



**SENATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE (SGC)  
Minutes of Meeting**

**Date:** Monday, February 28, 2022  
**Time:** 9:03am – 10:04am  
**Room:** MS Teams Virtual Meeting

**PRESENT:** Majid Ahmadi, Reem Bahdi, Rick Caron, Cheryl Collier, Mitchell Fields, Robert Gordon (Chair), Mitchell Hajnal, Dave Johnston, Nancy Martinez Salas, Maureen Muldoon, Debbie Sheppard-LeMoine, Bonnie Stewart, Patti Weir, Stephen Weir.

**ABSENT:** Lori Buchanan (regrets), Jess Dixon (regrets), Stephen Weir (regrets).

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Danny Anger (Senate Governance Officer), Edwin Tam, Hussein Samhat, Renée Wintermute (University Secretary)

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*Although items were not discussed in sequential order, the minutes do reflect the agenda order of business.*

**1 Approval of the agenda**

**MOTION:** That the agenda be approved.

Stewart/Fields  
**CARRIED**

**2 Minutes of the Meeting of January 24, 2022**

*(see documents SGC220124M, SGC220131E and SGC220202E)*

**MOTION:** That the minutes of the Senate Governance Committee meeting of January 24, 2022, be approved.

Weir/Sheppard - LeMoine  
**CARRIED**

The e-votes of January 31, 2022 and February 2, 2022 were received for information.

**3 Business arising from the minutes**

Nothing to report.

**4 Outstanding Business**

Nothing to report.

**5 Reports/New Business**

**5.1 Proposal for Emeritus Designation for Retiring Deans and Provosts**

*(see document SGC220228-5.1 & SGC220228-5.1a for more details.)*

NOTED:

- It was proposed that candidates who serve as high level administrators (eg, Deans, Vice-Presidents, Provosts), upon retirement (including posthumous), should be conferred the Emeritus title.

- In response to a question regarding when the Emeritus would be conferred, it was noted that, under this proposal, the status would be conferred upon retirement, not when the term is complete, regardless of the number of years served.
- Concern was raised regarding gendered language. The title of Emeritus/Emerita should move towards a gender-neutral term.

AGREED:

- The need for such a policy is not clear. The proponent was asked to come back to the Committee with a clearer, more fulsome rationale for the proposal.

## 5.2 Strategic Items for Senate Discussion

*(see SGC220228-5.2 for more details.)*

NOTED:

- It was noted that at the March 11, 2022, Senate meeting, a discussion on post-COVID academic programming and delivery will be provided under the Report of the Provost.
- A discussion on Internationalization planning will not be ready for the March Senate meeting and should be pushed back to the May Senate meeting.
- For the April Senate meeting, a discussion on microcredentials can be facilitated by the Office of Open Learning and the Office of the Provost.
- In response to a question raised regarding the confusion around microcredentials across campus, it was noted that the main issue is the multiple definitions at the provincial level and solidifying what definition(s) the University will adopt. For its part, the Ministry has identified microcredentials for funding eligibility based on its preferred definition.
- It was suggested that a deeper discussion should be initiated on the mental health and wellness resources available for faculty and staff returning to campus.
- Discussions around post-COVID-19 planning for Summer/Fall 2022 will also need to be had at Senate.
- Concern was raised over the level of engagement at Senate on the strategic discussion items.

AGREED:

- As a trial run, a voluntary Senate Information Session(s) will be held prior to the Senate meeting to enable Senators to obtain a deeper understanding of strategic items placed on Senate agendas for discussion. This pilot initiative will be initiated with an hour information session in early April on microcredentials.

## 5.3 Senate Academic Professional Eligibility List – Revision

*(see SGC220228-5.3 for more details.)*

**MOTION: That the Senate Governance Committee approve the revised eligibility list for the election of the academic professional on Senate; and the University Secretariat continue to be tasked with revising the list of eligible Academic Professional positions annually, as appropriate, provided the positions added are equivalent to existing positions.**

Stewart/Sheppard-LeMoine

NOTED:

- Adding the Executive Director, Research and Innovation Services from the Office of the Vice President, Research, and Innovation to the Academic Professional eligibility list is a minor change and in-line with other positions on the list.
- It was noted that Athletic and Recreational Services list has included the following positions: Head Coach, Men's Volleyball, Defensive Coordinator, Football and Offensive Coordinator, Football.
- Minor corrections were made.

**CARRIED**

**5.4 Proposed Bylaws Revisions [Bylaws 3, 20, 22, 54, 55]**  
(see SGC220228-5.4 for more details.)

**MOTION 1: That the proposed revisions to Bylaw 3 be approved.**

Ahmadi/Weir  
**CARRIED**

**MOTION 2: That the proposed revisions to Bylaws 20 and 22 be approved.**

Weir/Sheppard-LeMoine  
**CARRIED**

**MOTION 3: That the proposed revisions to Bylaws 54 and 55 be approved.**

Caron/Ahmadi

NOTED:

- A question was raised regarding whether the Faculty of Law should be exempted from these Bylaw revisions as students do not take courses from other disciplines.
- ITS/Registrars has developed systems to resolve final exam conflict through the UWinsite. In-term exam conflicts are harder to address since these assessments are set by individual instructors.
- It was suggested that there should be consultation with the Associate Deans Council because each Faculty may have varying concerns with the proposed revisions.

AGREED:

- It was agreed that this item be referred back to the Bylaw Review Committee for further consultation with the Associate Deans Council.

**WITHDRAWN**

**6 Question Period/Other Business**

Bylaw Business

NOTED:

- Information was provided to members regarding Renewal, Promotion and Tenure ('RTP') Committee structure for non- departmentalized Faculties and how the process is managed. The Committee was asked to give consideration to not having Deans serve as Chairs for RTP committees in non-departmentalized Faculties as there have been situations where the Committee (chaired by the Dean as AUU Head) has decided differently than the Dean (as leader of the unit who provides an independent and separate assessment of the candidate) which, at minimum, may appear to place the Dean in a conflicting position.
- It was suggested that the Associate Dean, a senior Faculty member or the RTP Committee select a member from their constituency to chair the AAU RTP Committee to provide separation from the Dean.

AGREED:

- Members were in support of the proposal and referred the item to the Bylaw Review Committee for further consideration and drafting.

**7 Adjournment**

**MOTION: That the meeting be adjourned.**

Caron/Weir  
**CARRIED**