



**Senate Council**  
**Minutes of the Friday, January 27, 2017, Meeting**

**Present:** Scott Kline (Vice Chair), Veronica Austen, Steven Bednarski, Darren Becks, Kieran Bonner, Susan Brophy, Sue Brubacher, Tristanne Connolly, John Greenwood, Norm Klassen, Alysia Kolentsis, Viola Poletes Montgomery, Gabriel Niccoli, Anna Purkey, BJ Rye, Toni Serafini, James Skidmore, Myroslaw Tataryn, Sylvia Terzian, Bruno Tremblay, Denise Whitehead, Chad Wriglesworth

**Resource:** Christine Schwendinger

**Absent:** Katherine Bergman (Chair)\*, Fred Desroches, Maureen Drysdale\*, Stephanie Gregoire, Ann Marie Hayman\*, Sara Humphreys\*, Whitney Lackenbauer\*, Jane Nicholas\*, Awalou Ouedraogo\*, David Perrin\*, John Rempel, Lorna Rourke\*, Ryan Touhey\*, Cristina Vanin, Maya Venters, David Williams, Nick Zunic

*\*regrets*

**On Leave:** Carol Acton, Chris Burris, Kerry Lappin-Fortin, Caitlin Mulcahy, David Seljak, Mark Spielmacher

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Open Session

1. **Prayer**

Alysia Kolentsis opened the meeting with a prayer.

2. **Chair's Remarks**

The Vice Chair welcomed the members of SJU Senate Council to the meeting as the Chair is away. The Vice Chair acknowledged that with the current political climate there are teaching opportunities that may occur in class. If there are any opportunities that arise please talk to the Dean's Office. Please also contact the administration if there are any abusive comments made especially any that contain hate language.

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

The agenda was approved as distributed. Niccoli and Bonner. 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 November 18, 2016**

- The minutes of November 18, 2016, was approved with some minor friendly amendments.

Serafini and Tremblay. Carried. 1 abstentions

## 6. **Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

## 7. **Reports from Committees**

### a. *Governance Committee*

There was no report from the Governance Committee.

### b. *Academic Committee*

In the For Information section of the Academic Committee report the reason that the changes to the Legal Studies program were not sent for approval was that these revisions had already mostly been approved by SJU Senate Council. They were brought back for informational purposes as it was felt they were substantial enough to warrant coming back but not substantial enough to require new approval.

The Acting Chair of the Italian and French Studies Department introduced the new course, ITALST 265, which is currently being taught as ITALST 396. There may be an option to cross list this course in the future. It is thought that by making the course a second year course there may be more interest.

- **Motion 1:** *That SJU Senate Council approve the new course ITALST 265, to be effective January 1, 2018.* Niccoli and Tataryn. Carried unanimously

The Chair of Psychology introduced the request for approving the new course, PSYCH 357. There were some discussion around the course and why it was being taught at the 300 level.

- **Motion 2:** *That SJU Senate Council approve the new course PSYCH 357, to be effective January 1, 2018.* Rye and Serafini. Carried. 2 abstentions

### c. *Committee on Research and Scholarship*

The Vice Chair welcomed back the Research Officer, who reminded the members of SJU Senate Council that the Faculty Research Grant (FRG) applications would be closing soon. The amount left in the Aid to Scholarly Publication funds will be put into the FRG funds. The Vice Chair reminded the members of Senate Council that if they were applying for the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Insight Development Grants they should ask for RA support from St. Jerome's University. This helps strengthen an application and also allows for asking for matching funds from the University of Waterloo (UWaterloo).

### d. *Finance Committee*

There was no report from the Finance Committee.

e. *Library Committee*

The Chair of the Library Committee provided a brief update on behalf of the Library Committee. The committee have been discussing the personnel needs in the library which will be going to the next meeting of Academic Committee. An announcement in mid-February is expected regarding the reorganization of staff in the Library. This will be formally reported on at the next meeting of SJU Senate Council in March.

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

The Vice President Academic and Dean's (VPAD) provided updates on the following:

1) External relations

The VPAD previously agreed to report back periodically on updates regarding external relations, specifically to the J.R. Finn building project. A small group has been working on recruiting additional partners, but at this time there is nothing substantial to report on any partnership opportunities. A working group out of the SJU Academic Plan 2015-2020 is coming up with a set of principles or guidelines that will concern all external relationships especially those in involved with the J.R. Finn building.

2) Course Evaluations

The VPAD is the chosen representative dean for the Affiliated and Federated Institutions of Waterloo (AFIW) on the UWaterloo course evaluation initiative. Nothing formal has come through on a committee level, but there was good participation on the feedback opportunity. The feedback will likely go back to the committee.

3) Website

A new version of the St. Jerome's University website launched recently. Periodic updates, fixing bugs and problem solving are to be expected over the course of the next while. If there are any concerns, particularly around language, send them to the VPAD. For any smaller issues that arise please contact the Director of Infrastructure. There was some concern around research pages which will be addressed as part of the second phase of the website development. There was some discussion around other concerns regarding the website.

4) Budget Update

The VPAD has looked at some preliminary numbers on the budget and it appears that the 2017-2018 budget is looking as expected. UWaterloo has undergone a new Waterloo Budget Model which is activity based. The Provost from UWaterloo has presented to many different groups on this model. This model only affects St. Jerome's in how UWaterloo accounts for the transfer money that is received.

## 9. **Report from the Registrar**

The Registrar provided an update on registration numbers. Based on application data only, Honours Arts is up 14% and St. Jerome's University is up 3%. These numbers include Ontario

Secondary School applicants, non-Ontario Secondary School domestic applicants, and non-Ontario Secondary School visa applicants. Most universities have seen a decline in Ontario Secondary School applicants while St. Jerome's University has observed an increase.

The Registrar was pleased to announce that the admissions brochure from St. Jerome's University won a CASE award. This award is highly sought after by many universities and is quite competitive. This was the first time applying for the award and St. Jerome's University won gold. The members of Senate Council congratulated the Registrar and her office on winning this award.

The Registrar noted that it appears that admits are higher than last year at this point in the process.

At the guidance counsellor lunch it was noted that many of the guidance counsellors said their students would not be applying for Arts no matter how much it may be recommended. This event is even more important because there are less students coming to University of Waterloo for Arts. The Registrar uses this event to recruit for residence as well as elective classes. Retaining students will be something that remains very important to the university.

#### 10. **Report from the Vice President Administration**

The Vice President Administration reported that preliminary budget details are being worked out for the 2017-18 fiscal year. This is being completed with some assistance from Institutional Analysis and Planning at UWaterloo. The strategic mandates will affect how St. Jerome's operates and what latitude there is to complete tasks. There is also some convergence between political changes and how the university functions which is affecting the budget.

#### 11. **Report from the Director of Advancement**

The Director of Advancement reported the Donor Reception has been moved to March 10, 2017, from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM. It will be held in the Atrium of the Academic Centre and the guest speaker from the Lectures in Catholic Experience will make a brief appearance. This event was moved so that there could be more student participation and attendance. The Director of Advancement invites all members of Senate Council to attend this event if they are available. There were some students from Sexuality, Marriage, and Family Studies (SMF) who previously read some slam poetry that the Director would like to invite to attend. A member of Senate Council mentioned that there was a Reading Series event which will take place earlier on March 10 and it was suggested that perhaps some of the creative writing students who tend to perform at our events could be asked to perform at the Donor Reception.

The Director of Advancement reminded the members of Senate Council that there are tickets for the Toronto Raptors basketball game on March 19, 2017, still available for purchase. This event is held with the other affiliated university colleges. Last year there were 100 tickets available and St. Jerome's purchased 60 of them.

The Director of Advancement announced that the Liturgy and Feast of St. Jerome will be held on September 30, 2017. This is significant as this is the actual day of the Feast of St. Jerome.

## 12. Report from the President

There was no report from the President.

## 13. Reports from Academic Departments

- The Chair of SMF reminded the members of Senate Council of the SMF Symposium Call for Proposals which are due February 21, 2017. The SMF Symposium will be partnering with HeForShe on the keynote speaker for this year's event.
- The Chair of English provided an update on behalf of the Reading series which had 50 people attend the Carolyn Smart lecture held January 26, 2017.
- The Co-Director of the Medieval Studies program announced to Senate Council that the Medieval lecture held January 26, 2017, was well received.
- Senate Council members were reminded of the Bridges Lecture Series event which takes place Friday, February 3, 2017 at 7:30 PM.

## 14. Other Business

- There was no other business.

- **Motion to move in camera:** Bonner and Tataryn. Carried.
- **Motion to adjourn in camera session:** Bonner and Lackenbauer. Carried.
- **The Vice Chair adjourned Senate Council.** Connolly and Kolentsis. Carried

Laura Charland  
Recording Secretary

*Approved by SJU Senate Council*  
March 10, 2017