



SENATE MINUTES

Wednesday, May 18, 2022, 2:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Senate & Board Chamber, Waterloo Campus

Present: D. MacLatchy (Chair), M. Ahmed, R. Ame, D. Antonowicz, G. Ashoughian, M. Brolley, P. Bryden, R. Buehler, M. Cantalini-Williams, S. Cameron, J. Casey, S. Chamberlain, L. Chu, A. Clarke, J. Coolman, A. Dang, J. Empey, S. Ensign, A. Essaji, S. Ghamat, A. Herman, K. Hogarth, P. Ironstone, C. Johnston Turner, J. Hennebry I. Joseph, L. King, V. Kitaev, S. Lachapelle, H. LeBlanc, L. Luccisano, K. Lund, D. Maoz, B. McKay, P. McLaren, L. McLeod, K. Menon, J. Newman, A. Noriega, L. Noronha, L. Notten, A. Parker, J. Popham, S. Ramsay, M. Reesor, J. Reid, J. Schwieter, C. Smith, D. Treleaven, B. Vale, A. Vannelli, M. Walton-Roberts, K. Werbin, M. Wilson, M. Woodford, K. Yri, G. Yun, J. Zhan, K. Zhu.

Regrets: G. Brockett, C. Eni-McLean, B. Glencross, D. Deutschman, L. Hawton Kitamura, M. Kelly, D. Law, E. Mercier, C. Miyata, A. Ngo, K. Shankardass, J. Smith.

Absent: N. Amanullah, C. Francis.

Secretariat: S. Kelly, A. Kornobis, A. Lukin, P. Marfisi, P. Nicholls.

A. Introduction

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

a. Approval of the Consent Agenda

MOTION (G. Yun/K. Yri) that Senate approve the Consent items listed for approval under item C.1. Carried.

2. **Leadership Update**

a. Report of the President, D. MacLatchy

Convocation was held at the end of April to make up for missed ceremonies in 2020-2021 due to the pandemic. A thank you went out to all those involved. The first official in person convocation ceremonies were set for early June.

The University's masking mandate was extended to May 31 and would remain in effect for June convocation ceremonies. The University would continue to monitor the conditions of the 6th wave and implications on the masking mandate. Sector wide conversations continued surrounding vaccination mandates. External relations continued to communicate the masking mandate while encouraging everyone to stay up to date on their vaccinations.

The University experienced a 74% increase in sick hours used due to Covid-19 and cold/flu absences amongst employees. The University's flex work policy helped support business continuity and would be reviewed for extension.

The City of Waterloo made an investment of \$350,000 to enhance the new gateway to the Waterloo campus as part of the Faculty of Music Building and University entrance. A thank you went to Jason Coolman and team for securing this funding.

A thank you went out to those involved in advocacy for the approval of the Brantford Bachelor of Education which included Heidi Northwood, Maria Cantalini-Williams and Madison Cox.

The provincial government tabled its 2022 budget which would not be passed at the time, but did act as a re-election platform. Limited investments were made in Post-Secondary Education, however a \$6.9 million commitment was made to enhance the Investing in Women's Future Fund which was a recommendation provided by Ontario's Taskforce on Women which was led by Laurier Professor Dr. Karin Schnarr. Overall, all parties in the provincial election made vague commitments to Post-Secondary Education, no party had committed to tuition flexibility.

The Office of the Auditor General of Ontario released its preliminary findings of its ongoing Audit of Laurentian University's operations. Major factors that lead to Laurentian's financial deterioration included capital expansion projects that incurred significant debt as well as the tuition freeze. Laurentian did not have to file for CCAA protection and other option would have been available had the University acted in a timely and transparent matter. It was concluded that Laurentian did not follow normal Broader Public Sector guideline precedent. The report noted support for institutional autonomy, however suggested mechanisms for government intervention when there are serious concerns about a University's financial sustainability. Concerns were noted about lack of transparency in governance practices at Laurentian and that Laurier's Secretariat Office and Board chair would examine these. The University continued to work alongside COU to communicate the importance of institutional autonomy.

Senators discussed: communications strategies to ensure students would be compliant with masking requirements.

- b. Report of the Provost & VP Academic, A. Vannelli
Senate was commended for their work over the past year given that it was an unconventional year. A thank you went out to all of those involved in the process of getting the Brantford Bachelor Education approved.

Milton academic planning continued with the Department of Geography and Environmental Sciences bringing the first official Milton program through the governance cycle for a Bachelor of Science in Climate Change Management. Adjustments continue to be made to the computer science, data science and honours science programs and

would come back to Senate in the fall for approval. A call for new program ideas would be released in the summer. The School of Engineering would go through the governance cycle in fall 2022.

The Vice-President Academic's Office was set to begin the strategic academic plan process over the summer. The plan would be widely consulted across the University and build off of Laurier's strengths and successes.

Four hires were made under the Inclusive Excellence Initiative, two of which were Black faculty and the other two were Indigenous faculty. The AVP Academic Search was in its final phases. Shelley McGill was appointed as the Acting Dean of the Lazaridis School of Business and Economics while the search for the permanent dean continued.

- c. Report from the Board of Governors, P. McLaren
At its April meeting, the Board of Governors approved the 2022-2023 operating and ancillary budget. The Board also approved the updated Board approved search procedures in response to the addition of new ex-officio members of Senate. The Board received an update on the Laurier 2019-2024 Strategy as well the KPMG Audit report.
- d. Question Period: Written or Verbal
No questions were brought forward.

3. **Business Arising from Previous Minutes**, D. MacLatchy

B. Discussion

1. **EDI Strategic Plan**, B. Walker

A report was brought to Senate after a year of consultation, writing and soliciting feedback. This process was being conducted widely across the post-secondary sector. The report was being brought to Senate for questions and comments noting that a final draft would be brought in fall 2022.

Senators discussed: concerns surrounding freedom of expression being utilized for malicious intent in classrooms; if the recommendations would be accompanied with timelines.

2. **Reports and Recommendations from Standing Committees**

- a. **Senate Executive and Finance Committee**, D. MacLatchy
 - i. EMBARGOED - Milton Academic and Financial Planning Update, A. Vanneli / L. Noronha / J. Newman

The Milton Academic and Financial Plan updates were being brought to Senate for the sake of transparency. An overview was provided of the existing physical infrastructure. New developments would be rolled out through Senate and Board committees and the governing bodies themselves. A Milton steering committee was composed of internal staff members at the University.

Various research facilities would be on greenbelt lands. The Milton Campus Master Plan was being brought to the Board for approval. Milton One planning continued and would go through the appropriate governing bodies for approval. Ideally, shovels would be in the ground by 2023.

The Academic vision for the Milton Campus was predicated on planetary health. A number of transplant programs were to be implemented in 2024-25. The Master of Education program was underway in Milton. The Bachelor of Science in Climate Change Management was being developed in addition to the School of Engineering. An Academic Planning Committee was created for Milton. Collaborations were underway with Conestoga College for the Landscape Architecture program.

An overview of Governance processes for new program proposals was brought forward. External approval would need to be reviewed by Quality Council. Enrollment services would work on recruitment for 2024-2025.

Divisional councils and internal approvals would be brought forward in fall 2022. Finalized approvals were expected to be brought forward in winter 2023 which would allow for programs to be built and recruitment to begin for 2024.

A 12-year enrollment projection was brought forward with the goal of 3000 students, 20% of which were projected to be international students, and 10% would be graduate students.

In terms of hiring, the direct cost of teaching was being examined, a large portion of which would be faculty member salaries. At the time, 100 faculty were being projected.

In terms of financial projections, an initial capital draw of \$65 million was expected and would be covered by debt. There were about 33 acres of developable land which was similar to the Waterloo campus. Planning was underway for the first buildings but further infrastructure would be

needed as growth continued. Assumptions were being built into the model to factor for conservatism. To fund the Milton campus, the University would start in an operating deficit, but was expected to move to a surplus position and be paid off in 15 years on a conservative basis.

A considerable amount of land processes needed to be followed for Milton One. A space and planning exercise was underway to work towards site plan approvals. The design for Milton One was being developed and construction was set to start in March 2023 with a targeted finish in 2024.

Senate discussed: Milton One expenses and revenues and how that would be casted on other campuses; If the Lazaridis School of Business and Economics would be involved in the listed sport leadership and management program; if the campus would have EDI supports to align with the University's EDI commitments; if minors would be offered at the Milton Campus.

b. **Senate Academic Planning Committee**, A. Vannelli

i. Reports/Recommendations from Divisional Councils

a. **Faculty of Science**, R. Monaghan

1. Substantive Minor Modification: Honours BSc Science

Changes were recommended to allow students to have better access to courses. There was a reduction in the number of credits which included reducing 300 and 400 level credit requirement from four to three and the addition of a stipulation that at least one of these courses must be completed at the 400 level. Designated health courses were added to align with the community health program.

MOTION (B. Vale/S. Ramsay) that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, Senate approve changes to the junior, third- and fourth-year, and Science breadth requirements to the Honours BSc Science and Honours BSc Science and LLB (Sussex) Stream programs. Carried.

b. **Faculty of Education**, M. Cantalini-Williams

1. Faculty of Education: Bachelor of Education Program, Brantford Campus

The provincial government recently approved the Bachelor of Education for the Brantford campus. A motion was previously approved by Senate, however government approval came later than expected. Laurier had 1700 applications to its Bachelor of Education on the Waterloo campus which is a small program. If this was approved, the intention was to offer applicants admission to the Brantford program that the University could not admit into the Waterloo program. The government entrusted these spots to Laurier and there is a risk if this was not approved.

MOTION (M. Cantalini-Willians/A. Clarke) that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, Senate approve the effective date of the start of the Bachelor of Education program on the Brantford campus be September 1, 2022, based on approval received from the Ontario College of Teachers on January 3, 2022 and funding for 60 new Bachelor of Education spaces received on April 26, 2022. Carried.

c. **Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies, B. Wolfe**

1. Major Modification: Master of Education

This proposal included the delivery of the part time Master of Education in a variety of formats to allow students to complete their degree. It was anticipated that this would make the program more accessible to those who do not live in the area and more attractive to prospective applicants.

MOTION (B. Vale/K. Hogarth) that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, Senate approve that the Master of Education offers its courses using a variety of course delivery formats including in-person, hybrid, online, and hyflex, dependent upon contractual and university level agreements to allow hybrid and hyflex mode to be available. Carried.

2. Substantive Minor Modification: Master of Education
A recommendation was being made to remove the two year professional experience as an admission requirement for the Masters of Education program. It had been found that this experience was not needed

and that this better aligned with admission standards across the sector.

Senators discussed: if there were concerns with application rates.

MOTION (K. Werbin/B. Vale) that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, Senate approve the Master of Education remove the 2 years professional experience as a requirement for admissions into the Master of Education program, and include the statement "Experience in an educational setting will be considered in the selection process". Carried.

3. Major Modification: Chemistry and Biochemistry/ MSc in Chemistry

A new mandatory course was being proposed to provide professional skill development and advanced research skills to support student progression into professional endeavors.

MOTION (A. Clarke/S. Ramsay) that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, Senate approve the changes to the MSc in Chemistry program requirements. Carried.

4. New Program Proposal: PhD in Music

This program would be unique to Canada would provide Laurier the chance to be a leader. Gaps were noted in the sector for a program like this with none existing in Canada. This would allow students to study various areas of music. A PhD program would allow for a full package in terms of music program offerings. The Faculty of Music had received numerous questions about this, noting that there would be demand for this program. This program could make Laurier a global centre for community music.

Senators discussed: excitement and support for this program.

MOTION (G. Yun/K. Yri) that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, Senate approve the creation of a PhD in Music. Carried.

d. **Faculty of Arts**, S. Lachapelle

1. Substantive Minor Modification: Social Entrepreneurship Option

This motion was being brought forward to remove community engagement courses given that engagement had been very low.

MOTION (S. Lachapelle/K. Werbin) that the Senate Academic Planning Committee recommend Senate approve the change to program requirements for the Social Entrepreneurship Option. Carried.

e. **Faculty of Music**, C. Johnston Turner

1. Major Modification: Faculty of Music / BMus (Self-directed studies)

Laurier worked to create a partnership with Metalworks. Metalworks is a private career college that teaches the music business and is a top end facility utilized by major recording artists. Two scholarships had been negotiated and base tuition would be \$20,000 for three semesters. This would be used specifically for self directed students but courses would be able to be used towards degrees.

MOTION (C. Johnson Turner/K. Yri) that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, Senate approve a new option for the BMus Self-Directed Studies program that includes an articulation agreement with Metalworks Institute for completion of a diploma in Audio Production and Engineering as part of the program requirements. Carried.

2. Major Modification: Faculty of Music / BMus (Self-directed studies)

MOTION (C. Johnson Turner/K. Yri) that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, Senate approve the proposed diploma-degree pathway between Metalworks Institute's Audio Production and Engineering Diploma and the Honours BMus Self-Directed Studies program. Carried.

f. **Lazaridis School of Business & Economics**, M. Kelly

This motion was made with University of Waterloo double degree students in mind. The proposed changes allowed for direct entry into the BBA and double degree programs at Laurier.

MOTION (L. McLeod/P.McLaren) On the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, that Senate approve the updated admission regulations and procedures for "Transfer Students into Year 2 of BBA" and the related BBA double degree programs. Carried.

c. **Senate Committee on Research and Publications, J. Newman**

i. 2022 Cyclical Review of Faculty Research Centres/Institutes

Five research centres were included in the proposal. After reviewing the three-year report with the Senate Committee on Research and Publications, the continuation of the centres was being proposed.

Senate discussed: the rationale for three-year reporting given that this seemed short.

MOTION (J. Newman/L. McLeod) that on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Research and Publications that Senate approve the continuation, with review in three years, of the suite of faculty research centres, as presented. Carried.

ii. 2022 Cyclical Review of University Research Centres/Institutes

After reviewing the three-year report, and meeting with the Director of the VERiS, SCRAP recommended the Centre for continuation. The Centre engaged a diverse group of Laurier faculty members, spanning multiple Faculties from a range of disciplines. The Centre also made external collaborations, locally and internationally, and had gained notoriety in its fields of study. The Centre also engaged many students.

MOTION (J. Newman/A. Clarke) that on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Research and Publications that Senate approve the

continuation, with review in three years, of the university research centre, the Viessman Centre for Engagement and Research in Sustainability (VERiS), as presented. Carried.

After reviewing the three-year report, and meeting with the Director of the LIWS, SCRAP recommended the Institute for continuation. The Institute engaged a diverse group of Laurier faculty members and students in water sciences research.

MOTION (J. Newman/S. Ramsay) that on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Research and Publications that Senate approve the continuation, with review in three years, of the faculty research centre, the Laurier Institute on Water Science (LIWS), as presented. Carried.

d. **Senate Governance Committee, S. Ramsay**

i. Annual Review of Senate By-Laws

Tracked changes were brought forward to the By-Laws which mainly included housekeeping changes. Additional housekeeping changes as well as changes pertaining to early apportionment were noted on the floor.

MOTION (S. Ramsay/B. Vale) that on the recommendation of the Senate Governance Committee, Senate approve the Senate By-Laws, as revised. Carried.

ii. Senate & Committee Meetings – Return to Campus 2022/23

Over the course of this past year, numerous discussions took place about best practices for meeting format given the return to on campus activities. The Governance committee decided that all committee meetings would continue to meet remotely. For Senate it was decided to take a broad approach, with hybrid meetings taking place in September, October, April and May with fully remote meetings taking place in December, January and March.

Senate discussed: procedural changes for the Senate Student Appeals Committee and meeting formats for this; if there would be an option for in person meetings in Brantford as well as Milton in the future.

e. **Senate Committee on Teaching and Learning, M. Wilson**

i. Update on eLearning Definitions, M. Scott

Consultation was conducted with Gartner research and across the sector to form the proposed definition. Common terms and definitions were provided to better form expectations. The definition noted the use of modalities that existed across the sector.

MOTION (M. Wilson/B. Vale) that on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Teaching and Learning, Senate approve the eLearning Definitions as standard eLearning definitions. Carried.

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

None.

4. **Other Business**

None.

5. **In Camera Session**

MOTION (J. Newman/J. Empey) to move the meeting in camera. Carried.

6. **Adjournment**

C. Consent Items

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.a.

1. **Items for Approval**

a. Agenda

b. Senate Honorary Degree Committee Terms of Reference

MOTION that on the recommendation of the Senate Governance Committee, Senate approve the proposed changes to the Terms of Reference for the Senate Honorary Degree Committee.

c. Procedures for Considering a Student Appeal

MOTION that on the recommendation of the Senate Student Appeals Committee, Senate approve the revisions to the Procedures for Considering a Student Appeal, effective July 1, 2022, as presented.

- d. Senate & Committee Meeting Dates
MOTION that Senate approve the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 dates for Senate & Committee meetings, as proposed.

 - e. Senate Governance Committee Nominations Report
MOTION on the recommendation of the Senate Governance Committee that Senate approve the Nominations Report as proposed.
2. **Items for Information**
- a. Laurier Strategy: 2019-2024, Spring 2022 Report Back
 - b. Report of the Senior Executives
 - c. COU Academic Colleague Report
 - d. Student Teaching Awards 2021-2022
 - e. Digital Strategy Update
 - f. EMBARGOED - Statement of Intent, Geography and Environmental Studies
 - g. EMBARGOED - Statement of Intent for an MSc in Health Sciences
 - h. EMBARGOED - Statement of Intent for the Master of Music C3: Collaboration, Creation and Curation

Note: If you need assistance or have a question about these minutes or the Senate, please contact the University Secretariat office, by email to skelly@wlu.ca or 519-884-0710 x 2981.