



ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY

Senate Council Minutes of the Friday, September 23, 2016, Meeting

Present: Katherine Bergman (Chair), Steven Bednarski, Kieran Bonner, Tristanne Connolly, Fred Desroches, Maureen Drysdale, Stephanie Gregoire, Sara Humphreys, Scott Kline, Whitney Lackenbauer, Gabriel Niccoli, Jane Nicholas, Awalou Ouedraogo, David Perrin, Viola Poletes Montgomery, Anna Purkey, Lorna Rourke, BJ Rye, David Seljak, James Skidmore, Sylvia Terzian, Bruno Tremblay, Denise Whitehead, Nick Zunic

Absent: Veronica Austen*, Darren Becks*, Sue Brubacher*, Chris Burris, Norm Klassen*, Alysia Kolentsis*, John Rempel, Toni Serafini*, Mark Spielmacher*, Myroslaw Tataryn*, Ryan Touhey*, Cristina Vanin*, David Williams, Chad Wriglesworth*

**regrets*

On Leave: Carol Acton, Susan Brophy, Kerry Lappin-Fortin, Caitlin Mulcahy

Open Session

1. **Prayer**

Nick Zunic opened the meeting with a prayer.

2. **Chair's Remarks**

The Chair welcomed the members of Senate Council back from summer break and wished everyone a good 2016-17 academic year. She thanked those who attended the Orientation Investiture Liturgy on September 11, 2016. This event was highly successful and a very warm welcome to our first year students with approximately 1000 people in attendance; making it the largest in St. Jerome's University history.

On September 22, 2016, St. Jerome's University hosted the Diocesan Mass in celebration of Catholic Education for the first time. There were 260 people in attendance and the President received very positive feedback. She thanked those who were involved in this Liturgy.

The Chair asked James Skidmore to give an update on the University of Waterloo United Way campaign. Information was distributed to those in attendance and they were asked to consider supporting the campaign. To date the University of Waterloo has raised almost \$3 million for the United Way. In honour of the 75th anniversary of the United Way in Kitchener-Waterloo, one of the goals of this campaign is to bring in 75 new donors. Further communication will be sent out regarding information on this campaign. Please contact James Skidmore if there are any questions.

The Chair of Sociology and Legal Studies introduced Dr. Awalou Ouedraogo and Dr. Anna Purkey who are Assistant Professors in the department (tenure track and two-year definite term, respectively). The Chair of English introduced Dr. Sylvia Terzian who has been appointed as Lecturer I in the department (one-year definite term).

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

The agenda was approved. Zunic and Lackenbauer. Carried unanimously.

4. **Declarations of Conflict of Interest**

Members of Senate Council were asked to declare any conflicts they may have in relation to the items on the agenda. No conflicts were declared.

5. **Approval of the Minutes of June 17, 2016**

Page 1, item 6, *Report from the Vice President Academic and Dean*: The Vice President Academic and Dean (VPAD) requested that the total number of Honours Arts students be updated from 179 to the current number of 281.

- The amendment to the minutes of June 17, 2016, was approved. Perrin and Tremblay. Carried. One abstention.

Page 2, item 7, *Report from the President*: A request was made to amend the following sentence: “Many of the members of Senate Council raised concerns that resulted in a robust and lengthy discussion.” to “Many of the members of Senate Council raised concerns about plans related to experiential learning having gone forward without the faculty being informed, resulting in a robust and lengthy discussion.”

- The amendment to the minutes of June 17, 2016, was approved. Connolly and Bonner. Carried. Three abstentions.

6. **Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

7. **Reports from Committees**

a. *Governance Committee*

The Chair of the Governance Committee provided an initial response to the concerns under item 7 from the previous meeting regarding partnerships with the University. This will be further addressed as any concerns come up and a policy on partnerships has been recommended. Any policy will come back to Senate Council but if it is an institutional policy it will only be for recommendation to the Board of Governors.

There was some discussion regarding where the academic planning working groups fit as they are not formal Senate Council committees. Any updates or recommendations coming from these working groups will be brought to Senate Council through the VPAD or Academic Committee as appropriate.

The Chair of the Governance Committee thanked Dr. Jane Nicholas for stepping into the Acting Research Officer position until December 31, 2016. He also thanked Dr. David Perrin for joining the Committee on Research and Scholarship as one of the academic staff members for 2016-17.

b. *Academic Committee*

A revised report was submitted to members of Senate Council. The new report contained information changes to the Legal Studies plans, based on a recommendation from Senate Undergraduate Council. The Legal Studies Committee has approved deleting the existing revised Notes altogether. As this is an amendment of an item previously approved by Senate Council, the plan changes are coming forward for information.

Revisions to Sexuality, Marriage, and Family Studies special topics courses were presented for information. The revisions are of a housekeeping nature due to a global change initiated by the Faculty of Arts.

c. *Committee on Research and Scholarship*

There were no questions regarding this written report.

d. *Finance Committee*

A meeting with the auditors is scheduled for October and a report will be presented after the Board of Governors meeting on October 6, 2016.

e. *Library Committee*

The Contract Academic Staff (CAS) Librarian presented an update on the library renewal. He announced that a library renewal display will be located in the area of the previous Registrar's Office front desk. This will allow for the community to have more knowledge regarding the plans for the renewal. The CAS Librarian is currently working on finalizing the design and a working group has been struck to plan and decide on what recommendations will be implemented in each phase of the renewal.

There was discussion around naming opportunities for the library renewal and it was confirmed that these opportunities exist.

8. **Report from the Vice President Academic and Dean**

There were no comments on the VPAD's written report. The VPAD gave a presentation to Senate Council regarding the Faculty of Arts first year student numbers. This presentation has also been given to Academic Committee and Academic Planning Working Group #1. This year is St. Jerome's University's largest recruiting class to date. A working group at University of Waterloo has been struck to look into new programming at the University of Waterloo to increase a new entry-level undergraduate program.

9. Report from the Registrar

There was no report from the Registrar.

10. Report from the Vice President Administration

There was no report from the Vice President Administration.

11. Report from the Director of Advancement

The Director of Advancement announced that all tickets for the Feast of St. Jerome have been sold out for a few weeks and there is currently a waitlist. She thanked everyone for their support of this event to be held on October 1, 2016. The Director of Advancement reminded members of Senate Council that the Grand Opening will be taking place at the front of the new Academic Centre at 3:00 pm that day. There will be several honourable guests in attendance. After the Grand Opening will be a liturgy in the new Notre Dame Chapel with a the Feast to follow starting at 5:30 pm .Dr. Jack Sehl will be honoured as the 2016 recipient of the John Sweeney Award for Catholic Leadership.

In recent years, St. Jerome's University has partnered with the other affiliated university colleges to host alumni events. The Director of Advancement announced that the next event will be a CFL football game on November 5, 2016, between the Hamilton Tiger-Cats and the Montreal Alouettes. There will be opportunities to purchase tickets for the Toronto Raptors game against the Indiana Pacers on March 19, 2017. These events are generally well attended by St. Jerome's University alumni.

The President extended her gratitude for the faculty members who will be attending the Feast of St. Jerome on Saturday, October 1, 2016.

12. Report from the President

The President announced that new name tags are being developed and requested feedback from academic staff regarding what standard information should be on the nametags. Any feedback should be given to department chairs who will bring the discussion to Academic Committee.

The President also requested any feedback on merchandise typically given as gifts. This will help determine what merchandise is required for gifts and what standards are needed for gift-giving on an institutional level. A working group will be consulting with the community to develop guidelines.

There have been many social justice requests coming to the University and the decision on which to take on can be quite difficult. A working group has been struck to develop a social justice statement for St. Jerome's University. They will be consulting with the community over the next few months.

13. Reports from Academic Departments

- There were no reports from Academic departments.

14. **Other Business**

- The President announced that the Bridges Lecture Series and the Lectures in Catholic Experience are beginning in October.
- The Chair of English announced that the first Reading Series reading will be held on Friday, October 21, 2016, beginning at 4:30pm in SJ1 3027. The author, Fred Wah, has been featured in the Reading Series previously.

➤ **President adjourned Senate Council.**

Laura Charland
Recording Secretary

Approved by SJU Senate Council
October 21, 2016