



ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY

Senate Council Minutes of the Friday, October 20, 2017, Meeting

Present: Katherine Bergman (Chair), Cristina Vanin (Interim Vice Chair), Veronica Austen, Darren Becks, Steven Bednarski, Susan Brophy, Tristanne Connolly, Andrew Deman, Ryan Devitt, Alysia Kolentsis, Jolanta Komornicka, Kerry Lappin-Fortin, Zack MacDonald, Viola Poletes Montgomery, Anna Purkey, Lorna Rourke, BJ Rye, Mark Spielmacher, Myroslaw Tataryn, Sylvia Terzian, Bruno Tremblay, Nick Zunic

Recording Secretary: Christine Schwendinger

Invited Guests: Deb Adesso, John Arnou, Paige Doherty, Martha Fauteux, Tom Ruttan

Absent: Carol Acton*, Fred Desroches*, Maureen Drysdale*, Tessa Femia-Sebben*, Stephanie Gregoire*, Norm Klassen*, Scott Kline*, Gabriel Niccoli*, Jane Nicholas*, Awalou Ouedraogo, John Rempel, David Seljak*, Toni Serafini*, Ryan Touhey*, Maya Venters*, Denise Whitehead*, Chad Wriglesworth, Registrar (vacant)

**regrets*

On Leave: Kieran Bonner, Chris Burris, Whitney Lackenbauer, Caitlin Mulcahy, David Perrin, David Williams

Open Session

1. **Tom Ruttan, Director of Counselling Services, University of Waterloo: Mental Health on Campus**

Tom Ruttan, Director of Counselling Services at the University of Waterloo (UWaterloo) spoke on the matter of mental health and the resources provided at UWaterloo. As part of the presentation, Ruttan provided a number of scenarios and resources that faculty and staff could access to assist those in need of additional support. He encouraged members of Senate Council to contact Counselling Services to help people navigate through that information. He noted that if there is any imminent safety to the person or yourself, call Campus Police. An associate dean is also able to provide direction. The President emphasized that St. Jerome's University student services staff are trained and have the expertise to help as well. The President asked Senate Council if scheduling a Helping Students in Distress workshop in January for faculty and staff would be valuable and the consensus was positive.

The invited guests left the room.

2. **Prayer**

Katherine Bergman opened the meeting with a prayer.

3. **Chair's Remarks**

The Chair welcomed Ryan Devitt who is serving as the contract academic staff representative in 2017-2018.

4. **Approval of the Agenda**

The agenda was approved as distributed. Bednarski and Austen. Carried unanimously.

5. **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.

6. **Approval of the Minutes of September 22, 2017**

- Page 1: “~~Resource and Recording Secretary~~: Christine Schwendinger”
- Page 1: Add “**Recording Secretary: Laura Charland**”
- Page 1: “On Leave: ...**David Perrin**...”
- Page 4, item #13, *Reports from Academic Departments*, 5th bullet: “...~~Soiree Cine~~ **Soirées Ciné**...”

- The minutes of September 22, 2017, were approved as revised. Bednarski and Kolentsis. Carried. 2 abstentions.

7. **Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

8. **Reports from Committees**

- a. *Governance Committee* – no report
- b. *Academic Committee*

On behalf of the Chair of Academic Committee, the Associate Dean spoke to the Academic Committee written report. Three of the Legal Studies courses approved by Senate Council at the May 2017 meeting have been withdrawn from the proposal and therefore only six are moving forward to UGAG. Three French Studies course changes were presented for approval. The Chair of Italian and French Studies noted the first two courses have already been submitted to UGAG by the corresponding UWaterloo department; the third course will go forward to the next UGAG meeting.

- **Motion:** That SJU Senate Council approve the French Studies course changes, to be effective September 1, 2018. Vanin and Lappin-Fortin. Carried unanimously.

- c. *Committee on Research and Scholarship*

On behalf of the Research Officer, the Associate Dean announced that the Committee on Research and Scholarship is now accepting applications to the fall competition of the Aid to Scholarly Publications Fund (deadline November 1, 2017). For those who are considering applying for a tri-council grant, the Research Officer would be happy to help with the process.

d. *Senate Finance Committee*

The Senate Finance Committee met earlier this week with the auditor who walked through the audited financial statements for the 2016-2017 fiscal year. It was a clean audit. The Chair asked the Vice President Administration (VPA) to highlight a few items of the audited statements. The VPA noted that as the University completes the ongoing renovations, the fluctuations between cash, work-in-progress, and building assets will normalize. The financial statements will be posted on the St. Jerome's University website under Public Accountability with the prior years' financial statements. Any questions can be directed to the VPA or the Director of Finance and Accounting. The University was thanked for being transparent by posting these statements on the website.

e. *Library Committee* – no report

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

There were no questions on the Vice President Academic and Dean's (VPAD) written report. In his report, as a reminder the VPAD had included the presentation on Finn that had occurred at the May 2017 Senate Council meeting. The Chair noted we are still working on the proposal for external partnerships in Finn and will have a report later this fall.

10. **Report from the Registrar** – no report

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

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

We had a tremendous, positive response to this year's Feast on September 29, 2017. The Director of Advancement thanked Steven Bednarski and Sylvia Terzian for being the masters of ceremony at the dinner. The Right Honorable Paul Martin was unfortunately unable to attend.

On the morning of December 6, 2017 (time to be finalized), 30 new citizens of Canada will be sworn in at a Swearing-in Ceremony held at St. Jerome's University. A one-hour round-table discussion will be held prior to the ceremony; this is an opportunity for the new citizens to share their stories on where they came from and how they came to be here. During the Swearing-In Ceremony, the President will bring greetings. The local Member of Parliament and community partners usually attend such ceremonies.

St. Jerome's University will host An Illuminated High Tea event on November 13, 2017, 4:00-5:30 pm, in the Gymnasium. The event, which supports our library expansion, kicks off the week's display of medieval manuscripts.

The Director of Advancement announced that we have received a gift from Eugene and Patricia George and they will be naming a classroom in the Academic Centre after their close family friend, Fr. Bernie Hayes.

13. **Report from the President**

The President had no report but offered to answer any questions. There were none.

14. **Reports from Academic Departments**

The 2017-2018 Reading Series begins today, October 20, 2017, 4:30 pm, SJ1 3027, with a reading by Elizabeth Greene.

Kate Hennessy will be giving a public lecture at a special event on November 1, 2017, 7:30 pm, Vanstone Lecture Hall. Hennessy has written a wonderful biography of her grandmother, social activist Dorothy Day. The following morning, Hennessy has agreed to give a lecture to a mixture of high school and university students.

The Illuminated High Tea event on Monday, November 13, 2017, 4:00-5:30 pm, Gymnasium, kicks off the week's display of medieval manuscripts from the Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies, University of St. Michael's College. The week will end with a Lectures in Catholic Experience event on Friday, November 17, 2017, 7:30 pm, Vanstone Lecture Hall. Dr. Lisa Fagin Davis will be presenting "Writing the Bible: From 7th Century Northumberland to 21st Century Minnesota."

The next Soirées Ciné event will be held on October 30, 2017, 6:00 pm, SJ1 3027, with the showing of the movie *Bon Cop Bad Cop 2*.

15. **Other Business**

There was no other business.

- The Chair adjourned the meeting.

Approved by SJU Senate Council
November 17, 2017