Subcommittee to bring back recommendations to Senate.

The Vice-Provost (Academic Programs) mentioned that student feedback received via the Associate Deans mentioned two specific issues: 1) that Sundays were observed as religious days, and 2) that Sunday bus services were not as robust as other days. He noted that the university has policies for religious accommodations, and that the concerns regarding the bus service on Sundays were addressed in the policy, as examinations would not be scheduled to start before 10:00 a.m.

Senator D. Olteanu noted that Sunday midterm exams would provide students with limited time to rest or prepare for classes.

A Senator noted that the fall and winter terms are structured the same way in terms of the policy regulations, and that the motion sought to avoid students potentially having two exams on Saturday versus having one on Saturday and one on Sunday.

A Senator asked for clarification on how many courses are running examinations on the weekend. J. Doerksen responded that there were approximately thirty thousand term tests scheduled but not all of them would be scheduled over a weekend. He noted that these examinations would be scheduled by the units and not by the Registrar’s Office therefore he does not have the exact data for this.

A Student Senator from the Faculty of Music noted that the change could create more concerns for students, as Sunday is currently the only day that students can work over the examination periods. She noted that while the Faculty of Music does not have weekend exams, elective courses could still have weekend exams that would interfere with the student's ability to work during exams. The Student Senator asked whether it would be possible to amend the policy to allow for the scheduling of exams only on the three Sundays, mentioned previously, instead of the entire semester. M. Workentin mentioned that this would be hard to work into the proposed policy amendment, given that it refers to three separate terms.

A Senator asked that instead of looking at the three weekends – weeks 7, 8 and 9 – the policy language should address the three weekends before the 15% rule applies. That way the policy would not have to change annually.

A Senator noted that some instructors are scheduling midterms during the two-hour class period rather than over the weekend. He suggested that midterms could be scheduled on other days if larger rooms could be provided for that purpose. M. Workentin responded that a lot of the classes are scheduled only for 50 minutes, which would not allow for the scheduling of such tests. He also mentioned that allowing for Sunday exams would not necessarily mean that there would be more midterms held on that day, but rather it would only allow for more flexibility in scheduling these.

A Senator mentioned that in her opinion the issue driving this is the 15% rule and not scheduling exams on the weekends. She asked if it would be possible to roll back the 15% issue for the next 18 months.

The Chair noted that the *ad hoc* committee would be contemplating these questions amongst many others.

The Chair proposed a revision to the original motion to allow for the scheduling of exams only during the three Sundays preceding the 15% deadline.

It was moved by R. Garno and seconded by O. Nadler that,

Exams could only be scheduled during the three Sundays preceding the 15% drop deadline.

M. Workentin felt that amending the original motion was *ad hoc* which might lead to similar problems that were created by similar processes in the past. He reiterated that the spirit of the motion is to provide options for scheduling exams and that the change was proposed for a short term – 18 months. In his view, the original motion would cover everything without overwhelming students and would fix some of the problems, while relieving stress for students.

The question to amend the motion was called and DEFEATED.

A Student Senator proposed that no exams should be scheduled on the Saturday and the Sunday on the same weekend.

M. Workentin noted that the original motion is trying to spread the exams over two days, rather than having several exams on one day.

A Student Senator asked if Sunday evenings could be excluded from scheduling exams so students could catch up with their school work or work during that time.

J. Doerksen responded that this request would potentially eliminate two exam periods on Sundays thus further limiting scheduling.

A Senator recommended that Senate approve the motion as written, and suggested that the Office of the Registrar send out a friendly directive to all academic units to restrict Sunday examinations to those

three Sundays mentioned. J. Doerksen was receptive to the idea and stated that while the scheduling of these examinations are happening at the faculty level, he would be willing to provide guidelines in this regard.

The original motion was called and CARRIED

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS [Exhibit VI]

S.18-202 Announcements and Communications, detailed in Exhibit VI were received for information.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:30p.m.

A. Chakma
Chair

K. Kwan
Secretary