



SENATE MINUTES

Hybrid Meeting – SBC, Waterloo
Wednesday, November 27, 2024, 2:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Present: D. MacLatchy (Chair), D. Antonowicz, W. Arshad, B. Basso, M.L. Byrne, J. Cairns, M. Cantalini-Williams, B. Chiu, L. Chu, A. Clarke, K. Clarke, V. Collis, J. Coolman, M. Coulter, J. Crowell, A. Davis, S. Doherty, M. Elayyan, M. Emery, L. Felice, G. Foster, S. Gillies, S. Guardado, A. Hansra, D. Henderson, P. Ironstone, C. Johnston Turner, M. Kelly, M. Khan, S. Lachapelle, N. Lehecka, K. Lund, P. Mallet, C. Matheson, C. McAdam, R. McGowan, B. McKay, T. McLaren, D. McMurray, K. Murray, L. Noronha, H. Northwood, A. Parker, S. Perry, H. Pimlott, J. Popham, S. Ramsay, M. Skop, 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: A. Akanni, S. Chan, L. Dawe, A. Domurath, L. Habtemichael, R. Makarov, E. Mazaheri, J. Newman, N. Patel, A. Tariq, F. Wang

Absent: B. Assignaak, A. Essaji, E. Fox Tree, D. Maoz, J. Monture, S. Poynter, G. Yun

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

1. Open Session

a. Call to Order & Approval of the Consent Agenda

Following a request by a Senator, agenda item 7.a.v., was extracted for discussion.

Motion (C. McAdam/T. Snoddon): that Senate approve the Consent items listed for approval under item 7.a., as amended. **Carried.**

b. Leadership Update

i. Report of the President

D. MacLatchy offered kudos to the men's football team for their outstanding season, winning the Yates Cup, the Uteck Bowl, and being second best in the country after making it to the Vanier Cup. She updated Senators about a variety of matters, including: the recent 25th anniversary Homecoming celebrations at Brantford; ongoing conversations with the city of Brantford about ensuring that One Market is a vibrant space for students, faculty, staff, and community members; discussions with the Province, being bolstered and echoed by COU, about the value of universities and the real impact on programs and services that the extended tuition freeze and declining operating grants have had; the University's responses to recent ministerial directives from the Province; some observations about the federal international study permit caps and about Laurier's advocacy with others in the sector. She noted that the

search for the next Vice President: Student Affairs will commence before the holidays, and she offered thanks to David McMurray for his continued leadership in the role. There were no questions.

- ii. Report of the Provost and VP: Academic, H. Northwood
Supplementing her written report, H. Northwood provided a brief update, including: SMA 4 and the coming bilateral meeting with the Province; an update on the Wellness Task Force, and the excellent conversations being had as a result of its work; a brief leadership update, noting that the Dean of Science search committee is well underway, and that announcements will follow soon regarding other Faculty Deans. There were no questions.
- iii. Report from the Board of Governors, J. Wang
J. Wang provided Senators with a brief overview of the most recent meeting of the Board of Governors.

- c. Business Arising from the Previous Minutes, D. MacLatchy
In response to a question, L. Noronha confirmed that information in the space utilization study is aggregated by area. There was no other business arising from the minutes.

2. Reports and Recommendations from Standing Committees

- a. Senate Academic Planning Committee

- i. Academic Structure at Laurier
H. Northwood spoke to the proposed sub-committee of Senate and indicated that its purpose will be to assess the University's current academic structure and evaluate if any changes are indicated to better serve Laurier's faculty, students, and staff, and, to more properly reflect the University's current size. She noted that previous discussions about the proposed working group referred to its work being about "the Faculty structure" but the name used in the proposed sub-committee is "academic structure", to more properly reflect the group's work which will go beyond Faculty structures to consider the experience across different Faculties.

In response to questions, Senate heard: since the committee will be making recommendations, not decisions, it is important that it have a variety of different perspectives and faculty representatives do not need to represent their Faculty; WLUFA will be consulted; relevant staff members will be invited to contribute at appropriate times; optimism that the committee's efforts will lead to meaningful outcomes that are driven and informed by the Laurier community.

Motion (H. Northwood/T. McLaren): that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, the Senate establish an *ad hoc* Committee on Academic Structure. **Carried.**

ii. 12.2 Student Code of Conduct: Academic Misconduct

T. McLaren briefly reviewed the clarifications being made to the Policy and noted that the rationale for the changes is to make the policy consistent with other policies and with current practice.

Motion (T. McLaren/D. McMurray): that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, the Senate approve the proposed changes to Policy 12.2 Student Code of Conduct: Academic Misconduct, to take effect immediately. **Carried.**

iii. Faculty of Science,

a) New Program Proposal, Bachelor of Engineering in Software Engineering

A. Clarke introduced the new program. He spoke to the high demand in the sector for such a degree, and to the existing infrastructure and supports in the Faculty to offer it. In discussion: how Milton is prepared now, and its plans for expansions to accommodate coming years, both in terms of computing, lab, and teaching spaces, but also faculty offices and meeting spaces; work done to map out Milton's multiple programs and cohorts over the next four to five years to help ensure a positive experience for all.

Motion (A. Clarke/M-L. Byrne): that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, the Senate approve the Bachelor of Engineering in Software Engineering new program proposal. **Carried.**

iv. Lazaridis School of Business and Economics

a) Major Modification, Business

K. Murray briefly introduced the proposal. In discussion, there were several expressions of concern regarding the move of the BTM program from Brantford to Milton, including: anecdotally, that a large number of Brantford colleagues dislike the move and are concerned about the sustainability of the campus and the University's commitment to it; the negative impacts on Brantford's enrolment; questions about why this program and not others; expressions of concerns about the process, and resource implications.

In response, from H. Northwood and D. MacLatchy: a description of some of the efforts and resources devoted to such decisions, and about the decision making process in this case; some of the reasons why other particular programs could not move to Milton; that there

was an excellent alignment between the program and the location which made this a good fit for moving to Milton; continuing ongoing discussions with Brantford's mayor and other local officials about the campus; and, that they have a strong commitment to Brantford and its success. From K. Murray, a commitment to the student experience in Brantford for this program as it winds up there, and, that work is being done to expand the Faculty's presence in Brantford.

Motion (K. Murray/M. Kelly): that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, the Senate approve the offering of the Honours Bachelor of Business Technology Management (BTM) at the Milton Campus. **Carried, with nine votes against, and four abstentions.**

b) Major Modification, Business

In response to a question, K. Murray described the consultation undertaken with current students about the change.

Motion (K. Murray/M. Kelly): that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, the Senate approve the replacement of guaranteed co-op with competitive selection into co-op for the BTM program at the Milton Campus. **Carried.**

v. Faculty of Human and Social Sciences

a) Major Modification, Leadership

B. McKay briefly spoke to the submission.

Motion (B. McKay/K. Murray): that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, the Senate approve the creation of a General BA in Leadership. **Carried.**

b. Senate Executive and Finance Committee

i. 2025-2026 Budget Planning Process Update

H. Northwood provided Senators with a brief overview of key budgetary aspects including: the continuing tuition freeze; that some additional funding has been received for BEd and Milton students; corridor funding has been frozen; there are some one time increases to the grant this year and for the next two years; how additional grant money for the unfunded students was allocated to reserves to help to balance the budget going forward; strong upper year student retention this year; there are more restraints on international students than was anticipated. She noted that while there are things to be positive about, including tremendous work

done already to be more efficient, the University has to continue to find efficiencies. It is expected that the 2025-2026 budget will be a deficit budget that may be offset with reserves. She thanked members of the community involved with budgeting the 1% reduction for the coming year, and advised that the 2025-2026 Budget is anticipated to be ready for approval in the March and April cycle of Senate and Board of Governors meetings. There were no questions.

c. Senate Governance Committee

i. Senator Committee Service Requirements

S. Ramsay spoke to the recommendation from the Senate Governance Committee regarding Senator committee service.

Motion (S. Ramsay/A. Clarke): that on the recommendation of the Senate Governance Committee, approve the list of service activities for Senators to fulfil their committee service obligations under Section 5.2 of the Senate By-Laws, as provided. **Carried.**

3. Matters from the Consent Section of the Agenda

In response to a suggestion, Senate heard a motion:

Motion (M. Kelly/ D. Smith): that Senate approve that "Entrepreneurship" be added to the list of Business courses in the note at the bottom of the new calendar description in in agenda item 7.a.v., Substantive Minor, Faculty of Human and Social Sciences. **Carried.**

4. Other Business

There was no other business.

5. Q&A with Leadership

There were no questions.

6. Adjournment

Senate adjourned by consensus.

7. Consent Items

a. Items for Approval

- i. Agenda
- ii. Draft Minutes of the October 22, 2024 Senate Meeting
- iii. Substantive Minor, Physics and Computer Science

Motion: that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, Senate approve the renaming of the Physics and Computer Science Department to the Computer Science and Physics Department.

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- iv. Substantive Minor, History
Motion: that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, Senate approve the change to program requirements for the Honours BA History (Sussex) LLB Stream.
 - v. Substantive Minor, Faculty of Human and Social Sciences
Motion: that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, Senate approve the change to program requirements for the General BA Without Designation in the Faculty of Human and Social Sciences.
 - vi. Substantive Minor, Public Safety
Motion: that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, Senate approve the changes to the program requirements for the Honours BA Criminology and Policing program.
 - vii. Substantive Minor, Public Safety
Motion: that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, Senate approve the admission requirements for the 4-Year Honours Bachelor of Arts in Public Safety Program and the Public Safety in combination programs.
Substantive Minor, Public Safety
Motion: that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, Senate approve the admission requirements for the Honours Bachelor of Arts in Public Safety in combination with Psychology (Waterloo/Brantford/Milton) Program.
 - viii. Substantive Minor, Public Safety
Motion: that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, Senate approve the change to program requirements for the Honours BA of Public Safety (Advanced Standing) program.
 - ix. Substantive Minor, Public Safety
Motion: that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, Senate approve the changes in admission to add the transfer credits for BA Public Safety Advanced Standing upon acceptance into the program.
 - x. Substantive Minor, Public Safety
Motion: that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, Senate approve the changes to program requirements for the Honours BA Policing program.
 - xi. Substantive Minor, Public Safety
Motion: that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, Senate approve the change to program requirements in the Honours BA Public Safety program.
 - xii. Substantive Minor, Public Safety
Motion: that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, Senate approve the change in GPA progression from 4.5 to 7.0 for the Public Safety option.

- xiii. Substantive Minor, Public Safety

Motion: that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, Senate approve the addition of SAFE203 for the Public Safety option.

b. Items for Information

- i. Reports of the Senior Executives
- ii. Report from the Senate Executive and Finance Committee re: Updated 2024-2025 Non-Tuition Fee Report
- iii. Report from the Senate Executive and Finance Committee re: 3-Month Fiscal Update
- iv. COU Academic Colleague Report
- v. Space Utilization Study – Physical Space Observations
- vi. Fall Convocation Report
- vii. Fall Enrollment Report