

SENATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE (SGC)
Minutes of Meeting

Date: Wednesday, May 17, 2023
Time: 2:32pm – 3:47pm
Room: 203 Toldo Health Education Centre & MS Teams

PRESENT: Reem Bahdi, Cheryl Collier, Jess Dixon, Mitchell Fields, Robert Gordon (Chair), Ofelia Jianu, Dave Johnston, Darren Stanley, Andrew Swan, Patti Weir, Stephen Weir.

ABSENT: Clinton Beckford (regrets), Beth Daly (regrets), Laurie Freeman (regrets), Debbie Kane (regrets), Mitra Mirhassani, Andrew Ward (regrets).

IN ATTENDANCE: Scott Martyn, Edwin Tam; Danny Anger (Senate Governance Officer), Renée Wintermute (University Secretary)

1 Approval of the agenda

MOTION: That the agenda be approved.

M. Fields/P. Weir
CARRIED

2 Minutes of the Meeting of April 19, 2023
(See document SGC230419M)

MOTION: That the minutes of the Senate Governance Committee meeting of April 19, 2023 be approved.

D. Johnston /A. Swan
CARRIED

3 Business arising from the minutes.
Nothing to report.

4 Outstanding Business
Nothing to report.

5 Reports/New Business

5.1 Research Ethics Board Report
(see document SGC230517-5.1 for more details)

MOTION: That the proposed revisions to the Guidelines for Research Involving Humans (Appendix C) be approved.

A. Swan/S. Weir

NOTED:

- An overview of the work of Research Ethics Board (REB) covering the period January 1, 2022- December 31, 2022, was provided.
- The major changes to the guidelines are related to the release of the Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans (TCPS2) 2022. As a signatory to the Tri-Council

Research Policy Statement, the University is required to adopt these changes and revise its guidelines accordingly.

- The mandated changes include:
 - A Bystander Risk Component was inserted into the criteria for the REB's review. This was implemented to manage and reduce risks to bystanders who did not consent to participate.
 - Board Consent for data storage for human biological materials.
 - Clarification for review of research involving stem cells that will be transferred into human and non-human animals.

CARRIED

5.2 Report on Renewal, Tenure, and Promotion

(see document SGC230517-5.2 for more details)

NOTED:

- The SGC Subcommittee provided a comprehensive report outlining the UCAPT/RTP process pertaining to UCAPT reporting to Senate on aggregated RTP details for 2023.
- A revised UCAPT form has been developed, which eliminates direct correlation between the SPT results and renewal, tenure, and promotion teaching assessment in order to provide greater opportunity for insightful commentary. This change has been well received across campus.
- UCAPT shares the goal for improved communication and reporting, reflecting a commitment to transparency and effectiveness. Nevertheless, there have been some concerns expressed regarding the handling of confidential and sensitive information within the proposed motion. UCAPT believes it is essential to exercise caution when considering elements of the motion, as there is the potential for unintentional consequences. Specifically, there are two key apprehensions:
 1. The risk of establishing a process that falls outside of Senate-approved procedures, potentially leading to deviations from established governance norms.
 2. The possibility of duplicating provisions that are already permissible under the current, approved Senate bylaws and processes, which might inadvertently complicate matters.
- In light of these concerns, UCAPT is asking Senate to refer the motion back to SGC for a comprehensive assessment, ensuring that any potential impacts are thoroughly evaluated and addressed.
- A review of submission deadlines may also be warranted to ensure timely review. A June submission date for candidates can help ensure that, by September, external reviewers will have been identified, and the necessary committees will be in place. This adjustment aims to streamline the UCAPT process and enhance its efficiency. Several other Ontario Universities have already transitioned to a June 15th UCAPT submission date. The Faculty of Engineering has implemented a July 15 deadline, ensuring timely reviews.

AGREED:

- It was agreed that UCAPT should maintain a webpage to answer questions frequently asked questions. UCAPT will further review the external reviewer process for AAS promotions, and report back on any recommendations.
- UCAPT plays the role of the RTP ombudsperson set out in the motion.

5.3 Memberships

5.3.1 Senate Standing Committees

(See document SGC230517-5.3.1 for more details)

MOTION: That the Senate Governance Committee recommend to Senate that the Senate Standing Committees membership for 2023-2024 be approved.

O.Jianu/D. Johnston

FRIENDLY AMENDMENT: The following member was added as the chair of the Senate Student Caucus: Natalie Atkin (2023-2025).

CARRIED, as amended

5.3.2 Discipline Appeal Committee, Procedures and Discrimination Committee, SGC Nominating Committee, SGC Special Appointments Committee, SGC Bylaw Review Committee
(See document SGC230517-5.3.2 for more details)

MOTION: That the Discipline Appeal Committee, Procedures and Discrimination Committee, SGC Special Appointments Committee, SGC Nomination Committee, and SGC Bylaw Review Committee memberships be approved.

O. Jianu/R. Bahdi
CARRIEDt

5.3.3 Senate Membership (2023-2024)
(See document SGC230517-5.1.3 for more details)

Corrections were noted primarily relating to changes in ex-officio appointments.

5.4 Senate and Senate Standing Committee Diversity Report (2023-2024)
(See document SGC230517-5.4 for more details)

NOTED:

- This is a preliminary report. The Secretariat will report back to SGC in the Fall with updated numbers.

AGREED:

- Concern was raised that the University continues to stress the need to reach EDI goals, yet many Senators and Standing Committee members have not responded to the EDI Self-Identification form, which has been distributed several times over the Winter Semester.

5.5 Strategic Items for Senate Discussion
(See document SGC230517-5.5 for more details)

NOTED:

- Relevant topics for 2023-2024 may include: progress on addressing Aspire's foundational commitments and strategic priorities; strategic academic and research planning, and; strategic enrolment management plan.

AGREED:

- The Senate Information Sessions have been well received on campus. The topics discussed have been relevant to current and upcoming issues and have made Senate meetings more efficient.
- Generative AI is an critical issue across Ontario Universities and an ongoing conversation on the developments in this space would be well received.

5.6 Senate Meeting Scorecard – Results from Winter 2023 Meetings

NOTED:

- Concerned was raised regarding the use of Robert's Rules and its limitations to building approaches to decolonizing governance.
- Concern was raised regarding the limited engagement on the Senate Meeting Scorecard.

6 Question Period/Other Business

Nothing to report.

7 Adjournment

MOTION: That the meeting be adjourned.

M. Fields/C. Collier
CARRIED