



ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY

Senate Council Minutes of the Friday, November 17, 2017, Meeting

Present: Katherine Bergman (Chair), Scott Kline (Vice Chair), Carol Acton, Veronica Austen, Darren Becks, Steven Bednarski, Susan Brophy, Andrew Deman, Jolanta Komornicka, Kerry Lappin-Fortin, Zack MacDonald, Gabriel Niccoli, Viola Poletes Montgomery, Anna Purkey, Lorna Rourke, BJ Rye, Myroslaw Tataryn, Sylvia Terzian, Denise Whitehead, Chad Wriglesworth

Recording Secretary: Christine Schwendinger

Invited Guests: Kerry Eamer, Martha Fauteux

Absent: Tristanne Connolly*, Fred Desroches*, Ryan Devitt*, Maureen Drysdale*, Tessa Femia-Sebben, Stephanie Gregoire, Norm Klassen, Alysia Kolentsis*, Jane Nicholas*, Awalou Ouedraogo, John Rempel, David Seljak*, Toni Serafini*, Mark Spielmacher*, Ryan Touhey, Bruno Tremblay*, Cristina Vanin*, Maya Venters, Nick Zunic, Registrar (vacant)

**regrets*

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

Open Session

1. **Prayer**

Martha Fauteux opened the meeting with a prayer.

2. **Chair's Remarks**

The Illuminated High Tea event on November 13, 2017, was by all accounts well received. The Chair thanked the Co-Director of Medieval Studies and Director of Advancement who organized the event, Dana Hospitality who provided the food, and the Co-Director's students who guarded the medieval manuscripts on display in the Atrium and answered questions from the community. The manuscripts leave today. Tonight's Lectures in Catholic Experience talk links these manuscripts to the illuminated Saint John's Bible.

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

The agenda was approved as distributed. Niccoli and Acton. 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 October 20, 2017**

- The minutes of October 20, 2017, were approved as distributed. Tataryn and Austen. 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 Governance Committee proposed striking an *ad hoc* working group to receive solutions-focused feedback on instructional technology in the classrooms. The working group will explore how to deal with ongoing problems instructors are facing on a day-to-day basis and recommend processes.

- **Motion:** That the SJU Senate Council strike an *ad hoc* Instructional Technology Working Group to be chaired by Carol Acton, Bednarski and MacDonald. Carried unanimously.

b. *Academic Committee*

Academic Committee brought forward a proposal for changes to four fourth-year courses in the Department of Sexuality, Marriage, and Family Studies (SMF). In the absence of the Chair of SMF, two department members spoke to the course changes. SMF 490 was pulled from the package. The remaining three courses (SMF 491, 499A, 499B) were still considered.

- **Motion:** That SJU Senate Council approve the SMF course changes with the exception of SMF 490, to be effective September 1, 2018. Kline and Bednarski. Carried. One abstention.

c. *Committee on Research and Scholarship*

The Committee on Research and Scholarship received three applications to the Aid to Scholarly Publications Fund and will be meeting next week to adjudicate these applications.

d. *Finance Committee* – no report

e. *Library Committee*

In 2014, two external assessors visited campus to conduct a review of the SJU library and they provided a series of recommendations. The Library Review Advisory Committee gave an initial response to those recommendations in 2015 and now the librarian (Lorna Rourke) has given a two-year update. The implementation of a number of recommendations is ongoing. The two librarians answered questions from members of Senate Council (e.g., technology, librarian classroom visits to provide information literacy). Rourke noted that the more integrated the librarians can be, the more they can support your classroom and students; the Vice President Academic and Dean (VPAD) noted this support could be built into the course. The librarians can also provide dedicated support to departments.

The personal librarian program, launched in August this year, reaches out to individual St. Jerome's University first-year students. The librarians welcome the students when they arrive and provide resources they may not have known are available in the library. The personal librarian program will be linked to the required course ARTS 140: *Information and Analysis*. Faculty were encouraged to refer students to seek assistance from their personal librarian.

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

The student services aspect of the University is being revisioned as a result of our academic planning exercise. The working group established to look at priority #2 (one of the objectives being to strengthen the collaboration among the student services teams and define outputs) reported to Senate Council in May 2017. Silos were identified (Registrar's Office/Student Success Office, Office of Student Experience, Campus Ministry) as well as three reporting structures (VPAD, Vice President Administration [VPA], President). A proposal was made to remove the boundaries/barriers. Comprehensive rethinking of reporting structures and portfolios of student services followed. As much as possible, staff who understand the student journey (from outreach to alumni) were brought into the conversations of consolidating all student service functions into one department. The Director of Campus Ministry, Human Resources Advisor, and Associate Dean were instrumental in driving these conversations and making sure affected staff were given a voice; the VPAD thanked them for all of their work.

With the new structure, the VPAD will be responsible for all academic, co-curricular, and residence life programming and the VPA will be responsible for all operations (e.g., facilities, food services, contracts). A Director of Student Affairs will be appointed to provide operational strategic leadership. The Director of the Office of Student Experience position will be declared redundant. Registrarial duties will be reassigned to the associate dean, incoming director, and current staff (outreach and recruiting, scheduling, programming and advising) and therefore the Registrar position will be declared redundant; we will need to be very clear with UWaterloo on the specific registrarial contacts at St. Jerome's University. The ad for the Director of Student Affairs has been posted; there will be faculty representation on the search committee. This change in student services is an important and transformational development in the history of the University; development takes time and we will reassess after a year or two.

The invited guests left the room.

9. **Report from the Registrar**

The UWaterloo Faculty of Arts exceeded their 2017-2018 target and ended up with 1562 students (Honours Arts and Honours Arts and Business). SJU was targeting 125 and we ended up with 150; we have now had 150 for the last two years and before that it was 130. Thanks were given to those who participated in the Fall Open House on Saturday, November 4, 2017, which was well attended by prospective students and their families (almost the same numbers as last year); your attendance is appreciated by the Manager of Recruitment and Admissions. We are currently on target for 2018-2019 registration and residence space. The President noted this is excellent and echoed her thanks to all who participated in the Fall Open House.

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

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

SJU Update will be going out electronically; we are trying to be environmentally friendly.

Giving Tuesday is on November 28, 2017. This year the Affiliated and Federated Institutions of Waterloo (AFIW) have joined with UWaterloo as choices for possible donations.

The Swearing-in Ceremony on December 6, 2017, will be a day of significance for the new citizens-to-be of Canada. A one-hour round-table discussion will be held prior to the formal ceremony and a light lunch will follow. The event will be in our Wellness Centre.

A friend of Gabriel Niccoli was acknowledged for pledging a donation to the University. They will be coming on campus to see the impact of their giving and the value of what we are doing. We are going to try and have more of these onsite donor visits. Niccoli was thanked for opening the doors to us to possible donors.

12. **Report from the President**

Last week, the President travelled to the University of Manitoba with one of our English faculty members and the Director of Campus Ministry to attend the Building Reconciliation Forum. It was a very impactful and illuminating conference, targeting the calls to action by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada for colleges and universities to work with Indigenous communities on a reconciled education system.

13. **Reports from Academic Departments**

Lisa Fagin Davis will present at tonight's Lectures in Catholic Experience, November 17, 2017, 7:30 pm, Vanstone Lecture Hall. Her talk, "Writing the Bible: From 7th Century Northumberland to 21st Century Minnesota," will link the scriptures of the Saint John's Bible to the medieval manuscripts we have had on exhibit from the Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies, University of St. Michael's College.

The 2017-2018 Bridges Lecture Series begins on November 22, 2017, 7:30 pm, Vanstone Lecture Hall, with a talk by biophysicist Luca Turin and artist Saskia Wilson-Brown on "Perfumery: The Art and Science of Smell."

The next Reading Series event is on November 24, 2017, 4:30 pm, SJ1 3027, with a reading by poet Raoul Fernandes.

The VPAD encouraged departments to consider putting on book launches or research presentations for their faculty to help get the research out and celebrate successes. He would be happy to support the events through his office. A recommendation was heard to have some kind of reporting structure so the VPAD and President are informed of faculty publications.

- **Motion to move in camera:** Bergman and MacDonald. Carried unanimously.
- **Motion to adjourn in camera session:** Bergman and MacDonald. Carried unanimously.

14. **Other Business**

There was no other business.

- The Chair adjourned the meeting.

Approved by SJU Senate Council
January 19, 2018