



## Senate Minutes

Hybrid Meeting

Tuesday, September 24, 2024, 2:30 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: D. MacLatchy (Chair), A. Akanni, D. Antonowicz, B. Basso, M.L. Byrne, J. Cairns, M. Cantalini-Williams, L. Chu, A. Clarke, K. Clarke, V. Collis, J. Coolman, M. Coulter, A. Davis, S. Doherty, A. Domurath, M. Emery, A. Essaji, G. Foster, S. Gillies, L. Habtemichael, A. Hansra, D. Henderson, P. Ironstone, C. Johnston Turner, M. Kelly, S. Lachapelle, N. Lehecka, K. Lund, R. Makarov, P. Mallet, C. Matheson, E. Mazaheri, C. McAdam, R. McGowan, B. McKay, T. McLaren, D. McMurray, J. Newman, L. Noronha, H. Northwood, A. Parker, H. Pimlott, J. Popham, S. Poynter, S. Ramsay, C. Smith, D. Smith, T. Snoddon, J. Straub, D. Thomas, D. Treleaven, P. Urquhart, J. Wang, K. Werbin, D. Wheatley, B. Wolfe, A. Zaidi

Regrets: W. Arshad, S. Chan, L. Dawe, M. Elayyan, M. Khan, D. Maoz, J. Monture, K. Murray, N. Patel, M. Skop, A. Tariq

Absent: B. Assiginaak, B. Chiu, L. Felice, E. Fox Tree, S. Guardado, S. Perry, F. Wang, G. Yun

Secretariat: K. Jack, A. Juhik, A. Kornobis, P. Marfisi

### 1. Open Session

#### a. Call to Order & Approval of the Consent Agenda

In response to comments about the 2025-2026 Academic Calendar Dates in the consent agenda, it was agreed to look into the possibility of building in workdays in advance of the start of classes in winter terms in future years. Some clarity was provided by the chair, L. Noronha, and H. Northwood regarding MCU funding.

**Motion (A. Clarke/M-L. Byrne):** that Senate approve the Consent items listed for approval under item 7.a. **Carried.**

#### b. Kick-Off and Welcome to Senators

The chair offered a warm welcome to new and returning Senators and thanked them for their volunteerism in Senate's important work.

- i. Governance Aspects: Asking Questions, Voting Overview, and Board Effect Tips

Senate was provided a brief overview of: the Senate approved guideline that speaks to considerations in asking questions at meetings; voting procedures as dictated by Robert's Rules of Order, with an emphasis on the purpose of abstentions and when to declare a conflict of interest; tips for using the Senate portal.

- c. Leadership Update

- i. Report of the President

The chair recognized this milestone year for Laurier, noting: the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Brantford campus; that the first cohort of Milton students was welcomed this fall; that significant progress has been made on the Seagram project; and the recent celebration of Peter Ansley's \$1M gift and the naming of Ansley Alumni Field. She spoke to the upcoming National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and encouraged Senators to take time to reflect on the tragic history and ongoing impacts of residential schools in Canada. She invited Senators to attend MarketFest being held at the Brantford campus on September 27 and 28. It is a free event featuring a marketplace of Indigenous vendors, public lectures, and musical performances which is part of the process at Laurier to recognize and reconcile with the often challenging relationships between Indigenous communities and the Brantford community specific to the site of One Market. She further updated Senators on: the recent town hall and her annual report, the Strategic Action Plan, engagement with the new Minister of MCU, Nolan Quinn, and with local MPPs, including confirmation of one time funding for Laurier for more Bachelor of Education students; discussions with the province about SMA4; recent directives from the province regarding policies required to be in place by January, and that an assessment is underway to see where Laurier meets or exceeds these requirements, and where any gaps are that need to be addressed; federal international study caps and related measures; that she is examining the results of the review of the Vice-President: Student Affairs portfolio and will provide an update to the community soon. There were no questions.

- ii. Report of the Provost and VP: Academic

H. Northwood provided an overview of key activities, including: an expression of thanks to everyone involved in bringing the Milton campus to life; work done by T. McLaren and others on critical academic calendar revisions; an update on international enrolment to date; a brief overview of the course and program mode of delivery discussions; the coming freedom of expression and academic freedom task force; conversations about the University's Faculty structure; Brantford 5000; the collective wellbeing task force; projects and coming activities from the office of

### Indigenous Initiatives.

In discussion, there were several expressions of concern about the potential move of the Business Technology Management program from Brantford to Milton, and in response, some of the rationale and considerations for the proposal which still requires several approval steps, including the Senate. H. Northwood suggested that she meet with interested Brantford faculty and staff to discuss the proposal further. In response to a question about how the freedom of expression and academic freedom task force will ensure that it does not violate the collective agreement, H. Northwood confirmed that the task force, which she noted will have a majority of faculty members, will operate with clear understandings of relevant documents like the collective agreement and Laurier's policies. She also noted the task force's work will include consideration of those outside of the collective agreement, like contract faculty and students.

### iii. Report of the Board of Governors

P. Urquhart provided a brief overview of the September meeting of the Board of Governors. There were no questions.

### d. Business Arising from the Previous Minutes

There was no business arising.

## 2. Reports and Recommendations from Standing Committees

### a. Senate Academic Planning Committee

#### i. Regulation for All Honours Programs: 9.0 Senior Credits Requirement

T. McLaren provided an overview of the proposed additional text for the calendar which offers clarity and consistency to existing rules.

**Motion (T. McLaren/P. Urquhart):** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, that Senate approve the revisions to the undergraduate academic calendar as presented, to take effect immediately for the 2024/2025 academic year. **Carried.**

#### ii. Undergraduate Residence Requirements

T. McLaren spoke to the calendar revisions, explaining that they provide clarification and consistency about residence requirements.

**Motion (T. McLaren/M. Kelly):** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, Senate approve the revisions to the

undergraduate academic calendar as presented, to take effect immediately for the 2024/2025 academic year. **Carried.**

### 3. Matters from the Consent Section of the Agenda

None.

### 4. Other Business

In response to a question, the president spoke to the work of the Laurier Legacy project, and H. Northwood spoke to the symposium held in January 2024 with a full accounting of it available online along with other relevant resources and information.

### 5. Q&A with Leadership

In discussion: H. Northwood confirmed her intention to meet with Brantford staff and faculty to have a thoughtful and transparent discussion of the proposal to move Business Technology Management to Milton, and, also to discuss Brantford's future, its areas of focus, and its continued success; H. Northwood spoke to the time commitment that will be needed by members on the freedom of expression and academic freedom task force.

### 6. Adjournment

The committee adjourned by consensus.

### 7. Consent Items

#### a. Items for Approval

- i. Agenda
- ii. Draft Minutes of the May 15, 2024 Senate Meeting
- iii. Draft Minutes of the June 3, 2024 Senate Meeting
- iv. 2025-2026 Academic Calendar Dates  
**Motion:** that Senate approve the 2025-2026 Academic Calendar dates.
- v. Substantive Minor Modification, BSc Honours Science  
**Motion:** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, Senate approve the changes to admission requirements in the BSc Honours Science.
- vi. Termination of Policy 11.11, Establishment and Recognition of Research Collaborations other than Centres and Institutes  
**Motion:** that the Senate approve the termination of Policy 11.11, Establishment and Recognition of Research Collaborations Other than Centres and Institutes.

#### b. Items for Information

- i. Update on Ministry of Colleges & Universities (MCU) Funding Announcement
- ii. Reports of the Senior Executives
- iii. Spring Convocation Report

- iv. Sprummer Enrollment Report
- v. COU Academic Colleague Report(s)
- vi. Record of E-vote, Senate Governance Committee: Senate Nominations Report, August 8, 2024
- vii. Record of E-vote, Senate: Senate Nominations Report, August 15, 2024