



ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY

Senate Council

Minutes of the Friday, June 14, 2019, Meeting

Present: Katherine Bergman (Chair), Scott Kline (Vice Chair), Veronica Austen, Susan Brophy, Andrew Deman, Ryan Devitt, Maureen Drysdale, Stephanie Gregoire, Alysia Kolentsis, Jolanta Komornicka, Kerry Lappin-Fortin, Josée-Claire Malenfant, David Perrin, Lorna Rourke, Toni Serafini, Mark Spielmacher, Andrew Stumpf, Sylvia Terzian, Bruno Tremblay, Cristina Vanin, Chad Wriglesworth, Nikolaj Zunic

Resource and Recording Secretary: Christine Schwendinger

Absent: Carol Acton*, Steven Bednarski, Kieran Bonner, Chris Burris, Carm De Santis, Fred Desroches*, Thirstan Falconer*, Norm Klassen, Zack MacDonald*, Jane Nicholas, Viola Poletes Montgomery*, Anna Purkey*, Registrar (vacant), John Rempel, David Seljak*, Ryan Touhey, Denise Whitehead*, David Williams, Rade Zinaic*

**regrets*

On Sabbatical/Leave: Tristanne Connolly, Whitney Lackenbauer, Caitlin Mulcahy, BJ Rye

Open Session

1. **Prayer/Reflection**

Katherine Bergman opened the meeting with a prayer.

2. **Chair's Remarks**

Discussions have begun in a meaningful way regarding flying the Pride flag at St. Jerome's University (SJU). A small committee struck out of the Chancery Office will be meeting on July 3, 2019. The committee hopes to meet with the Directors of Education for each of the Catholic school boards in the diocese in the near future on this topic.

Ryan Devitt was thanked for his two-year service as the contract academic staff (CAS) representative on Senate Council. An election will be held among CAS members to find the next representative.

Three faculty on definite-term appointments are finishing their terms on June 30, 2019. Anna Purkey, Thirstan Falconer, and Rade Zinaic were thanked for their service to the University and wished well.

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

No conflicts were noted. A report from the Acting Dean was added to item 10.

- **Motion:** To approve the agenda as amended. Austen and Lappin-Fortin. Carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda

4. **Approval of the Minutes of May 17, 2019**

- Page 1, item 2, *Chair's Remarks*, 1st paragraph: The search committee is deliberating on the candidates interviewed last Monday for the Executive Director, Finance and Administration.

Motion: To approve the minutes of May 17, 2019, as distributed.

- **Motion:** To approve by consent item 4 above. Serafini and Rourke. Carried. One abstention.

Regular Agenda

5. **Governance Committee Report**

- a. *Ad Hoc* Committee on Renewal, Tenure, and Promotion Standards for Librarians: Terms of Reference

- **Motion:** That SJU Senate Council approve the terms of reference for the Ad Hoc Committee on Renewal, Tenure, and Promotion Standards for Librarians. Rourke and Serafini. Carried unanimously.

6. **Academic Committee Report**

- a. Standards for Continuing Appointments at the Rank of Lecturer Policy

The Acting Dean took the question regarding the terms “quality” and “impact” back to Academic Committee and the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Continuing Status Standards. Since they had worked to make this policy in line with the Standards for Renewal, Tenure, and Promotion policy, there was consensus to make note of this matter as part of both policies when they are up for review.

- **Motion 1:** That SJU Senate Council give the Standards for Continuing Appointments at the Rank of Lecturer policy a second reading and that SJU Senate Council approve this policy for the SJU Academic Operations Manual. Vanin and Austen. Carried unanimously.

- b. Philosophy New Courses

Senate Council recommended that a broader and more diverse covering of authors be included in the course description of PHIL 262J: *Postmodernism* and a revised course proposal will return in the fall. There were no concerns with the second new course, PHIL 321J: *The Philosophy of Palliative Care*.

A friendly amendment was made to the motion.

- **Revised Motion 2:** That SJU Senate Council approve the new course PHIL 321J, to be effective September 1, 2020, and that the new course PHIL 262J return to Senate Council in the fall. Vanin and Austen. Carried. One abstention.

- c. English Course Changes and New Courses

A number of courses (two revised, four new, one deactivated) recently approved by the University of Waterloo (UWaterloo) Department of English were brought to Senate Council for information, to be effective September 1, 2020. These courses are, will be, or were taught at SJU. With the two largest streams in the Department of English Language and Literature being Literature and Rhetoric, and Rhetoric, Media, and Professional Communication, the hope is that two of the new courses (2XX: *Literature, Rhetoric, and Music* and 2XX: *Literature, Rhetoric, and the Visual Arts*) will be scheduled regularly to serve the interests of these students.

7. **Committee on Research and Scholarship Report** – no report

8. **Library Advisory Committee Report**

Lorna Rourke, an SJU Librarian, spoke to the new Collaborative Futures initiative noted in the Library Advisory Committee's written report. Fourteen Ontario universities have agreed to collaborate and share their library collections as of December 2019. UWaterloo is one of these universities, which also includes the Affiliated and Federated Institutions of Waterloo (AFIW) libraries. Policies and procedures are being developed. The Associate Librarian will keep Senate Council posted. In response to a question on whether the number of recalls received may increase, the Associate Librarian replied this is a discussion the smaller AFIW libraries have had and will be watchful of.

On behalf of Zack MacDonald, an SJU Librarian, the Vice President Academic and Dean (VPAD) gave a presentation regarding the library renovation, which is currently on budget and on schedule for December 2019. As part of the University's furniture procurement bid, there will be a public testing of potential furniture in July 2019. In response to a question, it was confirmed that there will be a lift in the library in the space where Lorna Rourke's office used to be.

9. **Experiential Learning Advisory Committee Report**

On May 22, 2019, the Experiential Learning Advisory Committee held a productive five-hour workshop and the members were thanked for their hard work. The Committee produced a draft foundations document that captures the experiential learning taking place at SJU, the strategic direction we want to take, and the types of criteria we want in place when presented with external partners. The goal is to present the document to Senate Council sometime this fall.

10. **Vice President Academic and Dean's Report**

a. Acting Dean Report

The Acting Dean provided an update on recruitment as of early June 2019:

- Arts and Business: UWaterloo target 330, confirmed 442; SJU 30 and 43, respectively
- Arts Regular: UWaterloo target 330, confirmed 375; SJU 85 and 95, respectively

This is positive news. Senate Council thanked recruitment staff for all that they do. The UWaterloo Faculty of Arts has also acknowledged them and the work they are doing to bring new students to Arts.

One of the directions of the restructuring of Student Affairs was to start capturing data. The Acting Dean presented a three-year comparator of SJU applications and admissions, which confirmed SJU's enrolment of 150 for 2019 is up from 2018 and 2017. The Acting Dean also presented areas where students have expressed their interest before arriving on campus. When asked whether we have comparators of students' areas of interest to see if there has been a shift, the Acting Dean responded she will find out. There may not be data yet.

The Acting Dean showed a photo from the 2019 SJU Graduation Ceremony this past Sunday, June 9, 2019, and thanked members of Senate Council for their participation in the event.

Two years ago, SJU committed to teaching 12 Arts First courses per year (six of ARTS 130 and six of ARTS 140). The UWaterloo Faculty of Arts is entertaining more sections, especially with the increased number of international students, but SJU will not offer more than 12. Twelve sections will ensure that all SJU co-registered students in the 2019-2020 cohort can take the courses at SJU.

b. Update on Vice President Academic and Dean's Office

The VPAD thanked those who attended the SJU Graduation Ceremony last Sunday and especially to those who attended Arts convocation this past Wednesday. To see a large presence of SJU faculty in the procession sends a very positive message to UWaterloo Deans, Associate Deans, and the President that SJU provides value to UWaterloo.

With the appointment of the VPAD as interim president as of July 1, 2019, we will have a vacancy in the VPAD role. According to the Appointment and Reappointment of the VPAD policy, the president has the authority to make an interim appointment to fill a vacancy after consulting with Academic Committee and Senate Council. The VPAD had distributed a memo to Senate Council with a recommendation for an interim VPAD for a two-year term and for the appointment process to follow the spirit of the policy as best as possible, including striking an appointment committee. Practically speaking, the interim president will be filling the role with an internal interim person and the incoming president will take care of the search for the next VPAD. With the best interests of faculty and the University in mind, the VPAD feels it would be quite difficult having two senior leaders changing over at the same time.

In response to a question on why a two-year term and not more, the VPAD replied that the policy notes an interim appointment will normally not exceed two years, plus SJU has already had one year with an acting dean.

The VPAD would like to have the interim appointment made as soon as possible, with his objective being by August 1, 2019; it was raised that it may be difficult to populate the appointment committee during this time of year, allowing an appointment to be made by the hopeful deadline. With the Acting Dean assuming the associate dean's responsibilities during the summer months, the VPAD agreed that there will indeed need to be an associate dean appointed if the process goes into September.

The VPAD noted there will be an open call for applications. He would be happy to speak with anyone interested (e.g., workload, matters for the coming year, relationship maintenance with UWaterloo, intuitive understanding of how the VPAD's office works). The VPAD serves in administration as the voice of faculty and with the best interests of the academic side of the University in mind. A worry was heard about the impact on the current VPAD in the role of interim president and being pulled in to assist the interim VPAD.

In response to a comment about still moving forward on matters (e.g., conquering equity problems, possible new programs), the VPAD confirmed that the interim VPAD will need to accomplish a number of objectives, academic programming being one of them; Senate Council will be asked for feedback consistent with policy. One of the challenges of putting a new program through UWaterloo continues to be the Waterloo Budget Model (WBM) and the UWaterloo Deans' uncertainty of how to make the funding formula work for a new program with the AFIW. The President noted that the VPAD has worked very hard to bring on a new program, but it has not been an easy five years with boundary conditions making it difficult (some have been external, e.g., provincial government corridor funding).

During this time of transition, a request was heard for open lines of communication and more collaboration. The VPAD agreed and noted we are going to have to have better communication regarding difficult decisions that will need to be made (e.g., budget). The VPAD encouraged members to ask questions; he may not be able to answer at that time, but keep asking.

A request was heard for a list of classrooms available in Fall 2019 to assist faculty with filling out their fall teaching constraints. Some classrooms have been taken offline during the library renovation and there are two new classrooms in Finn. The Acting Dean will send out this information.

11. **President's Report**

Math has found another location within the UWaterloo Faculty of Mathematics and will not be moving into Finn while they wait for a new building to be completed; SJU had been approached about this possibility but it did not get to the point of discussing terms and cost. We will continue to have discussions with Renison University College to support their students in our Finn residence. Leadership Waterloo Region has informed the President that they will be moving out of Finn this summer.

12. **Updates from Academic Departments**

There were no updates from academic departments.

13. **Other Business**

There was no other business.

- **Motion:** To adjourn the Open Session and move into Confidential Session. Bergman and Kolentis. Carried unanimously.
- **Motion:** To move out of Confidential Session. Drysdale and Perrin. Carried unanimously.
- **Motion:** To adjourn the meeting. Drysdale and Perrin. Carried unanimously.

*Approved by SJU Senate Council
September 27, 2019*