



ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY

Senate Council Minutes of the Friday, January 18, 2019, Meeting

Present: Katherine Bergman (Chair), Carol Acton, Veronica Austen, Steven Bednarski, Kieran Bonner, Susan Brophy, Andrew Deman, Maureen Drysdale, Thirstan Falconer, Scott Keys, Alysia Kolentsis, Jolanta Komornicka, Kerry Lappin-Fortin, Zack MacDonald, Idiris Mahamud, David Perrin, Viola Poletes Montgomery, Anna Purkey, David Seljak, Toni Serafini, Mark Spielmacher, Andrew Stumpf, Sylvia Terzian, Bruno Tremblay, Cristina Vanin, Rade Zinaic, Nikolaj Zunic

Resource and Recording Secretary: Christine Schwendinger

Absent: Chris Burris, Fred Desroches*, Ryan Devitt*, Stephanie Gregoire*, Norm Klassen*, Scott Kline*, Jane Nicholas*, Registrar (vacant), John Rempel, Denise Whitehead*, David Williams, Chad Wriglesworth

**regrets*

On Sabbatical/Leave: Tristanne Connolly, Whitney Lackenbauer, Caitlin Mulcahy, Lorna Rourke, BJ Rye, Ryan Touhey

Open Session

The Chair asked members to keep staff member Kate Schmitt in their prayers; her father has passed away and the funeral was yesterday. As well, donor Dr. Jack Sehl has passed away; his funeral is on Saturday.

1. **Prayer/Reflection**

Anna Purkey opened the meeting with a reflection.

2. **Chair's Remarks**

The Chair welcomed members back from the holiday season and hoped all are refreshed. She looks forward to a productive and great term.

The provincial government has been active. We are working closely with the University of Waterloo (UWaterloo) regarding the recent announcements to understand what this means for the University going forward.

A reminder of the Board of Governors' workshop on February 7, 2019, on the freedom of expression on university campuses. The Chair encouraged members to attend.

The Chair thanked members for taking the time to provide feedback on the draft Freedom of Expression on Campus policy. The policy will be given to the consultant to include in the freedom of expression workshop on February 7, 2019.

Idiris Mahamud, Vice President Academic of the Students' Union, was welcomed as a new student member of Senate Council.

3. **Agenda Review, Declare Conflicts, Additions, Changes**

No conflicts were noted. No additions or changes to the agenda were identified.

- **Motion:** To approve the agenda as presented. Austen and Acton. Carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda

The Chair explained that items on a consent agenda need to come before the governing body but are not of a nature that requires a full discussion on the floor (typically information or housekeeping items). When the motion is called, items requiring minor clarification can stay on the consent agenda. Items requiring a full discussion will be moved out of the consent agenda and added to the regular agenda. Consent agendas attempt to maximize the amount of time the governing body has to discuss substantive issues.

4. **Approval of the Minutes of December 14, 2018**

Motion: To approve the minutes of December 14, 2018.

5. **Governance Committee Report**

Motion: To receive for information the reminders for the call for nominations (*Ad hoc* Committee on Continuing Status Standards) and call for volunteers (*Ad hoc* Committee on Distinguished Service Award), deadlines being January 23, 2019.

6. **Academic Committee Report**

Motion: To approve the Legal Studies cross-listings for SMF 250 (*Family Policy and the Law*) and SMF 350 (*Love and the Law*), to be effective September 1, 2020.

7. **Acting Dean's Report**

- Friendly amendment to item C, Sabbaticals, 2nd heading: "Approved by the Acting Dean (**Vice President Academic and Dean designate**)"

Motion: To receive for information the appointments, as amended, that were made after September 2018.

8. **Interim Vice President Administration's Report**

Motion: To receive for information the Interim Vice President Administration's update on classroom technology.

9. **Director of Advancement's Report**

- Friendly amendment: As there was no report, this item was removed from the agenda.

➤ **Motion:** To approve and receive for information by consent items 4 to 8 above. MacDonald and Bednarski. Carried. One abstention.

Regular Agenda

9. **Governance Committee Report**

a. Senate Council Terms of Reference

i. *Duties and Responsibilities:*

The Governance Committee has had ongoing discussions about the current duties and responsibilities listed in the Senate Council Terms of Reference (TOR), which are highly descriptive and task-specific. The former Chair of the Governance Committee noted these duties and responsibilities mirror the way the UWaterloo *Act* gives authority to the UWaterloo Senate; 10 years ago when Senate Council was being established, we were cautious to model this format. Having worked with these TOR for several years, the Governance Committee felt it was time to review Senate Council's duties and responsibilities and what the best practice is for the University that also suits our needs.

The Governance Committee provided a simplified, consolidated version of Senate Council's duties and responsibilities for consideration. The intention of this version is to explain the scope of the duties and responsibilities rather than list individualized tasks that may change over time. Senate Council discussed the TOR where:

- Several members found the simplified version vague and open to interpretation (e.g., “authority over”).
- Some members recommended that we stay with the detailed duties and responsibilities as they stand or revise them to be high-level without being vague.
- A recommendation was also heard to maintain the language of “consider and approve [or recommend]” because Senate Council is a deliberative body.
- In response to a comment about the mention of the Collective Agreements in the simplified version, the former Chair of the Governance Committee explained that there are structures, duties, and processes of Senate Council standing committees in the Collective Agreements that must be followed. Any labour conversations are to be left outside of Senate Council.

The Chair of the Governance Committee asked members to carefully review Senate Council's current duties and responsibilities and the simplified version provided and to bring specific feedback to the next meeting. Members can also provide feedback to the Chair of the Governance Committee prior to the meeting.

ii. *Structure and Composition:*

The Governance Committee is asking for discussion on the possibility of a representative Senate Council rather than a Senate Council of the whole. In his research, the former Chair of the Governance Committee found that most Ontario universities are representative with the exception of smaller, liberal arts universities joined with a larger university (e.g., King's University College).

Members largely felt a Senate Council of the whole should be maintained. Those who spoke maintained that:

- It is mostly cultural at SJU for community involvement but also there are few opportunities to come together as a collective to share ideas and diverse perspectives.
- A representative Senate Council would carry the voice of others and a concern was raised that we may drift then towards representation similar to Academic Committee (meaning the role of Academic Committee would need to be reviewed).
- It is essential for everyone to have the opportunity to voice their own opinion on the academic affairs of the University and what we are confronted with. You would not have this opportunity with a representative body.
- Participation needs to be encouraged because those who do not attend are still counted towards quorum, although it was noted that to have 75% attendance is a good expected percentage.

The Chair thanked members for sharing their thoughts, which the Governance Committee will take under consideration, and noted these are important conversations to have.

10. **Committee on Research and Scholarship Report**

Faculty Research Grant (FRG) applications are due January 31, 2019. Previous grant holders must submit a progress report by February 15, 2019, or a final report if the project has been completed.

Additional Professional Development Fund (APDF) applications are due March 1, 2019.

Funds are remaining from the Fall competition of the Aid to Scholarly Publications Fund (ASPF). Applications for the Winter competition are due March 1, 2019.

All adjudications will happen in March with decisions out by early April.

11. **Library Advisory Committee Report**

The membership and chair of the Library Advisory Committee (formerly the Library Committee) have changed in the newly ratified Collective Agreement (full-time unit). The membership now includes all librarians, two external librarians (who are currently from the UWaterloo Dana Porter Library and Conrad Grebel University College Library), and one of the two academic staff members must be at the rank of Professor. The chair (formerly the VPAD) is now a librarian appointed by the VPAD. The Library Advisory Committee met to reconsider its duties, which are being presented to Senate Council for a first reading. The Chair of the Library Advisory Committee clarified that the Library has two budgets; item 5b in the duties is specifically regarding the operating budget while item 6 is regarding both budgets. Feedback on the revised duties should be provided to the Chair of the Library Advisory Committee before the next meeting where they will come forward for a second reading.

- **Motion:** To give the revised Library Advisory Committee duties a first reading. MacDonald and Acton. Carried. Three abstentions.

12. **Experiential Learning Advisory Committee Report**

The Experiential Learning Advisory Committee met twice in the Fall and had discussions on what was understood as the duties and tasks of the Committee. Monthly meetings are scheduled in the Winter. Over the next meeting or two, the Committee will be developing a framework for evaluating experiential learning partnerships based on the Partnership Principles approved by Senate Council.

13. **Acting Dean's Report**

We have a number of program reviews happening this year. The Italian Studies Minor site visit will be occurring on January 23, 2019.

The closing date for applications to the two Legal Studies tenured/tenure-track positions (one Assistant, one Associate) was January 15, 2019. The search committee is almost constituted and will then begin reviewing the applications.

Academic staff applying for an external research grant for 2019-2020 and looking for SJU support should contact the Acting Dean.

Andrew Stumpf was congratulated on the publication of his book, *Ancient Philosophy: A Companion to the Core Readings*.

14. **President's Report**

The President was open for questions. There were none.

15. **Updates from Academic Departments**

The next Reading Series will be held on February 1, 2019, with a reading by Richard Cumyn, short-story writer and novelist. All are welcome.

16. New Business

There was no new business.

- **Motion:** To adjourn the Open Session and move into Confidential Session. Bergman and MacDonald. Carried unanimously.
- **Motion:** To move out of Confidential Session. Bergman and Austen. Carried unanimously.
- The Chair adjourned the meeting.

Approved by SJU Senate Council

February 8, 2019