



ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY

Senate Council Minutes of the Friday, April 7, 2017, Meeting

Present: Katherine Bergman (Chair), Veronica Austen, Steven Bednarski, Darren Becks, Kieran Bonner, Susan Brophy, Tristanne Connolly, Maureen Drysdale, Sara Humphreys, John Greenwood, Scott Kline, Zack MacDonald, Viola Poletes Montgomery, Gabriel Niccoli, Awalou Ouedraogo, David Perrin, Anna Purkey, Lorna Rourke, BJ Rye, Toni Serafini, Mark Spielmacher, Sylvia Terzian, Cristina Vanin, Denise Whitehead

Resource: Christine Schwendinger

Guests: Kerry Eamer, Martha Fauteux, Glen Lombard

Absent: Sue Brubacher*, Fred Desroches, Stephanie Gregoire*, Ann Marie Hayman, Norm Klassen, Alysia Kolentsis, Whitney Lackenbauer*, Jane Nicholas*, John Rempel, James Skidmore*, Myroslaw Tataryn*, Ryan Touhey, Bruno Tremblay*, Maya Venters, David Williams, Chad Wriglesworth, Nick Zunic

**regrets*

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

Open Session

1. **Prayer**

Sylvia Terzian opened the meeting with a reflection.

2. **Chair's Remarks**

The Chair talked about student wellness, with guests invited to help answer questions. The focus during the campus renewal project was on students, community involvement, and student wellness. Supports for students were put in place via various methods. Members of Senate Council were also reminded that not all students have the same support networks available to them. The Chair asked for feedback regarding whether there are any suggestions, feedback, or questions around what is currently available at St. Jerome's University. Chairs are requested to help facilitate the discussion.

St. Jerome's University students participated and organized yet another successful Relay for Life which took place March 30, 2017.

The Chair recognized Dr. Drysdale as primary investigator on her successful Canadian Institutes of Health Research grant application.

The Chair invited members of Senate Council for a tour of the renovated Sweeney Hall after Senate Council has ended.

The guests of Senate Council left the meeting.

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

The agenda was approved as amended with the Report from the Vice President Administration moving to agenda item 7. Perrin and Drysdale. 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 March 10, 2017**

- The minutes of March 10, 2017, were approved with some friendly amendments. Serafini and Vanin. Carried unanimously

6. **Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

7. **Report from the Vice President Administration**

The Vice President Administration provided a written report. A question was raised relating to move in dates for Sweeney Hall. It was confirmed that the move in dates are still tracking to the end of April and beginning of May.

8. **Academic Presentation: Mental Health & School-To-Work Transitions**

A presentation regarding the Mental Health & School-To-Work Transitions research project was given by Dr. Maureen Drysdale. Further information on this project can be found on the website (<https://www.sju.ca/mhswtlab>). There were some questions and discussion raised around this project.

9. **Reports from Committees**

a. *Governance Committee*

There was no report from the Governance Committee.

b. *Academic Committee*

- **Motion 1:** That Senate Council approve the Psychology course change, to be effective September 1, 2018. Kline and Rye. Carried unanimously

c. *Committee on Research and Scholarship*

The Research Officer provided a written report and advised letters to all applicants were sent out. A second Faculty Research Grant call has gone out with a deadline of April 26, 2017.

d. *Senate Finance Committee*

There was no report from the Senate Finance Committee.

e. *Library Committee*

The Chair of the Library Committee announced the committee is in the process of developing of library policies which, along with information on the library renewal, will be coming to Senate Council at a future date. The Librarian reminded the members of Senate Council that applications for the Betty G. Headley Senior Essay Awards are still being accepted. The Spring Author event will be held on June 9, 2017. Members were asked to inform the Librarian of any 2016 publications.

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

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

I. **Course Evaluations**

At this time no formal course evaluation requests have been received from the Associate Vice-President, Academic's office at University of Waterloo. A taskforce will be struck at St. Jerome's University regarding course evaluations with two academic staff members asked to serve by the VPAD. There is an opportunity to volunteer for a third academic staff position. The deadline for volunteering is April 22, 2017.

II. **Academic Planning**

A brief update regarding the working groups was provided. Recommendations from working groups 2 and 4 are expected to be coming to Senate Council at a future meeting. Working Groups 1 and 3 have joined and will be submitting a preliminary report at a future meeting of Senate Council. Working group 4 is continuing their work.

III. **J.R. Finn**

At this time there are no new partnerships or experiential learning updates to report relating to the J.R. Finn project.

11. **Report from the Registrar**

The VPAD provided an update from the Registrar's Office regarding the March Break Open House. St. Jerome's University received positive feedback. On behalf of Registrar's Office, thank you to those who participated in the day.

To date there are 210 admits with 49 individuals who have accepted their offers.

12. **Report from the Director of Advancement**

The Director of Advancement thanked those who attended and helped with the Donor Thank You Reception. Tickets for the Feast of St. Jerome will be available May 1, 2017. There are still opportunities for sponsorship for this event. An Easter card will be sent with an illumination from the St. John's Bible on behalf of St. Jerome's University.

13. **Report from the President**

The President had nothing further to add to her Chair's remarks. A facilities question was posed which will be taken back to the appropriate individuals for consideration.

14. **Reports from Academic Departments**

- A reminder that the final lecture for the Lecture in Catholic Experience series is April 7, 2017, beginning at 7:30 PM.
- The Chair of the Sexuality, Marriage and Family Studies (SMF) department provided an update on the SMF Symposium held April 6, 2017. This event was well received and the Chair extended her gratitude to those who contributed and attended.
- The VPAD thanked the departments who held lectures or special events over the course of the year.
- The Chair thanked the outgoing Academic Staff Association Executive for their work and welcomed the incoming executive.
- Senate Council members were reminded that the HeForShe essay contest deadline is May 1, 2017.
- The Chair congratulated those who participated in the undergraduate mock trials which are completely student led. In previous years it was a criminal mock trial but this year a civil mock trial was added.

15. **Other Business**

- There was no other business.

➤ **The Chair adjourned Senate Council**

Laura Charland
Recording Secretary

Approved by SJU Senate Council
May 26, 2017