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## **MINUTES**

Wednesday, March 11, 2020 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.  
Senate and Board Chambers, Waterloo Campus  
SCJ210, SC Johnson, Brantford Campus (videoconference)

Present:

A. Araujo, G. Ashoughian, P. Blasi, M.L. Byrne, M. Carroll, K. Carter, J. Casey, L. Chu, A. Clarke, J. Coolman, D. Deutschman, L. Eisler, S. Ensign, K. Fritz, S. Ghamat, C. Hiebert, J. Holm, M. Hron, S. Isotupa, K. Jackson, L. King, V. Kitaev, H. LeBlanc, D. MacLatchy (chair), M. Mancuso, D. Maoz, B. McKay, P. McLaren, D. McMurray, D. Monod, K. Montero, J. Mueller, R. Nemesvari, M. Reesor, K. Rice, D. Rzondzinski, J. Schwieter, D. Smith, M. Woodford, W. Wu

Regrets:

R. Ame, C. Anderson, C. Arnason, H. Beaudry, A. Beggar, D. Buzza, S. Cameron, M. Cantalini-Williams, C. Donnelly, A. Edgar, A. Goodrum, M. Harris, L. Hawton Kitmura, M. Kelly, Mi. Kelly, E. Mercier, J. Newman, S. Ramsay, L. Read, M. Rowinsky, M. Staub, K. Yri

Absent:

M. Ahmed, D. Antonowicz, G. Carruthers, K. Chahal, K. Dowler, T. Hazell, M. Hussain, M. McDonald, L. McLeod, K. Sarathy, S. Shah, K. Shankardass, S. Sharma,

### **A. Introduction**

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

The meeting was called to order; D. MacLatchy read the land acknowledgment and welcomed Senate members and guests. The consent agenda was brought forward for approval, there were no changes.

### **MOTION (M. L. Byrne/K. Montero) that Senate approve the Consent items listed for approval under item C.1.**

2. Business Arising from the Previous Minutes

There was no business arising from the previous minutes.

3. Leadership Update

- a. Report of the President, D. MacLatchy

In the report of the President, D. MacLatchy provided the following information: the Public Health Agency of Canada continues to assess the public health risk associated with the Coronavirus, they currently have the risk level listed as low, or level 1 in the Inter Pandemic phase, the Vice-President: Finance and



Administration chairs the Level 1 Inter Pandemic Working Group, we are in the process of developing continuity plans for academic and student programs as well as a workforce continuity plan, custodial teams have switched to stronger cleaning chemicals and high traffic areas will receive additional attention during cleaning; overall, we are well-positioned and continue to do work to improve our preparedness level based on evolving information and best practice. At this time D. MacLatchy asked A. Araujo and M. Mancuso to provide additional information on the ongoing planning which included: details on the work being done by the Pandemic Working Group, the communication taking place, work place continuity planning. On the academic front work is being done including looking at online capacity, planning for a change to final exams, communication has gone to faculty to prompt thinking about alternate planning for course delivery. M. Mancuso, A. Araujo and D. MacLatchy responded to questions on the possible impact on the open house events; how to ensure that the website alerts are being seen; cancelled travel and reimbursement; flexibility of the distribution policy, planning for the Spring term for Lazaridis School as they have a full cohort of courses in the Spring term. D. MacLatchy continued the report from the president; the Large Street Gathering Task Force made its final report to the City of Waterloo at a council meeting earlier this month, Laurier has had a presence on this Task Force and we've been working with the City of Waterloo for the last number of years to find the best way of addressing this issue, we are preparing for large gatherings to take place during the preceding weekend through to end-of-day Tuesday, March 17, we will be taking a number of measures to ensure student and public safety; incoming Provost and Vice-President: Academic Dr. Tony Vannelli will be at Laurier a couple of days per month from now until August to begin the transition into his new role; the searches for a Vice-President: Finance and Administration and Vice-President: Student Affairs are ongoing; a short-listed three candidates for the role of Vice-President: Finance and Administration has been completed, the Senate Executive and Finance Committee is part of the search committee's stakeholder engagements, we will welcome their feedback; the search committee for the Vice-President: Student Affairs has held its first meeting and the position advertisement has been posted and recruitment is in progress. There were no other questions.

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

In the verbal update from the Provost, M. Mancuso updated that the province was satisfied with the SMA submission, once Laurier has the final, signed version it will be posted online this should be March 31.



c. Report of the Board of Governors February meeting, P. McLaren

P. McLaren provided a verbal update from the February Board of Governors meetings, which met February 13<sup>th</sup>, the Board of Governors discussed divesting from Fossil Fuels and received presentations on: the WLU Strategy and Integrated planning, the 2021 budget and Lazaridis Institute.

d. Question Period: Written or Verbal

One written question was received in advance of the Senate meeting it was related to the impacts of COVID-19 on travel to conferences and travel for research. M. Mancuso responded that all relevant information has now been provided on a webpage on the internal Connect webpage. There was also a question on the 2020-2021 academic dates and it was confirmed they were approved at the September 2019 Senate meeting and are available online.

### **B. Discussion**

4. Reports and Recommendations from Standing Committees

- a. Senate Committee on Teaching and Learning, K. Montero
  - i. Undergraduate Syllabus Template

K. Montero presented the updates to the undergraduate syllabus template, the main changes are the removal of Foot Patrol and Student Food Bank items from the syllabus template, these items were moved to the home page on MyLearningSpace in the form of widgets which students will see when they access MyLearningSpace consultation with the Student's Union took place and they were in agreement with the moving these items to MyLearningSpace. Other updates were completed to ensure links, department names and policies were correct in the template, it was also noted that this template is more focused towards undergraduate courses and that there is work happening to create a graduate syllabus template. K. Montero responded to a question on adding language related to unauthorized distribution of course material to the syllabus template it was agreed that this would be done in collaboration with D. Monod. Clarity was provided that the syllabus template is optional and faculty can determine which items they wish to include and which they want to remove or add on their own. It was also determined that the issue of adding a full statement on Intellectual Property from WLUFPA would be taken back to the committee for discussion.

**MOTION (D. Monod/J. Mueller) to amend motion to include a statement on "unauthorized distribution of course material" to the undergraduate course syllabus. CARRIED**



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**MOTION (K. Montero /D. Maoz) on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Teaching and Learning that Senate approve the proposed changes to the undergraduate syllabus template as amended. CARRIED**

b. Senate Academic Planning Committee, M. Mancuso

i. Credential Innovation Framework

K. Montero presented the Credential Innovation Framework and spoke about the details related to the development of the framework. Through the work of the strategic planning process, credential innovation was determined to be one of the sub-themes. There isn't currently an agreed upon framework at this time to create micro-credentials, if this is approved it will allow Laurier to offer credentials adjunct to degrees. Work with the Registrar's Office needs to continue on the administrative aspects of the policy. K. Montero, and M. Mancuso responded to questions related to: what Senate is being asked to approve, it was clarified that they were approving the minimum credits for an certificate, diploma at the undergraduate level and a post-baccalaureate certificate; on the approval process for future credentials; on the labour market research that was completed and issues related to offering credentials online. P. Ensign provided a statement from a fellow Senate member on the working group and their dissatisfaction with the working group and lack of meetings. As well faculty member M. Poetzsch spoke to issues he had identified with the credential innovation framework and the direction that Laurier is taking in this area.

**MOTION (M. Mancuso/D. Deutschman) on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee that Senate approve the minimum credits for an Undergraduate Certificate of 2.0 credits, Undergraduate Diploma of 5.0 credits and Post-baccalaureate certificate of 2.5 credits.**

**CARRIED**

Approved: 23

Abstention: 13

Opposed 1

ii. Cyclical Review Annual Report, M. Mancuso

M. Mancuso presented the Cyclical Review Annual Report. L. Eisler responded to a question on a statement in the Dean's response in the Criminology annual report and agreed to remove a statement from the report related to lobbying the Faculty Association. There were no other questions.

**MOTION (M. Mancuso/K. Montero) that Senate receive the 2019-2020 annual report of the undergraduate and graduate cyclical program reviews.**

**CARRIED**



6. Faculty of Arts Strategic Plan, R. Nemesvari

This item was deferred to a future Senate meeting due to time restrictions.

7. Budget Overview, A. Araujo and M. Mancuso

M. Mancuso and A. Araujo provided an update on the 2020-2021 budget process which included information on the following; the work being done to focus on recalculating the projected financial positions and targets, the strategies that have been put in place in to reduce the \$18M deficit; it is estimated that through VRIP there will be approximately \$3.8M in savings over a 2 year period; in relation to the provincial grant the estimation now looks like less than 1% on the grant will be at risk and the provincial government has also announced that we can re-set three times versus once; a full update is coming in April. There were no questions.

8. Enhancing Laurier International Student Recruitment, M. Mancuso

M. Mancuso and D. Monod presented on Enhancing Laurier's International Student Recruitment strategy, the presentation included information on the following: Laurier has pursued internationalization through a thoughtful process and is looking to increase the number of international students one way and possibly partnering with Navitas; the involvement of the Faculty Association in the discussions with Navitas; program pathways for students; commitment to student success; suggested governance model and advisory committee; location of school would be on the Brantford campus and the alignment of Navitas' goals with that of Laurier; there will be future town halls being held on this potential partnership. M. Mancuso and D. Monod responded to questions on the name of the partnership school and commitment to student satisfaction.

9. Matters from the Consent section of the agenda

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

10. Other Business

There was no other business

11. Adjournment

**C. Consent**

*The following items are 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



## Senate

**WILFRID LAURIER UNIVERSITY**

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b. Draft Minutes of the February 4, 2020 meeting

### 2. Items for Information

a. Report of the Senior Executives

b. Winter Enrolment Report

c. Report of Board of Governors February 13, 2020 meeting