

SENATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE (SGC)
Minutes of Meeting

Date: Wednesday, November 22, 2023
Time: 2:02-3:05pm
Room: Room 209 Assumption Hall & MS Teams

PRESENT: Selinda Berg, Dave Bussiere, Nick Baker, Clinton Beckford, Cheryl Collier, Jess Dixon, Robert Gordon (Chair), Laurie Freeman, Ofelia Jianu, Ghallia Hashem, Husam Morra, Debbie Kane, Luis Rueda, Harbal Deep Sindhu.

ABSENT: Robert Aguirre (regrets), Reem Bahdi (regrets), Beth Daly (regrets), Darren Stanley, Andrew Ward, Stephen Weir (regrets).

IN ATTENDANCE: Erika Kustra, Rosemary Zanutto; Danny Anger (Senate Governance Officer), Renée Wintermute (University Secretary)

1 Approval of the agenda

MOTION: That the agenda be approved.

Jess Dixon/Dave Bussiere
CARRIED

2 Minutes of the Meeting of September 27, 2023
(See document SGC230927M)

A minor correction was noted.

MOTION: That the minutes of the Senate Governance Committee meeting of September 27, 2023 be approved.

Jess Dixon/Cheryl Collier
CARRIED, as amended

3 Business arising from the minutes.

Nothing to report.

4 Outstanding Business

Nothing to report.

5 Reports/New Business

5.1 Programs, Faculty Complement, and Enrolments Report
(see document SGC231122-5.1 for more details)

NOTED:

- While the report provides details on degree programs by department, enrolment data, and faculty numbers, what is harder to relay is the complexity around decision-making which requires a more nuanced understanding of faculty-to-program and faculty-to-student ratios to address quality and program sustainability.
- Concerns were raised that single faculty-dependence in certain programs can occur in practice in small departments, due to sabbaticals and secondments; and there are challenges in covering courses with

qualified instructors.

- Faculties and programs need to develop strategic approaches to grow or cut programs.

AGREED:

- A note will be added clarifying that faculty numbers include those on leave or secondment.

5.2 Report on Renewal, Tenure, and Promotion Processes

(see document SGC231122-5.2 for more details)

NOTED:

- Members discussed difficulties meeting timelines for RTP processes, particularly with external reviewers timelines, and a lack of clarity around conflicts of interest and arms length reviewers. Work is underway to develop guidance on these.

AGREED:

- A correction was made regarding Leddy Library numbers in the report

5.3 Revised Reporting to Senate on UCAPT/RTP Process

(See document SGC231122-5.3 for more details)

MOTION: That the University Committee on Academic Promotion and Tenure (UCAPT) provide to Senate in the Fall and Spring, through the Senate Governance Committee (SGC), an aggregated report on the Renewal, Tenure, and Promotion (RTP)/Renewal, Permanence, and Promotion (RPP) process for the current academic year, including:

1. information on UCAPT-approved AAU criteria, training, and supports;
2. any process issues identified together with a plan to address the issues;
3. gross number of faculty submitting RTP/RPP applications, including the associated EDII report from OHREA, and the number of reviews that are pending or completed for each of renewal of contract, tenure/permanence, and promotion processes; and
4. summary feedback from an anonymous survey to be offered to all faculty that have undergone a UCAPT process during the academic year.

Cheryl Collier/Jess Dixon

AGREED:

- A separate survey should also be developed to obtain feedback from administrative staff on the RTP/RPP process to improve clarity and efficiency.

CARRIED

5.4 Strategic Items for Senate Discussion

(See document SGC231122-5.4 for more details)

NOTED:

- The Senate Information Sessions continue to be well received on campus, covering relevant current and upcoming issues.

AGREED:

- The December 1st Senate Information Session will be on the Blue-Ribbon Panel – Overview and Next Steps.
- In the coming months members suggested a session on the Mental Health Strategy across campus.

5.5 Honorary Degrees (*in-camera*)
(See documents SGC231122-5.5 for more details)

Only voting members participated in this portion of the meeting and the Equity Assessor.

MOTION: That the meeting move *in-camera*.

Laurie Freeman/Husam Morra
CARRIED

NOTED:

- The criteria and process for selecting honorary degree candidates was reviewed.
- A synopsis of each of the proposed Honorary Degree candidates' lifetime achievements was reviewed.
- Approved candidates were added to the list of approved Honorary Degree Candidates.

MOTION: That the ballot be destroyed.

Ofelia Jianu/Laurie Freeman
CARRIED

MOTION: That the meeting move out of *in-camera*.

Laurie Freeman/Ofelia Jianu
CARRIED

6 Question Period/Other Business
Nothing to report.

7 Adjournment

MOTION: That the meeting be adjourned.

Husam Morra/Cheryl Collier
CARRIED