

SENATE
Minutes of Meeting

Date: Friday, January 8, 2016

Time: 2:30pm-4:00pm

Room: 203 Anthony P Toldo

PRESENT: Dr. Majid Ahmadi, Ms. Shaista Akbar, Ms. Ghadeer Alghosein, Mr. Makram Al-Matary, Dr. Natalie Atkin, Mr. Nick Baker, Mr. Iftekhhar Ibne Basith, Prof. Jeff Berryman, Dr. Pierre Boulos, Dr. Allan Conway, Mr. Richard Corneil, Mr. Ronald D'Aguilar, Ms. Joan Dalton, Dr. Carol Davison, Dr. Lorna de Witt, Dr. Jess Dixon, Dr. Gordon Drake, Dr. Phil Dutton, Mr. Daniel Edelstein, Dr. Waguih ElMaraghy, Dr. Laurie Freeman-Gibb, Dr. Maureen Gowing, Dr. Phil Graniero, Dr. David Hutchinson, Ms. Vicki Jay Leung, Dr. Karl Jirgens, Mr. Raed Kadri, Dr. Debbie Kane, Dr. Michael Khan, Dr. Muharem Kianieff, Dr. Ed King, Dr. Norman King, Dr. Douglas Kneale, Dr. Ziad Kobti, Dr. Joanna Luft, Dr. Charles Macdonald, Dr. Elena Maeva, Mr. Sanam Mehta, Dr. Lydia Miljan, Ms. Alice Miller, Dr. Mehdi Sangani Monfared, Dr. Maureen Muldoon, Dr. Jeff Noonan, Dr. Gurapdesh Pandher, Dr. Stephen Pender, Mr. Paul Petahtegoose, Mr. Michael Potter, Dr. Katherine Quinsey, Dr. Antonio Rossini, Mr. Amin Safaei, Dr. Mehrdad Saif, Dr. Valerie Scatamburlo-D'Annibale, Dr. Alan Scoboria, Dr. Victor Sevillano, Mr. Hassan Shahzad, Dr. Jill Singleton-Jackson, Dr. K. W. Michael Siu, Dr. Julie Smit, Dr. Clayton Smith, Dr. Andrzej Sobiesiak, Dr. Darren Stanley, Dr. Elizabeth Starr, Dr. Marijke Taks, Dr. Edwin Tam, Mr. Jaydee Tarpeh, Ms. Dhouha Triki, Prof. Lionel Walsh, Dr. Zhou Wang, Dr. Chris Waters, Dr. Patricia Weir, Dr. Alan Wildeman (Chair), Mr. William Willis, Dr. Larry Wilson.

REGRETS: Dr. Tanja Collet-Najem, Dr. Shervin Erfani, Ms. Marilyn Farough, Dr. Linda Patrick, Dr. Nancy Wright.

ABSENT: Dr. Abdul-Fattah Asfour, Mr. Hussein Elnimairi, Dr. Nurlan Turdaliev.

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms. Romina Elezi, Dr. Erika Kustra; Ms. Renée Wintermute and Ms. Alison Zilli (University Secretariat).

1 Approval of Agenda (Unstarring agenda items)

MOTION: That the agenda be approved.

Dr. P. Boulos /Dr. V. Scatamburlo-D'Annibale
CARRIED

2 Minutes of the meetings of December 11, 2015

MOTION: That the minutes of the meeting of December 11, 2015 be approved.

Prof. L. Walsh/Dr. M. Muldoon
CARRIED

3 Business arising from the minutes

Nothing to report.

4 Outstanding Business/Action Items

Nothing to report.

5 Reports/New Business

5.1 Reports from the Student Presidents (UWSA, OPUS, GSS)

University of Windsor Students Alliance (UWSA)

Members were informed that the UWSA Board approved a Bike Share rental program, which will encourage people who are on campus to use a bicycle as transportation. Members were also informed that Frost Week is January 11-16th, and will include a week of activities for students including games, a movie night, bowling and it will wrap up with a dance party. The UWSA general elections are forthcoming.

Organization of Part-Time University Students (OPUS)

Senators were informed that there was strong participation in the Orientation sessions that were held during the first week of January 2016. It was also noted that OPUS is looking forward to engaging part-time students in campus events and activities in 2016.

Graduate Students Society (GSS)

Members were informed that the GSS Scholarship fund, for which GSS is currently fundraising, has been a very successful program due to the generous donors on campus. The program provides graduate students who are in financial need and in good academic standing with financial aid. A call for donations will be sent out soon.

The issue of mental health has been on the forefront of discussion for student groups. It was noted that there is a need for additional mental health support for students on and off campus.

5.2 Report of the President

The University of Windsor will be releasing a draft *Policy on Sexual Misconduct* and will be inviting the campus community to review it and provide feedback.

The President will be holding his annual address on January 29, 2016.

5.3 Report of the Academic Colleague

(See document Sa150508-5.3 for more details.)

A brief overview was provided on the topics of discussion at the last meeting of the Academic Colleagues. Dr. Erika Kustra, Director of the Centre for Teaching and Learning was commended for leading an insightful discussion on faculty engagement.

The document was received for information.

5.4 Senate Student Caucus

It was noted that the new student co-chair has established a Subcommittee Liaison Subcommittee comprised of approximately 18 students from different constituencies on campus for the purpose of bringing their concerns to Caucus and reporting back on the outcomes and decisions. In response to a question raised as to whether there is a member on the Subcommittee from the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) student community, it was noted that effort will be made to have all groups represented.

5.5 Program Development Committee

*5.5.1 Program Course Changes

*a) Inter-Faculty Digital Journalism- New Course Proposal

(See document Sa160108-5.5.1a for more details.)

MOTION: That the following course addition be made:*

30-430. Digital Journalism Practicum

**Subject to the approval of expenditures required.*

***CARRIED**

*b) Dramatic Art – Minor Program Changes

(See document Sa160108-5.5.1b for more details.)

MOTION: That the degree requirements for the BA Drama General be changed according to the program/course change forms. *

**Subject to the approval of expenditures required.*

***CARRIED**

*c) Visual Arts – Minor Program Changes

(See document Sa160108-5.5.1c for more details.)

MOTION: That the degree requirements for the General BA in Visual Arts be changed according to the program/course change forms. *

**Subject to the approval of expenditures required.*

***CARRIED**

*5.5.2 Honours BAsc in Electrical Engineering with and without Co-op Learning Outcomes

(See document Sa160108-5.5.2 for more details.)

The document was received for information.*

5.6 Academic Policy Committee

5.6.1 Leddy Library Annual Report

(See document Sa160108-5.6.1 for more details.)

It was noted that the Leddy Library continues to implement its five-year strategic plan, with an emphasis on meeting its goals to support teaching and learning, increasing access to technology, and providing access to learning spaces and print and digital collections. The Library also continues to adapt to new technologies and pursue initiatives to ensure accessibility of information and support for the University's researchers and students. The Scholarship at UWindsor institutional repository has had an increase in the number of papers deposited resulting in significant increase in downloads from readers around the globe. Some of the challenges that Leddy Library faces include institutional budget realignments, the implementation of next generation cloud computing library system including technical challenges; and, decrease in staffing numbers impacting the Library's ability to launch new initiatives. It was noted that the Library will be reviewing its digital publications and cutting back on collections for necessary cost savings.

Concern was raised regarding the issue that a reduction of the acquisitions budget may have a negative impact on the purchasing of physical books. In response, it was noted that the Library

will be reviewing all of their acquisitions in order to create a better balance between physical and online book collections. This is done using a series of variables that factor in cost saving, resource redundancy, licensing terms, etc.

5.6.2 Student Recruitment Office Annual Report (See document Sa160108-5.6.2 for more details.)

Senators were provided with a presentation highlighting the work of the Student Recruitment Office over the past year. It was noted that the Student Recruitment Office (SRG) recruits eligible students of diverse backgrounds from a regional, national and North American pool of prospective students. Through multiple recruitment strategies, the Office is committed to inspiring eligible students to choose Windsor and gain access to an excellent post-secondary education.

The success of the recruitment Plan will assist the University in recruiting and retaining the best faculty and staff due to the quality of our students and ability to recruit a sufficient number of students to meet the University's budget targets. Currently, the Office promotes international engagement by recruiting in the United States and Mexico. The SRO also participates in a wide variety of activities to actively promote recruitment such as the Ontario Universities Fair, visiting individual schools and mini-fairs across the province, attending and hosting guidance counselor events, organizing student telecounseling, hosting campus tours, and attending applicant receptions.

Future initiatives include: 1) Revising and updating the recruitment plan to include more electronic recruitment initiatives; 2) Creating a campaign to increase student awareness of the University beyond the Tri-County region; 3) Making a budget request based on the needs of the recruitment plan; 4) hiring and training new staff; and, 5) consulting with the development of a Mission statement for the Student Recruitment Office.

The floor was open for comments.

In response to a question raised regarding outreach for students and parents in ethnic communities, it was noted that advertisements are being placed in various ethnic newspapers.

In response to a question raised as to whether the University's rankings have an impact on student recruitment, it was noted that prospective students and parents are more interested in knowing if the campus and city are a safe place to live. Given that Canadian universities have roughly the same standards of education, rankings do not appear to affect domestic recruitment.

Students who come to Windsor from the United States pay a reduced fee, which is less than international fees.

In response to a question raised about the decline in student enrolment at Windsor and many Ontario Universities (with the exception universities in the GTA and Queens University), it was noted that there are many factors that need to be taken into account when making assumptions about enrolment. When applying from high school, students are given the option of choosing three universities, which are ranked first, second or third choice based on the order of the selection. If Universities with high entrance averages lowered their averages from 80% to 70% for example, then they may draw in a larger pool of students that they normally would not admit. However, many universities might not want to lower their entrance averages, which could also result in not meeting their enrolment targets. Currently, there is an increasing number of international students in Masters programs at Windsor which has helped increase full-time graduate student enrolment.

In response to a question raised regarding what is being done to attract students from across the nation, it was noted that the Recruitment Office is working on an online tool to connect with students from areas that staff are unable to visit in person, such as the East Coast.

5.7 Senate Governance Committee

Nothing to report.

5.7 Report of the Provost

Environmental Sustainability Advocate

Members were informed that Dr. Tanya Basok has taken on the role of the Environmental Sustainability Advocate commencing January 1, 2016. It was noted that the position was created in 2013 with a mandate to make the University of Windsor a more ecologically responsible place to work, study, teaching, and research.

Faculty Positions

Senators were informed that the first group of new faculty positions are currently in the process of being short-listed. These positions are part of the new faculty hiring initiative that will see up to 50 new positions over the course of the next three years.

Windsor Oakland Teaching Conference

Members were informed that registration is open for the University of Windsor and Oakland University Teaching and Learning Conference, which will be held on May 18th-19th, 2016, in Oakland. It was noted that the theme of the event will be *Transformative Teaching and Learning*.

Educational Developers without Borders

It was noted that the Educational Developers without Borders annual conference will be held on February 16-18th at St. Clair College. The conference is a joint endeavor between the University of Windsor and St. Clair College.

5.9 Report of Vice-President, Research and Innovation

Members were informed that Dr. Trevor Pitcher became the Interim Director, Research and Innovation beginning January 4, 2016, for a two-year term.

6 Question Period/Other Business

Responding to the Syrian Refugee Crisis

The campus community is extremely sympathetic to the Syrian civil war crisis as millions of civilians have been displaced and refugees have attempted dangerous trips across the Mediterranean Sea hoping to find a better future. It was noted that 900 government-sponsored Syrian refugees will soon be settling in the City of Windsor. It was also noted that the Faculty of Law is exploring ways to help support refugee sponsorship groups. One of the initiatives is called "G5 Project", which is a fundraising campaign to sponsor a family of five from Syria. The G5 Project's GoFundMe campaign is accepting donations that will be used to aid the family over a one-year transition, and integration period here in Windsor. The funds will be needed for housing, clothing, food, social integration, and health care. It was noted that the University is also looking to expand its sponsorship of students through World University Service of Canada (WUSC). WUSC's student refugee program helps refugees with an opportunity to pursue their education at a Canadian University.

7 Adjournment

MOTION: That the meeting be adjourned.

Dr. M. Ahmadi/Dr. A. Rossini
CARRIED