



Senate Council
Minutes of the Friday, May 26, 2017, Meeting

Present: Scott Kline (Vice Chair), Darren Becks, Steven Bednarski, Kieran Bonner, Susan Brophy, Fred Desroches, Maureen Drysdale, John Greenwood, Stephanie Gregoire, Norm Klassen, Alysia Kolentsis, Zack MacDonald, Awalou Ouedraogo, Anna Purkey, BJ Rye, James Skidmore, Mark Spielmacher, Cristina Vanin, Denise Whitehead, Nick Zunic

Resource and Recording Secretary: Christine Schwendinger

Guests: John Arnou, Glen Lombard, Jay Smith

Absent: Veronica Austen*, Katherine Bergman (Chair)*, Sue Brubacher*, Tristanne Connolly, Ann Marie Hayman*, Sara Humphreys*, Whitney Lackenbauer*, Gabriel Niccoli*, Jane Nicholas*, David Perrin*, Viola Poletes Montgomery*, John Rempel, Lorna Rourke*, Toni Serafini*, Myroslaw Tataryn*, Sylvia Terzian, Ryan Touhey*, Bruno Tremblay*, Maya Venters*, David Williams, Chad Wriglesworth*
**regrets*

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

Open Session

1. **Prayer**

Awalou Ouedraogo opened the meeting with a reflection.

2. **Chair's Remarks**

In the Chair's absence, the Vice Chair will chair this meeting.

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

There will be no reports from the Director of Advancement (item #11) and President (item #12). The agenda was approved as revised. Drysdale 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 April 7, 2017**

- The minutes of April 7, 2017, were approved as distributed. Vanin and Bonner. Carried unanimously.

6. **Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

7. Reports from Committees

a. *Governance Committee*

A call for nominations was announced for 2017-2018 SJU committees. The Chair of the Governance Committee encouraged academic staff to consider standing and nominating others. The nomination deadline is June 9, 2017.

b. *Academic Committee*

The Chair of Sociology and Legal Studies was asked to speak to the nine new courses in the Department. The Chair noted the course proposals have already gone forward to the Legal Studies Committee (joint membership with SJU and the University of Waterloo [UWaterloo]) and Academic Committee, with revisions made along the way. The Vice President Academic and Dean (VPAD) thanked the colleagues in Sociology and Legal Studies for their work on these proposals.

- ***Motion 1:*** *That Senate Council approve the Sociology and Legal Studies new courses, to be effective September 1, 2018.* Vanin and Bonner. Carried.

Academic Planning Working Group #5's priority is on academic governance. Working Group #5 met regularly over the last 18 months to review the governance of our unattached interdisciplinary academic programs. Members met with the Directors to discuss the complexities involved in those programs, any relationships with colleagues at UWaterloo, and how these programs have developed over time. Each of the programs will be undergoing program reviews in the coming year and one of the first steps is to prepare a self-study; however, we need to set-up a formal "self" for each program to receive recommendations from the external assessors.

- ***Motion 2:*** *That the SJU Department of Religious Studies administer the Catholic Studies program; and that the SJU Department serve as the governing committee of the program.* Vanin and Bednarski. Carried unanimously.
- ***Motion 3:*** *That a Human Sciences Committee administer the Human Sciences program through the Office of the VPAD; and that the VPAD, in consultation with the Director of Human Sciences, begin the process of establishing a formal governing structure.* Vanin and Greenwood. Carried unanimously.
- ***Motion 4:*** *That the Office of the VPAD administratively house the Medieval Studies program; and that the VPAD, in consultation with the SJU Co-Director of Medieval Studies, begin the process of establishing a formal governing structure that recognizes the joint delivery of the program through the University of Waterloo and SJU.* Vanin and Bednarski. Carried unanimously.
- ***Motion 5:*** *That a Master of Catholic Thought (MCT) Committee administer the MCT graduate program through the Office of the VPAD; and that the VPAD, in consultation with the Director of the MCT program, begin the process of establishing a formal governing structure.* Vanin and Klassen. Carried unanimously.

c. *Committee on Research and Scholarship*

The Research Officer spoke to the status of the second call for 2017-2018 Faculty Research Grants as noted in the written report. In response to a question on whether the timeline affects any deadlines in the Collective Agreement (full-time unit), the Research Officer replied the Committee could not meet the 15 May deadline with respect to informing all applicants of the Committee's decision; the Joint Committee has granted an extension to June 15, 2017.

d. *Senate Finance Committee*

The process of building the 2017-2018 budget started in Fall 2016 into Winter 2017. Budget requests were submitted to the VPAD and the Vice President Administration (VPA) who then submitted requests to Finance and Accounting; they proceeded to work on constructing a balanced budget much closer to actual expenses. The proposed budget was taken forward to the Board Finance mid-May and shortly after to Senate Council Finance, which had a thorough discussion. The VPA provided a synopsis of the 2017-2018 budget, highlighting a few items. The proposed budget will go forward to the Board of Governors for approval on June 1, 2017.

- Some members of Senate Council asked if they could receive the budget material in a secure way prior to the meeting to have time to reflect on the information. Also, some members asked if it were possible to separate payroll and benefits into two lines. The Vice Chair indicated that the matters would be taken as general advisement.

e. *Library Committee*

The Chair of the Library Committee noted the Committee has not met since the last Senate Council. The two academic staff librarians are working on a new library program that they will be bringing forward to the Library Committee and then to Senate Council. There will be a full update on the library renewal at the next Senate Council meeting.

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

Ian Orchard, UWaterloo Vice President Academic and Provost (VPAP), has resigned and George Dixon will serve as Interim VPAP in the coming year. Orchard had developed a reputation for a leader with a strong work ethic and who understood the unique relationship with the Affiliated and Federated Institutions of Waterloo (AFIW). This opens up some questions for SJU but the VPAD is confident matters will continue to be handled in a delicate way. Due to the volume of work in the VPAP Office, UWaterloo will be announcing a new Deputy Provost position.

The VPAD is a member on the UWaterloo Course Evaluation Project, a committee under the direction of the UWaterloo Associate Vice-President, Academic. That project has slowed and the VPAD will report any news when it happens.

The VPAD thanked faculty for their patience with the office moves to Sweeney Hall. Facilities staff worked hard to coordinate these moves in a timely manner – feedback has been overall positive given the significant and yet normal disruption caused by the move.

The VPAD is to provide regular updates on the experiential learning proposal at SJU. The Associate Dean and Director of the Office of Student Experience will be providing a Finn Working Group update later in the meeting (part of Working Group #4's report).

9. **Report from the Registrar**

The VPAD provided a brief report. Applications and admissions are almost exactly the same as last year. Acceptances are slightly down, particularly in Arts and Business. Honours Arts is still quite strong. At this stage, SJU is looking at an incoming Fall 2017 class of 135 students.

You @ Waterloo Day is tomorrow, Saturday, May 27, 2017, and academic staff participation is very much appreciated. Our staff have a good rate of converting students to co-register at SJU.

John Arnou, Manager of Student Success, distributed a handout with a synopsis of what is currently happening in the Registrar's Office: reviewing the processes and practices of scholarships, bursaries, and Fall 2017 entrance scholarship offers; supporting and navigating first-year students arriving in the fall; and, working with Chairs on academic advising. This year's SJU Graduation Ceremony is being held on Sunday, June 11, 2017, and academic staff are encouraged to attend. Arnou noted that all SJU student services staff are now located in the north wing of Sweeney Hall, nicknamed "The Link."

10. **Report from the Vice President Administration** – no report

11. **Report from the Director of Advancement** – no report

12. **Report from the President** – no report

13. **Reports from Academic Departments** – no reports

14. **Update on Academic Planning**

Working Group #1

One of Working Group #1's commitments is the development of new programming. At a retreat in September 2016, the UWaterloo Chairs in the Faculty of Arts met to discuss two new programs: a non-business co-op program for students who want the co-op experience without having to go through the Arts and Business track and a small unique Arts and Science program. There has been a pause on new program development but the UWaterloo Dean of Arts is considering a reopening of discussions over the summer. The VPAD has been in conversation about potential new programs with a number of UWaterloo Deans who are happy to partner with SJU; however, they hesitate due primarily to anxiety around the new Waterloo Budget Model and confusion on how new programs with the AFIW will affect main campus revenue (although with the equity agreement, revenue would only be affected if we created direct entry programs). Some of our discussions have therefore been stalled with various faculties but the VPAD feels there will be some room for movement in the fall with one faculty in particular.

Working Group #2

Working Group #2's priority is student services. Jay Smith, Manager of Recruitment and Admissions, noted the Registrar's Office will start focussing on outreach "in our own backyard" as part of the recruitment process. Recruitment targets grade 12 students and the liaison officers basically have only 30 seconds to let the students know about the University and encourage them to study and/or live at SJU; for some, this is the first time they have heard of SJU. Outreach will target the grades 7-11 market, bringing awareness that SJU exists and inspiring students to be interested in whatever area we are promoting at that time. Outreach will grow the number of touch points between students and liaison officers. The VPAD noted we will be creating a

position (one-year contract) to help Smith with the day-to-day liaison responsibilities and to be the point person for grade 12 students. Smith will step back and focus on the broader picture of outreach within a 150 km radius of Kitchener-Waterloo. Smith will be reaching out to academic staff for discussions on how we can connect with future students.

Working Group #4

Working Group #4's priority is external partnerships. At the June 2016 meeting, Senate Council had a discussion on the direction of the Finn Residence and a motion was put forward with a recommendation to ensure adequate communication and oversight at Senate Council on the development of experiential learning opportunities. Working Group #4 met numerous times and drafted principles and guidelines for external partnerships/relationships at SJU; the principles and guidelines will go forward to Academic Committee for feedback and then to Senate Council. Working Group #4 and an *ad hoc* sub working group combined to form the Finn Working Group with the purpose of broadening the discussion on the Finn Residence and exploring how students would benefit from an experience in a living-learning centre at the University. The proposed centre would have four components: living and learning community; research and academic opportunities; community partnerships (with a social benefit mission that aligns with SJU's mission); and student development and formation. The VPAD thanked Working Group #4 for all of their work.

Lombard and Smith left the meeting.

- **Motion** to extend meeting to 4:15. Bonner and Bednarski. Carried unanimously.

15. **Other Business**

- Klassen announced the winners of the 2016-2017 SJU #HeforShe Gender Equity Essay Contest. First place (\$500) has been awarded to Na Hyun (Jona) Cho (Title: "Equality Through Shared Responsibility in The Canterbury Tales"; Course: Norm Klassen, ENGL 310A, Winter 2017) and the runner-up (\$250) has been awarded to Heather Lambert (Title: "Celebrating the Rebels: Examining Representations of Women in Romeo and Juliet and Much Ado About Nothing"; Course: Alysia Kolentsis, ENGL 362, Fall 2016).
- This year's Spring Celebration and Author Event will be held on Friday, June 9, 2017, and all are invited to attend.
- The Senate Council meeting scheduled on June 2, 2017, is likely to be cancelled. The Vice Chair wished everyone a good summer.

Arnou left the meeting.

- **Motion** to move into confidential session. Klassen and Kolentsis. Carried unanimously.
- **Motion** to move out of confidential session. Bonner and Klassen. Carried unanimously.
- **Motion** to adjourn the meeting. Ouedraogo and Kolentsis. Carried unanimously.

Approved by SJU Senate Council
September 22, 2017