



MINUTES

Wednesday, May 27, 2020 2:30 -4:30

Location - Zoom

Present: M. Ahmed, R. Ame, C. Anderson, A. Araujo, C. Arnason, G. Ashoughian, R. Basso, A. Beggar, P. Blassi, D. Buzza, M.L. Byrne, S. Cameron, M. Cantalini-Williams, M. Carroll, K. Carter, J. Casey, A. Clarke, L. Chu, J. Coolman, D. Deutschman, A. Edgar, L. Eisler, S. Ensign, A. Ferenc, K. Fritz, S. Ghamat, A. Goodrum, M. Harris, T. Hazell, C. Hiebert, J. Holm, V. Kitaev, M. Hron, S. Isotupa, Ma. Kelly, Mi. Kelly, L. King, H. LeBlanc, D. MacLatchy, M. Mancuso, B. McKay, P. McLaren, L. McLeod, D. McMurray, D. Monod, J. Mueller, R. Nemesvari, J. Newman, S. Ramsay, M. Reesor, M. Rowinsky, D. Rzondzinski, J. Schwieter, D. Smith, M. Straub, M. Woodford, W. Wu, K. Yri

Regrets: H. Beaudry, L. Hawton-Kitmura, K. Jackson, D. Maoz, E. Mercier, K. Montero, K. Rice

Absent: D. Antonowicz, K. Chahal, C. Donnelly, K. Dowler, M. Hussain, L. Read, K. Sarathy, S. Shah, K. Shankardass, S. Sharma

University Secretariat: A. Juhik, S. Kelly, A. Kornobis, S. McLellan

A. Introduction

1. Call to Order and Approval of the Consent Agenda, D. MacLatchy

D. MacLatchy called the meeting to order and read the land acknowledgment, there were no questions on the consent items.

MOTION (M. Rowinsky- Geurts/D. Monod) that Senate approve the Consent items listed for approval under item C.1. CARRIED

2. In Camera Session

MOTION (M. Mancuso/D. McMurray) to move in Camera. CARRIED

3. Leadership Update

a. Report of the President, D. MacLatchy

D. MacLatchy noted the following in her report from the President: thank you to everyone for their efforts and sacrifices during the pandemic, exceptional activities have been going; the Empty Bowls fundraiser was held online and was a great success; meetings are ongoing with local MPPs and MPs; the pandemic working group is continuing to meet regularly and are looking at a framework for returning to work when that is permitted; some STEM activities have been approved to return to campus and the pandemic response group is working on a phased in approach; Laurier's fall term will be primarily on-line, out plan parallels many other Canadian universities and we are working to get more information to students, staff and faculty; WLUFA and the University recently came to an agreement on a new collective agreement; executive searches for the VP: Finance & Administration and VP: Student Affairs will continue over the summer; this is the final Senate meeting for a number of members including David McMurray who will be retiring later this summer, thank you to everyone for your service at Senate. D. MacLatchy responded to questions on when faculty will be able to access their offices and confirmed the pandemic planning group is working on guidelines and timelines related to this.



b. Report of the acting Provost & VP: Academic, M. Mancuso

M. Mancuso noted the following in the report of the acting Provost & VP: Academic: the external review of the faculty structure has been released along with the internal response, currently discussions are happening with the Deans with the review coming to Senate in January 2021 to allow for more consultation over the fall term; there have been increased incidents of academic integrity which have been responded to with different measures, we are evaluating how to balance student needs and faculty needs.

M. Mancuso responded to questions on time line for when Library resources will be accessible; why Laurier was the only university to require webcams for some of their online exams; the CPAM announcement on travel ban.

c. Report of the Board of Governors Meeting, M.L. Byrne

M. L. Byrne provided a verbal update from the Board of Governors April meeting: at the April meeting the BOG approved policy 4.14 – Capital Planning and the 2020-2021 non tuition fee report. The BOG also received reports and presentations on pandemic planning, the scenario modelling for the 2020-2021 budget. There were no questions.

d. Question Period: Written or Verbal

During question period there was a discussion on clarifying the process for e-votes on curriculum. It was agreed by consensus that moving forward there would be four choices when there is an e-vote outside of a meeting: approve, oppose, abstain, move to discussion at next meeting.

B. Discussion

4. Reports and Recommendations from Standing Committees

a. Senate Academic Planning Committee, M. Mancuso

M. Mancuso presented the changes to Policy 2.1 and 2.2, changes to the policies were a result of an internal review as well as the Quality Assurance Audit that took place last year. There were no questions.

i. Revisions to Policy 2.1 - Cyclical Review of Undergraduate and Graduate Academic Programs

MOTION (M. Mancuso/J. Casey) on the recommendation of Senate Academic Planning that Senate approve the revisions to policy 2.1 – Cyclical Review of Undergraduate and Graduate Academic Programs **CARRIED**

ii. Revisions to Policy 2.2 – Approval of New Undergraduate and Graduate Programs and Major and Minor Modifications to Existing Programs

MOTION (M. Mancuso/R. Nemesvari) on the recommendation of Senate Academic Planning that Senate approve the revisions to policy 2.2 – Approval of New Undergraduate and Graduate Programs and Major and Minor Modifications to Existing Programs. **CARRIED**



iii. Revisions to Transfer Credit Policy

J. Casey presented the revision to the transfer credit policy noting that increase in transfer students is part of the strategic academic plan. There were no questions.

MOTION (J. Casey/M. Mancuso) on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning that Senate approves for university courses completed in Winter 2020, where a final grade notation of pass/credit is presented, that transfer credit be awarded and considered in addition to other criteria for undergraduate admission. **CARRIED**

b) Senate Executive and Finance Committee, D. MacLatchy

i. 2020-2021 Tuition Fee Reports, S. Davidson

S. Davidson presented than overview of the tuition fee reports for 2020-2021 including details of the impact of the effective date change. S. Davidson and C. Dale responded to questions on the impact to students with fee increases occurring in the Spring. S. Ramsay brought forward a procedural motion to split the existing motion into two parts. It was noted that past concerns brought forward by Lazaridis School Senators have been relieved.

MOTION (S. Ramsay/M. Carroll) to split the motion on the 2020-2021 Tuition Fee Report into two motions, section 1-4 as one motion, section 5 as a separate motion. **DENIED**

24 opposed

1 abstain

1 in favour

MOTION (M. Mancuso/D. Deutschman) on the recommendation of the Senate Executive and Finance Committee that Senate recommend that the Board of Governors approve the 2020-2021 Tuition Fee Report, as presented. **CARRIED**

ii. 2020-2021 Budget Approval, M. Mancuso & A. Araujo

M. Mancuso and A. Araujo provided a presentation on the provisional pre-pandemic budget with two additional scenarios showing potential pandemic implications; 2019/20 started with a deficit of \$18M and a 3 year plan to eliminate it, there has been tremendous engagement by the university to help decrease the structural deficit resulting in \$16.3M reduction; due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been many unknowns and ever changing conditions affecting the 2020/21 budget, assumptions and estimates used in the two scenarios are based on information known at the time of the budget and are similar to those used by The Council of Ontario Universities (COU); a revised version of the budget with up to date information will be presented in the fall, staff will continue to monitor enrolment numbers, high school graduations, economic issues, and travelling restrictions; SMA3 has been postponed and final negotiations delayed due to the pandemic; also the RCM budget model has also been paused due to significant deficit with transition being differed to the fall. M. Mancuso and A.



Araujo responded to questions on possibility of decreasing tuition; guidelines on hiring or limiting discretionary spending; future updates to Senate on the provisional budget; the structural deficit that was related to the pension plan valuation.

MOTION (M. Rowinsky – Geurts / R. Nemesvari) on the recommendation of the Senate Executive and Finance Committee that Senate recommend that the Board of Governors approve the details of the provisional 2020-2021 budget report, as presented. CARRIED

5. Matters from the Consent section of the agenda

There were no matters from the consent section of the agenda.

6. Other Business

There was no other business.

7. Adjournment

C. Consent

The following items were provided for approval or information. The items noted for Approval will be approved by consent unless otherwise highlighted during Item A.1.

1. Items for Approval:

- a) Agenda
- b) Draft Minutes of the March 11, 2020 meeting
- c) Draft Minutes of the April 21, 2020 meeting
- d) 2020-2021 Senate Meeting Dates (Revised)

2. Items for Information:

- a) Report of the Senior Executives
- b) Report of the Board of Governors April 23, 2020 meeting
- c) Report back on the Laurier Strategy 2019-2020
- d) Result of Senate e-Votes April 2020