



# ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY

## Senate Council Minutes of the Friday, March 25, 2022 Meeting

**Present:** Peter Meehan (Chair), Carol Ann MacGregor (Vice Chair), Carol Acton, Veronica Austen, Steven Bednarski, Honor Brabazon, Jasleen Brar, Susan Brophy, Sue Brubacher, Roberta Cauchi-Santoro, Tristanne Connolly, Andrew Deman, Maureen Drysdale, Dan Hutter, Saphron Moule, Jane Nicholas, Lorna Rourke, BJ Rye, Toni Serafini, Andrew Stumpf, Anastasia Tataryn, Sylvia Terzian, Bruno Tremblay, Jessica Vorsteveld, Denise Whitehead, David Williams, Chad Wriglesworth

**Recording Secretary:** Christine Schwendinger

**Absent:** Chris Burris, Fred Desroches, Alysia Kolentsis\*, Carlie Leroux-Demir\*, John Rempel, David Seljak\*, Mark Spielmacher, Cristina Vanin\*, Nikolaj Zunic  
\*regrets

**On Sabbatical/Leave:** Kieran Bonner, Carm De Santis, Stephanie Gregoire, Norm Klassen, Scott Kline, Ryan Touhey, Angela Underhill

*Note: This meeting was held using the online video conferencing platform, Zoom.*

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### *Open Session*

#### **1. Prayer/Reflection**

D. Whitehead opened the meeting with a poem by William Wordsworth, *Lines Written in Early Spring*.

#### **2. Chair's Remarks**

The Chair expects to receive the formal report from the President's Advisory Group on Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Indigeneity (EDI) next month.

The Strategic Plan is going forward to the Board of Governors on April 7, 2022.

The Chair is working with the University of Waterloo (UWaterloo) Office of Indigenous Relations to get initial advice on setting up an Indigenous advisory committee. He will have more to report next month.

The Chair asked S. Brubacher, Registrar, to speak. Brubacher asked members to save the dates for two in person events: 1) SJU's Homecoming toast to our 2020 and 2021 graduates, Saturday, April 30, 2022, 2:00-4:00 PM, and 2) SJU's graduation ceremony, Sunday, June 12, 2022, afternoon. Invitations will be sent out in April with details and links where people can register. Brubacher reported that application numbers are up at UWaterloo and SJU, and she suspects at most Ontario universities. Brubacher also reported that an undergraduate admissions process review is currently underway to look at all avenues in which a student would apply to UWaterloo and any gaps or challenges that are presented for students. SJU is a part of this process. It will be a long and complicated review and will take some time. Brubacher will provide updates as available.

The Students' Union Green and Gold Gala will be held in person on Friday, April 1, 2022.

The Feast of St. Jerome will be held this year on October 1, 2022. The guest speaker has just been confirmed: Father James Martin.

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

No conflicts, additions, or changes to the agenda were declared.

**Motion:** To approve the agenda as presented.

**Moved:** S. Bednarski, **Seconded:** V. Austen, **Carried.**

**Consent Agenda**

**4. Approval of the Minutes of February 18, 2022**

**Motion:** To approve by consent item 4 above.

**Moved:** D. Whitehead, **Seconded:** T. Serafini, **Carried.**

**Regular Agenda**

**5. Business Arising from the Minutes of the February 18, 2022 Meeting**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

**6. Academic Committee Report**

**Motion:** To approve the SMF 250 and SMF 350 course changes, effective September 1, 2023.

**Moved:** C. MacGregor, **Seconded:** S. Bednarski, **Carried.** (22 Votes: 18 Yes, 0 No, 4 Abstain)

**Motion:** To approve changing the pre-requisites of the 10 courses listed to “Level at least 4A Legal Studies students,” effective September 1, 2023.

**Moved:** C. MacGregor, **Seconded:** D. Whitehead, **Carried.** (22 Votes: 18 Yes, 0 No, 4 Abstain)

**Motion:** To approve the addition of anti-requisites to the five courses listed, effective September 1, 2023.

**Moved:** C. MacGregor, **Seconded:** S. Brophy, **Carried.** (22 Votes: 18 Yes, 0 No, 4 Abstain)

**Motion:** To approve the new course proposal: LS 3xx Labour Law, effective September 1, 2023.

**Moved:** C. MacGregor, **Seconded:** D. Hutter, **Carried.** (23 Votes: 19 Yes, 0 No, 4 Abstain)

**Motion:** To approve the Legal Studies plan changes: 4 x 300 level and 3 x 400 level, effective September 1, 2023.

**Moved:** C. MacGregor, **Seconded:** S. Brophy, **Carried.** (24 Votes: 19 Yes, 0 No, 5 Abstain)

The Health Humanities Working Group was thanked for their vision and hard work in developing the new Health Humanities diploma and 14 new courses (subject code HHUM). A lot of consultation was done with the Faculties of Arts, Health, and Science. Thanks was also expressed to those who contributed courses towards the program, including some UWaterloo departments.

**Motion:** To approve the 14 new HHUM courses, effective September 1, 2023.

**Moved:** C. MacGregor, **Seconded:** D. Whitehead, **Carried.** (23 Votes: 20 Yes, 0 No, 3 Abstain)

Further courses may be included in the diploma under the list of additional courses, but this would require a bigger discussion and will be done in the future.

**Motion:** To approve the new Health Humanities plan, effective September 1, 2023.

**Moved:** C. MacGregor, **Seconded:** T. Serafini, **Carried.** (24 Votes: 19 Yes, 0 No, 5 Abstain)

The new Health Humanities diploma and new HHUM courses will now move to the Undergraduate Affairs Group (UGAG) to begin the UWaterloo approval process. The Working Group was congratulated on initiating this exciting new program.

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

The Vice President Academic and Dean (VPAD) highlighted a few items from her written report.

A survey will be coming out asking for feedback for the next academic plan.

Interviews for our next academic librarian are currently underway. The search committee was thanked for their work as well as all who have engaged in the candidates' community presentations. The Sexuality, Marriage, and Family Studies search committee was also thanked for their work as they short-list candidates to be interviewed for the tenure-track position.

The next Teaching Forum will be held on Friday, April 8, 2022.

The VPAD encouraged members to check out UWaterloo's new Pivot RP system, a searchable database of available funding opportunities, and to consider attending a training workshop.

**8. President's Report**

The President highlighted a few items from his written report.

The Strategic Plan is going forward to the Board of Governors on April 7, 2022. The Steering Committee is grateful for members' engagement and feedback on the Plan.

The next meeting of the SJU Assembly is Friday, April 1, 2022. This meeting will be online but the hope is that the final meeting of the year in May will be in person.

The work of the President's Advisory Group on EDII is moving along and the final report is expected at the end of April 2022.

**9. Strategic Planning (Motion)**

At the last meeting, Senate Council had tabled a motion following discussion of the Strategic Plan, with the exact wording of the motion to be brought back. The motion was raised with suggested wording from the mover.

**Motion:** To recommend to the Board of Governors the following revision to the Strategic Plan, section 4.4.1: "Advocate increased government funding and public support of higher education while attracting donors and other supporters who understand and align with our inclusive Catholic higher education vision."

**Moved:** T. Connolly, **Seconded:** H. Brabazon, **Carried.** (23 Votes: 15 Yes, 2 No, 6 Abstain)

The Students' Union provided a recommendation that "mental health" be stated in the Strategic Plan (e.g., under objective 3.2.2), similar to UWaterloo's Strategic Plan. The President will take this recommendation forward to the Board.

**10. Indigenization and Decolonization**

The Indigenous advisory committee, once formed, will bring information to Senate Council under this standing agenda item.

Keeping in mind how we can avoid barriers will be key for discussions (e.g., how an Indigenous smudge ceremony can be carried out).

Interest was shown for some sort of workshop, training, or information session on decolonizing pedagogies or approaches to teaching. This opportunity would also be meaningful for staff involved with co-curricular initiatives. The President had planned to bring this idea to the advisory committee. Reconciliation is important as a Catholic institution.

**11. Updates from Academic Departments**

There were no updates from academic departments.

**12. New Business**

There was no new business.

**Motion:** To adjourn the open session of the meeting and move into confidential session.

**Moved:** T. Serafini, **Seconded:** D. Whitehead, **Carried.**

March 25, 2022

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