



# Minutes

Thursday, September 10, 2020

Present: M. Ahmed, R. Ame, A. Araujo, G. Ashoughian, H. Beaudry, G. Brockett, P. Bryden, D. Buzza, M.L. Byrne, S. Cameron, M. Cantalini-Williams, K. Carter, J. Casey, K. Chahal, S. Chamberlain, L. Chu, A. Clarke, J. Coolman, D. Deutschman, K. Dowler, L. Eisler, J. Empey, S. Ensign, A. Ferenc, C. Francis, S. Ghamat, B. Glencross, A. Goodrum, L. Hawton Kitamura, J. Hennebry, J. Holm, M. Hron, S. Isotupa, Ma. Kelly, H. LeBlanc, K. Lund, D. MacLatchy, M. Mancuso, S. Matthews, B. McKay, P. McLaren, L. McLeod, K. Menon, D. Monod, I. Musa, J. Newman, A. Ngo, S. Ramsay, M. Reesor, J. Schwieter, D. Smith, M. Straub, M. Sweedler, A. Vannelli, M. Wilson, M. Woodford, W. Wu, K. Yri, G. Yun.

Regrets: C. Hiebert, Mi. Kelly, E. Mercier, J. Smith.

Absent: D. Antonowicz, A. Dang, P. Jamalof, G. Kim, V. Kitaev, D. Maoz, M. McDonald, K. Rice, K. Shankardass.

Secretariat: R. Barnes, A. Juhik, S. Kelly, A. Kornobis.

Resource/Guest: A. Arnold, P. Cant, C. Dale, J. Fraser, M. Heaman, S. Heath, H. Northwood, S. Pepper, S. Pereira.

## A. Introduction

### 1. Call to Order and Approval of the Consent Agenda

D. MacLatchy welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

**MOTION (L. McLeod/M. Kelly) that Senate approve the Consent items listed for approval under item C.1. of the agenda package. CARRIED**

### 2. Leadership Update

#### a) Report of the President

D. MacLatchy provided an update on various university initiatives and projects, including details about VP: Student Affairs hire; Winter 2021 term being primarily remote; staff working from home throughout Fall 2020; research resumption plan, which includes face-to-face research involving community members; update on EDI; major capacity expansion framework; SMA3 process updates; consultations with other colleges and universities around reskilling, upskilling and digital learning.

#### b) Report of the Provost & VP Academic

A. Vannelli provided an update on academic initiatives, including the need to focus on meeting requirements for graduating students; ensuring student engagement; remote and online assessment working group; academic integrity in the new environment; and updates on the senior searches.

#### c) Questions Period: Written or Verbal

Questions were asked about engaging researchers in sustainability, the tri-university library resources



partnership, and allowing student evaluations on a voluntary basis through a Laurier platform.

## B. Discussion

### 3. Reports and Recommendations from Standing Committees

#### a) Annual Reports to Senate

R. Barnes presented the annual reports to Senate from the Senate standing committees, sub-committees, and divisional councils, noting the reports contain an overview of the activities and membership for the 2019-2020 academic year.

**MOTION (M.L. Byrne/L. McLeod) to receive the 2019-2020 Annual Reports to Senate.  
CARRIED**

#### b) Senate Academic Planning Committee

##### i. Geography Faculty Affiliation

A. Vannelli presented the proposal to create a working group to look at the background details, rationale, shared visions, alignment, potential opportunities or challenges, synergies with the rest of the Faculty of Science, size of department, timeframe, and broad consultation process for affiliating the Geography and Environmental Studies department with the Faculty of Science. If approved, the working group would present its proposal back to Senate Academic Planning Committee in the new year. The process for transitioning and affiliation would continue through to July 2021 until finalization.

**MOTION (M.L. Byrne/P. McLaren) on the recommendation of Senate Academic Planning Committee that Senate approve the process for the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies to consider affiliating with the Faculty of Science, including the terms of reference for the working group. CARRIED (1 opposed, 1 abstained)**

#### c) Senate Executive and Finance Committee

##### i. Update on the Provisional 2020 Budget

A. Araujo and A. Vannelli shared a presentation about the provisional 2020 budget, noting an overview of the timeline; outlines of the three scenarios; confirmed enrolment numbers; fall term instruction plans; internal and external key indicators; and next steps, with the finalized budget coming forward to the governing bodies in October and November 2020. A question around the university's response to the \$10M shortfall was posed.

#### d) Senate Governance Committee

##### i. Nominations Report

Ma. Kelly presented the proposed nominations, and made two amendments to the report. Nominations for outstanding vacancies were received from the floor.

**MOTION (S. Ramsay/K. Yri) on the recommendation of the Senate Governance Committee that Senate approve the Nominations Report as proposed. CARRIED**

##### ii. Recommendation for Procedures on Selection of University Officers

A. Kornobis presented the Senate Governance Committee's recommendation to modify the procedures for Senate's role in the selection of university officers, noting that a briefing note containing details on the procedures the search committee followed would come forward to Senate in advance with the agenda package, and that the candidate information would continue to be presented as an *in camera*



table drop at the governance meeting. The motion brought forward to Senate would clarify Senate's role in recommending the process to the Board of Governors, rather than the candidate. Concerns were posed around Senate's inability to express concern around a candidate, and around Senate not trusting the search committee's work in investigating the fit of a candidate.

**MOTION (A. Goodrum/A. Clarke) on the recommendation of the Senate Governance Committee that Senate approve the changes to Senate By-Law 9.1, as proposed.**

**CARRIED (6 opposed, 5 abstained)**

4. *In Camera* session

The meeting moved to a confidential session.

**MOTION (S. Chamberlain/Ma. Kelly to move *in camera*).**

**CARRIED**

The meeting later moved out of *in camera*.

5. Matters from the Consent Section of the agenda

There were no matters from the consent section brought forward for discussion.

6. Other Business

Senators were reminded of the Joint Governance Event taking place tonight at 6:00pm, which would include a presentation and discussion on the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on postsecondary institutions.

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned by consensus.

**C. Consent**

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

1. Items for Approval:

- a) Agenda
- b) Draft Minutes of the May 27, 2020 Senate Meeting
- c) Senate Meeting Dates 2021-2022

2. Items for Information:

- a) Report of the Senior Executives
- b) Spring 2020 Convocation Report
- c) Sprummer Enrolment Update