

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SENATE

SEPTEMBER 20, 2019

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

SENATORS: 77

R. Andersen	L. Ghattas	S. Mumm
M. Baker	M. Goodman	A. Nelson
S. Basu	M. Grenier	C. Nolan
J. Baxter	A. Grzyb	J. Nord
G. Belfry	L. Henderson	N. Nuimat
L. Beres	K. Hibbert	I. Paul
S. Birdi	H. Hill	P. Peddle
L. Bot	V. Hocke	S. Prichard
H. Boyi	A. Holm	V. Radcliffe
D. Brou	A. Hrymak	G. Read
K. Burghardt-Jesson	D. Jeffrey	S. Roland
S. Burke	L. Jiang	C. Roulston
E. Chamberlain	V. Joe	A. Rozovsky
A. Chant	R. Kennedy	A. Shepard
M. Cleveland	K. Kirkwood	C. Steeves
K. Cole	J. Kitz	S. Taylor
K. Coley	R. Konrad	P. Thomlinson
J. Compton	M. Koschinsky	G. Tigert
J. Corrigan	K. Kwan	J. Toswell
J. Cuciurean	L. Logan	S. Trosow
V. Dalal	D. Macpherson	G. West
S. Datars Bere	D. Malloy	J. Wilson
M. Davison	K. Mequanint	K. Yeung
C. Dick	M. Milde	B. Younker
L. Frederking	L. Miller	R. Zitikis
M. Garabedian	S. Morrison	

Observers: T. Belton, K. Campbell, R. Chelladurai, J. Ciriello, J. Doerksen, L. Gribbon, B. Jalayer, J. Massey, M. Ruddock.

Land Acknowledgement

R. Kennedy read the Land Acknowledgement.

S.19-131

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of June 7, 2019 were approved as circulated.

S.19-132 **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT** [Exhibit I]

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

- Welcome of first incoming class as Western's 11th President
- 3rd Annual World's Challenge Challenge
- *Times Higher Education* Teaching Excellence Summit
- International Association for College Admission Counseling
- 7th annual *See the Line* symposium on concussion research
- Congress 2020, scheduled for May 30, 2020 – June 5, 2020
- Special honours:
 - Ann Chambers, Joy MacDermid, Ravi Menon (elected fellows, Royal Society of Canada)
 - Lauren Flynn and Janice Forsyth (RSC's College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists)
 - Neil Banerjee (Canadian Fulbright Fellowship)
 - Students Katie Brown, and Liam Israels received Schulich Leaders Scholarships
 - Alumni Selwyn Collaco and Devish Gupta named among Canada's Top 25 Immigrants
- Social Science & Humanities Research Council
- Canadian Institutes of Health Research
- Canada Foundation for Innovation
- Next round of Strategic Mandate Agreements (SMA3) for Ontario's postsecondary institutions
- Meetings with Ross Romano, Merilee Fullerton, and David Piccini
- Senior appointments:
 - Sarah Prichard, Acting Vice-President (Research)
 - Kevin Shoemaker, Acting Associate Vice-President (Research)
 - Jacquelyn Burkell, Acting Associate Vice-President (Research)
 - Ken Coley, Dean, Faculty of Engineering
 - Perry Klein, Acting Dean, Faculty of Education
 - Jim Weese, Acting Vice-Provost & Associate Vice-President (International)
 - Mark Daley, Special Advisor to the President (Data Strategy)

S.19-133 **UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGENDA** [Exhibit II]

It was moved by M. Milde, seconded by R. Konrad,

That the items listed in the Unanimous Consent Agenda (Exhibit II), except item 12 be approved or received for information by Senate by unanimous consent.

CARRIED

REPORT OF THE OPERATIONS/AGENDA COMMITTEE [Exhibit III]

S.19-134 **Appointment of Acting Chancellor for Western's Dual Installation - October 22, 2019**

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

That Senate authorize Mr. John Thompson, Chancellor Emeritus as the Acting Chancellor at Western's Dual Installation ceremony scheduled for October 22, 2019.

CARRIED

S.19-135 **Notice of Motion regarding the proposal for a Senate *ad hoc* Committee for Honourary Degrees and Convocation**

Senate received an electronic communication dated July 2, 2019 which contained a proposal for Senate to create an *ad hoc* committee to consider several concerns related to honourary degrees and Convocation.

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

Senate to create an *ad hoc* committee to make recommendations concerning some elements of the honorary degree process, including nominations, selection, and the role of honorary doctorate recipients in convocations.

In support of the motion, the following items were discussed with respect to the proposed intent of the motion:

- Changes to Convocation volunteer levels
- Faculty participation and engagement at Convocation
- Increases in the number of Convocation ceremonies
- Thames Hall renovation and impact to Convocation marshalling areas
- Convocation expenses and budget
- Convocation Brass
- Procedural concerns relating to the execution of Convocation ceremonies
- Increases to the number of Honorary Degrees being awarded at Convocation
- Speeches being reviewed prior to the ceremonies
- Procedures created to address the possible concerns
- Convocation focus on graduates
- Convocation program changes relating to inclusivity and information relating to indigenous symbols
- The assessment of a graduating student as a security risk subsequent to receiving their degree on stage
- Composition of the Convocation Board

It was moved by K. Mequanint, and seconded by B. Younker,

That the items in the Notice of Motion regarding the proposal for a Senate *ad hoc* Committee for Honorary Degrees and Convocation, be referred to the Convocation Board and Honorary Degree Committees of Senate, and that a report be provided to Senate for the November 15, 2019 meeting.

In favour of the motion to Refer to Committee, Senators noted the following items:

- Senate already has two committees designated to deal with concerns related to the items presented. The creation of an *ad hoc* committee did not seem necessary in order to complete the review and work being addressed by the motion.
- The creation of an *ad hoc* committee could be seen as an indication of distrust in the work of the existing standing committees.
- The current committees structure addressed the concerns adequately.
- The existing committees could reflect on the items being put forward and subsequently decide that an *ad hoc* committee would be useful, but using the existing structures and referring the items to them meant that the current standing committees would have an opportunity to review the materials.

In opposition of the proposed motion to Refer to Committee, Senators noted the following items:

- The desire to strike an *ad hoc* committee comes from a procedural concern that the work would fall outside of the current scope of the committees' terms of reference.
- The idea of creating an *ad hoc* committee merited consideration in order to give the review of these items a fresh perspective.
- The original motion would demonstrate to the university community the emphasis that Senate would like reflected, with respect to the seriousness with the events that took place at the Spring and Fall Convocation.
- The original motion was seeking a method of establishing a relationship between the two committees of Senate which would facilitate collaboration.
- The intent of the original motion was to establish a holistic review of Convocation while the existing standing Senate committees continued with their regular agendas.

A Senator asked whether there was a student member on the Convocation Board.

The Secretary of Senate advised that the composition of the Convocation Board does not include a student.

A Senator requested clarification on the communication between the Honourary Degrees Committee and the Convocation Board.

The Secretary of Senate advised that the membership of the committees overlapped and that communication between the committees is exchanged via the shared participants.

The motion to Refer to Committee was called and CARRIED (37 votes in favor and 27 votes against)

S.19-136 **Information Items Reported by the Operations/Agenda Committee**

Exhibit III, Report of the Operations/Agenda Committee, contained the following items that were received for information by unanimous consent:

- Officers of Convocation
- Order of June Convocation 2020

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE [Exhibit IV]

S.19-137 **Senate Committee on University Planning (SCUP)**

R. Yost (Graduate Student) was acclaimed to the Senate Committee on University Planning (SCUP) for a term to June 30, 2020.

S.19-138 **Selection/Review Committee for the Vice-President (Research)**

E. Ansari (Music), M. Davison (Sci)(Dean), A. Nelson (SS), N. Wathen (FIMS), D. Olteanu (Graduate Student), were acclaimed to the Selection/Review Committee for the Vice-President (Research).

S.19-139 **Selection/Review Committee for Dean of the Faculty of Education**

An additional nomination was received from the floor for the Selection/Review Committee for Dean of the Faculty of Education. An electronic vote will be conducted following the meeting. The results will be reported to Senate at the October 18, 2019 meeting.

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

S.19-140 **Faculty of Engineering: New "2 + 2" Agreements for the International Collaborative Degree Program in Chemical Engineering**

It was moved by M. Milde, seconded by R. Konrad,

That effective September 1, 2019, an International Collaborative Degree Program in Chemical Engineering be introduced with South China University of Technology (SCUT), Nanjing Tech University (NJTECH), and Tianjin University as shown in Exhibit V, Appendix 1.

CARRIED (Unanimous Consent)

S.19-141 **Faculty of Engineering: Revisions to the “Progression Requirements – Engineering” Policy**

It was moved by A. Chant, seconded by K. Mequanint,

That the “Progression Requirements - Engineering” policy be revised, effective September 1, 2019, as shown in Exhibit V, Appendix 3 to permit students in the Bachelor of Engineering to enroll in Minors in other disciplines.

CARRIED

S.19-142 **School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies: Revisions to the Master of Arts in Hispanic Studies**

It was moved by M. Milde, seconded by R. Konrad,

That the Master of Arts in Hispanic Studies be revised effective September 1, 2020 as shown in Exhibit V.

CARRIED (Unanimous Consent)

S.19-143 **School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies: Revisions to the PhD in Media Studies**

It was moved by M. Milde, seconded by R. Konrad,

That the PhD in Media Studies be revised effective September 1, 2019 as shown in Exhibit V.

CARRIED (Unanimous Consent)

S.19-144 **School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies: Revisions to the Eligibility for Honours Designations in the Ivey Graduate Programs Policy**

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

That effective September 1, 2019, beginning with the Winter 2019 cohort for the Ivey MSc in Management program, the Dean’s Honour List be awarded only at the point of program completion, and that the Ivey MSc Gold Medal be awarded by field, as shown in Exhibit V, Appendix 4.

CARRIED

S.19-145 **Faculty of Science: Revisions to the Admission and Progression Requirements of the Honours Specialization in Information Systems**

It was moved by M. Milde, seconded by R. Konrad,

That the Admission and Progression requirements of the Honours Specialization, in Information Systems be revised effective September 1, 2019 as shown in Exhibit V, Appendix 5.

CARRIED (Unanimous Consent)

S.19-146 **Faculty of Science, Department of Computer Science: Withdrawal of the Minors in Computer Algebra, High Performance Computing, Applications of Computer Science, and Theoretical Computer Science**

S.19-146(a) **Withdrawal of the Minors in Computer Algebra, High Performance Computing, and Applications of Computer Science**

It was moved by M. Milde, seconded by R. Konrad,

That effective September 1, 2019, admission to the Minor in Computer Algebra, the Minor in

Applications of Computer Science, and the Minor in High Performance Computing be discontinued, and

That the modules be withdrawn and all registration discontinued.

CARRIED (Unanimous Consent)

S.19-146(b) Withdrawal of the Minor in Theoretical Computer Science

It was moved by M. Milde, seconded by R. Konrad,

That effective September 1, 2019, admission to the Minor in Theoretical Computer Science be discontinued, and

That students enrolled in the module prior to September 1, 2019 be permitted to continue with the understanding that they must complete the requirements prior to September 2023, and

That effective September 1, 2023, the module be withdrawn and all registration discontinued.

CARRIED (Unanimous Consent)

S.19-147 **Brescia University College: Revisions to the Honours Specialization in Nutrition and Dietetics and the HBA/Honours Specialization in Nutrition and Dietetics**

S.19-147a Revisions to the Honours Specialization in Nutrition and Dietetics

It was moved by M. Milde, seconded by R. Konrad,

That the Honours Specialization in Nutrition and Dietetics at Brescia University College be revised, effective September 1, 2019, as shown in Exhibit V, Appendix 6.

CARRIED (Unanimous Consent)

S.19-147b Withdrawal of the Minor in Theoretical Computer Science

It was moved by M. Milde, seconded by R. Konrad,

That the HBA/Honors Specialization in Nutrition and Dietetics, offered jointly by Brescia University College and The Richard Ivey School of Business, be revised effective September 1, 2019, as shown in Exhibit V, Appendix 7.

CARRIED (Unanimous Consent)

S.19-148 **Brescia University College: Revisions to the Specialization in Foods and Nutrition**

It was moved by M. Milde, seconded by R. Konrad,

That the Specialization in Foods and Nutrition at Brescia University College be revised, effective September 1, 2019, as shown in Exhibit V, Appendix 8.

CARRIED (Unanimous Consent)

S.19-149 **Brescia University College: Revisions to the Minor in Foods and Nutrition**

It was moved by M. Milde, seconded by R. Konrad,

That the Minor in Foods and Nutrition at Brescia University College be revised, effective September 1, 2019, as shown in Exhibit V, Appendix 9.

CARRIED (Unanimous Consent)

S.19-150 **Brescia University College: Withdrawal of the Honours Specialization in Food Science and Technology**

It was moved by M. Milde, seconded by R. Konrad,

That effective September 1, 2020 admission to the Honours Specialization in Food Science and Technology be discontinued, and

That students currently enrolled in the module be allowed to graduate until August 31, 2024 upon fulfillment of the requirements, and

That effective September 1, 2024, the Honours Specialization be discontinued.

CARRIED (Unanimous Consent)

S.19-151 **Huron University College: Introduction of a Major in Japanese Studies**

It was moved by A. Chant, seconded by I. Paul,

That a Major in Japanese Studies be introduced at Huron University College effective September 1, 2019 as shown in Exhibit V, Appendix 10, pending Quality Council Approval.

CARRIED

Huron University College: Introduction of a New Subject Area and Major in Global Great Books

S.19-152a **Introduction of "Global Great Books (GGB)" as a New Subject Area**

It was moved by L. Miller, seconded by N. Nuimat,

That effective September 1, 2019, "Global Great Books (GGB)" be introduced as a new subject area and included in Category B for Breadth Requirements for Graduation, as shown in Exhibit V, Appendix 12.

CARRIED

S.19-152b **Introduction of a Major in Global Great Books (GGB)**

It was moved by L. Miller, seconded by N. Nuimat,

That effective September 1, 2019, a Major in Global Great Books be introduced at Huron University College as shown in Exhibit V, Appendix 13, subject to Quality Council approval.

CARRIED

S.19-153 **Policy Revisions: Revisions to the “Undergraduate Student Academic Appeals” Policy**

It was moved by M. Milde, seconded by G. Read,

That effective September 1, 2019, the “Undergraduate Student Academic Appeals” Policy be revised as shown in Exhibit V, Appendix 15.

CARRIED

S.19-154 **Policy Revisions: Revisions to the “Course Outlines (Syllabi) for Undergraduate Courses” Policy**

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

That the “Course Outlines (Syllabi) for Undergraduate Courses” policy be revised effective September 1, 2019 as shown in Exhibit V, Appendix 16.

A Senator brought forward concerns with respect to the threshold for reported absences going up from 10% to 30% and requested clarification on the rationale behind the changes.

A Senator advised that the changes were a housekeeping item, intending to align this policy with the wording previously approved for the Academic Accommodation Policy.

The motion was called and CARRIED

S.19-155 **SUPR-U Report: Cyclical Reviews of Mechatronics Engineering; Music; Physics and Astronomy; First Nations Studies; Geography**

A Senator requested clarification on how student engagement would be addressed during the cyclical review cycle and identified the item within the report relating to Indigenous Studies becoming a department. J. Doerksen, Vice Provost (Academic Programs) advised Senate that Indigenous Studies becoming a department was a recommendation that came forward from the external reviewers. The item falls outside of the cyclical review process and is an administrative item. He further noted that students are represented on policy committees for Senate, as well as the faculty committees.

S.19-156 **Scholarships and Awards**

SCAPA approved on behalf of the Senate the Terms of Reference for the scholarships and awards shown in Exhibit V, Appendix 18.

G. Tigert, University Registrar discussed the changes to Westerns Admission Scholarship program, including academic threshold requirement changes bringing the threshold into alignment with the current entrance average.

A Senator requested clarification on how the various entrance averages for different faculties would be factored into the allocation of scholarships. G. Tigert, advised that the entrance average for faculties would no longer be considered, instead the top 250 students would be considered based on faculty enrollment.

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

S.19-157 **McEwen Western Integrated Science Professorship**

It was moved by M. Milde, seconded by R. Konrad,

That Senate approve that the McEwen Western Integrated Science Professorship be established and appointed within the Faculty of Science as shown in Exhibit VI, Appendix 1.

CARRIED (Unanimous Consent)

REPORT OF THE HONOURARY DEGREES COMMITTEE [Exhibit VII]

S.19-158 **Information Items Reported by the Honourary Degrees Committee**

Exhibit VII, Report of the Honourary Degrees Committee, contained the following items that were received for information by unanimous consent:

- Honourary Degree Recipients – Fall 2019

S.19-159 **REPORT OF THE ACADEMIC COLLEAGUE** [Exhibit VIII]

Exhibit VIII, Report of the Academic Colleague, was received for information. The following items were included in the report:

- Labour Relations Issues
- Introduced Bill 124, *an Act to implement moderation measures in respect of compensation in Ontario's public service*
- Nursing Programs
- Intellectual Property

S.19-160 **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS** [Exhibit IX]

Exhibit IX, Announcements and Communications was received for information. The following items were included in the report:

- Election Results – Election to the Provost's Task Force on Open Access and Scholarly Communication
- Academic Administrative Appointments
- Report from the Board of Governors (June 27, 2019)

S.19-161 **DISCUSSIONS AND QUESTION PERIOD**

I. Paul, Senator (on behalf of a Graduate Student)

A number of graduate students are interested in extending the reach of the Discovery credit such that they are applicable not only to undergraduate students, but also to graduate students. That is, a number of graduate students are interested in learning about a new area on a pass/fail basis.

For example, graduate students may wish to take their language credit as a Discovery credit. While most language courses can be taken on a pass/fail basis by graduate students, only numeric grades are assigned for French. A number of graduate students wish for language courses, such as French, to be offered to graduate students in the summer through departmental and intradepartmental efforts and they would like for French to be offered on a pass/ fail basis.

The student also asks why special students are not eligible to take Discovery credits.

L. Miller, Vice-Provost (Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies) advised Senate that the issue had been reviewed within the school of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies, where it was noted that there were several concerns relating to graduate students taking discovery credits. Due to the various breadth requirements for different graduate programs, professional and course based Master's programs, there would be little to no flexibility to take Discovery courses. PhD programs would permit greater flexibility but are structured to permit students to focus on research rather than course work. She further advised that undergraduate students are permitted to take Discovery credits on a pass/fail basis, but that the concern with graduate students centered around undergraduate courses not being permitted to count towards graduate level course requirements. Graduate students are permitted to audit undergraduate courses and can take courses for personal interest, but the courses would not be credited towards program completion.

I. Paul, Senator

At the last Senate, I raised the question of the intersection of Western and Sarnia and the safety of pedestrians and cyclists. While the express buses are now running, as indicated at that Senate meeting, this change has not resulted in a safer intersection. According to the city, there will not be an environmental assessment (EA) of this intersection until there is certainty about the north leg of Rapid Transit. Without this EA, any improvements to this intersection are on hold.

<https://www.london.ca/residents/Environment/EAs/Pages/Western-Road-and-Sarnia-Road-and-Philip-Aziz-Avenue.aspx>

While roads are the responsibility of the city, I believe it's Western's responsibility to ensure that faculty, staff and students can travel to campus safely, whether they are coming by car, bus, bike or on foot. Is the administration lobbying the city to move forward with their Rapid Transit plan?

L. Logan, Vice-President (Operations & Finance) advised that changes to the Sarnia Road and Philip Aziz intersection fall under the jurisdiction of the municipality and that the University administration will continue to have ongoing discussions with the City of London to advocate for pedestrian safety in this area.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:34 p.m.

A. Shepard
Chair

K. Kwan
Secretary