



ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY

Senate Council Minutes of the Friday, April 29, 2022 Meeting

Present: Carol Ann MacGregor (Vice Chair), Carol Acton, Veronica Austen, Honor Brabazon, Susan Brophy, Sue Brubacher, Roberta Cauchi-Santoro, Tristanne Connolly, Maureen Drysdale, Dan Hutter, Saphron Moule, Lorna Rourke, BJ Rye, Toni Serafini, Mark Spielmacher, Andrew Stumpf, Sylvia Terzian, Bruno Tremblay, Angela Underhill, Jessica Vorsteveld, David Williams, Chad Wriglesworth

Recording Secretary: Christine Schwendinger

Absent: Steven Bednarski*, Jasleen Brar, Chris Burris, Andrew Deman*, Fred Desroches, Alysia Kolentsis*, Carlie Leroux-Demir*, Peter Meehan (Chair)*, Jane Nicholas, John Rempel, David Seljak*, Anastasia Tataryn*, Cristina Vanin*, Denise Whitehead*, Nikolaj Zunic
**regrets*

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

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

Open Session

1. Prayer/Reflection

T. Connolly opened the meeting with a prayer from St. Francis, "Make Me an Instrument of Your Peace."

2. Chair's Remarks

The Chair is at the Universities Canada annual meeting. The Vice Chair will chair this meeting.

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: C.A. MacGregor, **Seconded:** D. Hutter, **Carried.**

Consent Agenda

4. Minutes of the March 25, 2022 Senate Council Meeting

5. Governance Committee Report

- a. Call for Nominations: 2022-2023 Committees

6. Experiential Learning Advisory Committee Report

- a. Assessment Form for Partnerships

7. Library Advisory Committee Report

- a. SJU Library Annual Reports for 2019-2020 and 2020-2021

Motion: To approve by consent item 4 and receive for information items 5-7 above.

Moved: C.A. MacGregor, **Seconded:** A. Stumpf, **Carried.**

Today is L. Rourke's, Associate Librarian, last Senate Council meeting before retirement and so a particularly good time to review the library annual reports and reflect back on the good work done in the library over the last few years.

Regular Agenda

8. Business Arising from the Minutes of the March 25, 2022 Meeting

At its February 18, 2022 and March 25, 2022 meetings, Senate Council passed two motions to the Board of Governors with recommendations on the Strategic Plan. The Board passed the first recommendation and pillar 2 of the Plan will be amended to include the language on academic freedom. The Board discussed the second motion at length regarding advocating for increased government funding and public support. However, the Board believes such advocacy is more in the domain of the University of Waterloo (UWaterloo), which receives direct funding from the government. The Board did not pass this recommendation and the current language in section 4.4.1 of the Plan as presented previously to Senate Council remains.

9. Academic Committee Report

An amended course proposal had been sent out separately with a revised course description reflecting the Faculty of Arts' new requirement that descriptions have student-centric language and a connection to plan-level learning outcomes (how the course contributes to the overall goals of the program).

The Chair offered a reminder that members who are non-voting are asked not to abstain and instead simply not to vote.

Motion: To approve the new course MEDVL 492, to be effective September 1, 2024.

Moved: V. Austen, **Seconded:** A. Stumpf, **Carried.** (18 Votes: 14 Yes, 0 No, 4 Abstain)

10. Vice President Academic and Dean's Report

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

Faculty, staff, and contract academic staff received an invitation to fill out a survey to share their perspectives on key priorities and initiatives for the next Academic Plan. The VPAD looks forward to reviewing the information received and moving forward.

Results of the librarian and Sexuality, Marriage, and Family Studies (SMF) searches will be announced soon. Both search committees were thanked for their work.

It is graduation season and our graduates will be honoured over the coming weeks. Departmental awards will be presented at the SJU Graduation Ceremony on June 12, 2022.

The UWaterloo Safety Office revised some protocols in an update shared by the Associate Dean today. Instructors can now remove their masks in the classroom under certain parameters.

The VPAD opened the conversation to questions or comments and there was discussion among the faculty who shared some differing experiences of the Winter 2022 term. Students did have different experiences and the Associate Dean noted that heightening failure rates are being considered at UWaterloo. The VPAD held teaching forums once a month and issues regarding supporting students did come up. The VPAD will continue to hold teaching forums next year to continue discussions on any concerns. The Campus Response Team and Joint Health and Safety Committee remain other venues to discuss public health related concerns.

May 2, 2022 is an important date, being the absolute Quest deadline for final grades.

11. President's Report

The President had provided a written report. He will be at the next meeting to answer any questions.

12. Strategic Plan

The Board of Governors approved the 2022-2027 Strategic Plan at its April 7, 2022 meeting. SJU now has a Strategic Plan that we are tasked to move forward with. Communications will be coming out of the President's office in the weeks to come but we are all asked to consider this work in our individual areas. The Strategic Plan gives direction for the Academic Plan and that work will begin now in earnest.

13. Indigenization and Decolonization

As mentioned in previous meetings, the President is creating an Indigenous advisory committee. He will provide an update when appropriate.

A. Deman and his family will be setting up a Red Dress Day commemorative display again this year in the SJU courtyard on May 5, 2022. It is a wonderful initiative that hopefully members are on campus to experience.

14. Updates from Academic Departments

The new Health Humanities plan and courses made it through the Undergraduate Affairs Group (UGAG). The next step is Arts Faculty Council in May and then Senate Undergraduate Council in June for final approval.

On behalf of the SMF Search Committee, members who attended the open sessions of the recent SMF candidate interviews were thanked.

15. New Business

There was no new business.

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

Moved: C.A. MacGregor, **Seconded:** L. Rourke, **Carried.**

April 29, 2022

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