



## SENATE MINUTES

Thursday, December 2, 2021, 2021, 2:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Virtual Meeting

**Present:** N. Amanullah, D. Antonowicz, G. Ashoughian, H. Beaudry, G. Brockett, M. Brolley, P. Bryden, R. Buehler, S. Cameron, M. Cantalini-Williams, J. Casey, L. Chu, A. Clarke, J. Coolman, A. Dang, D. Deutschman, J. Empey, S. Ensign, A. Essaji, C. Francis, B. Glencross, A. Herman, J. Hennebry, P. Ironstone, I. Joseph, C. Johnston Turner, L. King, V. Kitaev, D. Law, H. LeBlanc, L. Luccisano, K. Lund, D. MacLatchy, D. Maoz, B. McKay, P. McLaren, L. McLeod, J. McMurray, K. Menon, K. Montero, A. Ngo, A. Noriega, L. Noronha, A. Parker, J. Popham, S. Ramsay, M. Reesor, J. Schwieter, K. Shankardass, C. Smith, B. Vale, A. Vannelli, M. Walton-Roberts, K. Werbin, M. Wilson, K. Yri, G. Yun.

**Regrets:** M. Ahmed, R. Ame, A. Clarke, J. Coolman, C. Eni-McLean, K. Hogarth, M. Kelly, S. Lachapelle, L. Hawton Kitamura, E. Mercier, J. Newman, M. Woodford, J. Zhan.

**Absent:** S. Chamberlain, S. Ghamat, C. Miyata, D. Treleaven.

**Secretariat:** A. Arnold, A. Juhik, S. Kelly, A. Kornobis.

### A. Introduction

1. **Call to Order**, D. MacLatchy

D. MacLatchy called meeting to order and acknowledged the traditional territory on which the university is situated. Senators learned the results of an e-vote regarding meeting in person versus virtually; majority of Senators prefer to continue to meet virtually for this year. It was also noted that there will be an e-vote circulated next week to approve a senator to sit on the AVP: Academic Search Committee and a student senator to sit on the Senate Honorary Degree Committee.

a. Approval of the Consent Agenda

M. Wilson noted that item B.3.b.i. eLearning Definitions needs to be tabled in order to allow for more consultations with WLUFAs. This will be brought back at a later date.

**MOTION (A. Noriega/P. Ironstone): that Senate approve the Consent items listed for approval under item C.1.**

**Carried.**

2. **Leadership Update**

a. Report of the President, D. MacLatchy

D. MacLatchy thanked everyone who was in attendance for the last Senate meeting of 2021 as well for the work done this fall term to ensure a safe return to campus. In November, Laurier signed onto the Scarborough Charter on Anti-Black Racism and Black Inclusion in Canadian Higher Education, giving recognition to

Barrington Walker for his key role in the creation of the Charter and as a member of the advisory committee and drafting sub-committee. D. MacLatchy mentioned the 99% vaccination rate of staff, faculty, and students on campus noting that Laurier continues to monitor the new Omicron variant and public health guidelines closely.

D. MacLatchy provided government relations updates noting that Laurier hosted MCU Deputy Minister Shelley Tapp where the focus was on how Laurier's faculty can support pandemic economic recovery and research, the strength of Laurier's co-op programs and Laurier's financial sustainability challenges under the current restraints. D. MacLatchy touched on the current provincial-level issues including: the lack of a tuition framework; the freeze on the government grant; the college 3-year degrees and Masters in Applied Programs. The college 3-year degree impacts will vary amongst the universities but will make for a much less defined system in the province.

b. Report of the Provost & VP Academic, A. Vannelli

A. Vannelli provided an update regarding the goal of a full return to campus in January, noting the collective effort it takes to make the return to normalcy possible. Senators learned that undergraduate, graduate, domestic, and international enrolments all came in at expected levels, noting significant increase in undergraduate as anticipated based on June 1<sup>st</sup> confirmations. Planning is underway for program developments in Milton for 2024 and 2025, including offering existing programs, the creation of new degree programs and joint programs with Conestoga College. There are also several new degree, diploma, and certificate programs under development across Laurier campuses with anticipated 2023 and 2024 start dates.

A. Vannelli provided update on the current active recruitments noting that the new the Associate Vice-President: Academic role will be essential in enabling us to pursue the types of opportunities that will put Laurier on a strong financial footing going forward. Recruitment is also underway for Inclusive Excellence with the support from search consultant Boyden Canada. There was discussion regarding the process, specifically the timelines of when positions were posted and when recruitment started.

A. Vannelli provided a Winter Term update including face covering policy enforcement and mandatory vaccination. It was also noted that academic disruption will end when the Fall Term concludes, allowing for a full return to in person instruction for Winter 2022 term.

Senate discussed the de-registration process for students failing to comply with the vaccination requirements and the process for re-registration once compliant. Senate also discussed concerns from students about the length of the winter break.

c. Report from the Board of Governors, P. McLaren

P. McLaren provided an update on Board activities in November noting approval of Fossil Fuel Endowment fund Statement of Investment

Policies and Procedures, and the financial statements for the Wilfrid Laurier University Press.

- d. Question Period: Written or Verbal  
Question was raised regarding future in person Senate meetings and if there will be capacity and space available to follow public health guidelines.

3. **Business Arising from Previous Minutes**, D. MacLatchy  
No business arising from previous minutes.

## **B. Discussion**

1. **Milton Update**, A. Vannelli / L. Noronha / J. Newman  
Due to time constraints, this item was moved to next Senate meeting.
2. **In Camera Session**  
There was no *in camera* session due to time constraints.  
**MOTION to move the meeting *in camera*.**
3. **Reports and Recommendations from Standing Committees**
  - a. Senate Executive and Finance Committee, D. MacLatchy
    - i. Winter Planning Update, A. Vannelli  
This item was discussed under item A.2.b. Report of the Provost & VP Academic.
  - b. Senate Committee on Teaching and Learning, M. Wilson
    - i. eLearning Definitions, M. Wilson / M. Scott  
This item has been tabled and will be brought back at a later date.  
MOTION that on the recommendation of Senate Committee on Teaching & Learning, Senate approve the eLearning Definitions as eLearning definitions.
  - c. Senate Academic Planning Committee, A. Vannelli
    - i. Revisions to Policy 2.1, Cyclical Review of Undergraduate and Graduate Academic Programs and Policy 2.2, Approval of New Undergraduate and Graduate Programs, M. Wilson

M. Wilson provided an overview of the key changes in Policy 2.1 and Policy 2.2, explaining that many of the changes are a result of the changes in the quality assurance framework. All Ontario universities were asked to update the procedures to correspond to the new framework.

Discussion focused on: the responsibilities of faculties regarding the quality indicators and if each faculty is required to have this

qualification; resource expectations with respect to EDI; and how the changes affect the established programs.

**MOTION (M. Wilson/D. Deutshman): that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, Senate approve the revisions to Policy 2.1, Cyclical Review of Undergraduate and Graduate Academic Programs. Carried. (1 opposed).**

**MOTION (M. Wilson/K. Zhu): that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, Senate approve the revisions to Policy 2.2, Approval of New Undergraduate and Graduate Programs. Carried (2 opposed, 2 abstentions).**

ii. Faculty of Education, M. Cantalini Williams

a. Major Modification, Education Minor

M. Cantalini Williams provided an overview of the changes noting addition of one required course and removal of some electives that were not available to all students.

**MOTION (M. Cantalini-Williams/K. Montero): that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, Senate approve the change to an additional required education course for the Education Minor and remove the electives that are only available to some departments from the listing. Carried.**

iii. Faculty of Science, A. Clarke

a. Major Modification, Physics and Computer Science

R. Monaghan presented changes on behalf of A. Clarke, proposing to add a computer science minor option at the Brantford campus. Discussion focused on availability of resources more specifically if the courses would be taken online and how many CTF staff would be hired.

**MOTION (S. Ramsay/J. Smith): that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, Senate approve the Computer Science Minor to be offered at the Brantford campus. Carried (2 abstentions).**

b. Substantive Minor Modification, BSc Honors Chemistry & Mathematics

R. Monaghan presented an overview of changes noting that students would be able to take either CH213 or CH215 as part of degree requirements; this would give students a way to increase their experiential learning.

**MOTION** (D. Deutschman/P. Ironstone): **that Senate Academic Planning Committee recommend Senate approve that either CH213 (Physical Chemistry 2A) or CH215 (Physical Chemistry 2B) fulfill the current requirement to take CH215 for the degree BSc Honours Chemistry and Mathematics.** **Carried.**

iv. Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies, D. Deutschman

a. Major Modification, Master of Public Safety

D. Deutschman presented an overview of the changes noting that the date for when the council met should be 2021 not 2022.

Discussion focused on: steps that will ensure students are sensitive to indigenous, LGBTQ and EDI issues and ensuring that building sensitivity to social justice issues should be included; how staffing will be done for this program; and a way to differentiate GES in Data Analytics and GIS in Data Analytics.

**MOTION** (D. Deutschman/M. Walton-Roberts): **on the recommendation of Senate Academic Planning Committee, that Senate approve the creation of a new graduate field in GIS and Data Analytics for the Master of Public Safety program.**

**Carried (2 opposed, 2 abstentions).**

v. Faculty of Human and Social Sciences

a. Substantive Minor Modification, Department of Public Safety

B. McKay presented an overview of the changes noting that current program only admitted active police officers. It has been recognized that admissions needs to be open to other enforcement capacities not just police officers. There is capacity for additional enrolment, and it will not have an impact on resources; this will advance careers of the non-police officers.

**MOTION** (B. McKay/D. Deutschman): **on the recommendation of Senate Academic Planning Committee, that Senate approve a change to the admission requirements for the online Honours BA Policing program.**

**Carried (3 abstentions).**

4. **Matters from the Consent Section of the agenda**

None.

5. **Other Business**

The Inclusive Excellence process and the issue of transparency was brought

up noting that some applications are not meeting the requirements. Discussion focused on the Indigenous identification verification and how it will be done.

6. **Adjournment**

By consensus.

**C. Consent Items**

The following items were provided for approval or information. The items noted for approval were approved by consent.

1. **Items for Approval**

- a. Agenda
- b. Minutes, Senate, October 25, 2021

2. **Items for Information**

- a. Report of the Senior Executives
- b. Laurier Strategy Report
- c. COU Academic Colleague Report
- d. Fall Enrolment Report
- e. Fall Convocation Report