



ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY

Senate Council

Minutes of the Friday, September 30, 2022 Meeting

Present: Peter Meehan (Chair), Carol Ann MacGregor (Vice Chair), Michelle Atkin, Veronica Austen, Kieran Bonner, Honor Brabazon, Susan Brophy, Serena Catania, Roberta Cauchi-Santoro, Tristanne Connolly, Carm De Santis, Andrew Deman, Stephanie Gregoire, Dan Hutter, Carlie Leroux-Demir, Diana Lobb, Saphron Moule, Carl Rodrigue, Caitlin Roehrig, BJ Rye, David Seljak, Mark Spielmacher, Andrew Stumpf, Siobhan Sutherland, Anastasia Tataryn, Sylvia Terzian, Bruno Tremblay, Denise Whitehead, David Williams, Chad Wriglesworth

Recording Secretary: Christine Schwendinger

Absent: Steven Bednarski, Chris Burris, Fred Desroches, Scott Kline*, John Rempel, Ryan Touhey*, Cristina Vanin*, Jessica Vorsteveld*
*regrets

On Sabbatical/Leave: Carol Acton, Maureen Drysdale, Norm Klassen, Alysia Kolentsis, Jane Nicholas, Toni Serafini, Angela Underhill, Nikolaj Zunic

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

Open Session

1. Prayer/Reflection

V. Austen opened the meeting with the poem "After the Sorry Clears Who Will Pay for the Headstones" by Lee Maracle, Columpa Bobb, and Tania Carter.

The Chair provided a territorial acknowledgement.

2. Chair's Remarks

Today, September 30, 2022, is Canada's National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, also known as Orange Shirt Day. This national holiday is a means of remembering and honouring the Indigenous children who were sent to residential schools. This is a legacy that we are increasingly becoming aware of in Canada. The "orange shirt" refers to the new orange shirt given to one child by her grandmother for her first day of school, only for it to be taken away.

Today is the Feast of St. Jerome. SJU will be celebrating Feast on Saturday, October 1, 2022.

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: D. Hutter, **Seconded:** K. Bonner, **Carried.**

Consent Agenda

4. Minutes of the June 17, 2022 Senate Council Meeting

5. Governance Committee Report

- a. 2022-2023 Committee Membership List

6. Committee on Research and Scholarship Report

7. Vice President Academic and Dean Report

a. Appointments

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

Moved: A. Deman, **Seconded:** C. Wriglesworth, **Carried.**

Regular Agenda

8. Business Arising from the Minutes of the June 17, 2022 Meeting

There was no business arising from the minutes.

9. Vice President Academic and Dean Report

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

C. Rodrigue, Department of Sexuality, Marriage, and Family Studies (SMF), and S. Sutherland, Departments of Psychology and SMF, were welcomed to their first Senate Council meeting.

SJU's new Health Humanities diploma was formally approved at the University of Waterloo's (UWaterloo) Senate meeting on September 19, 2022. The program received a nod from the UWaterloo president, who connected it to an earlier discussion regarding UWaterloo @ 100 and ideas around health and societal futures. A. Stumpf has been appointed acting director and he will be working with others to welcome our first cohort in Fall 2023.

Fall convocation is on Saturday, October 22, 2022. SJU has 18 co-registered students graduating and the VPAD hopes some will be able to join the event to celebrate our students.

Over the summer, the VPAD completed the closeout report for the previous 2015-2020 Academic Plan. She also discerned the results of the preliminary survey for the next Academic Plan and the rich responses received. The VPAD brought the themes that emerged to Academic Committee and has proposed three working groups: 1) Keeping Our Promises and Living Our Mission, 2) Leveraging and Integrating Our Strengths to Reach New Audiences, and 3) Enriching Lives through Research. More details will be coming out next week plus a call for volunteers to serve on the working groups.

10. President Report

Starting in the fall term, the President is working on priorities in our new Strategic Plan 2022-2027. The VPAD's work on the next Academic Plan is an important piece of this.

We have returned to campus this fall, with lots of students and lots of potential to return to a robust campus experience. The President thanked instructors for preparing their classes to receive students in class and to student life staff for all they have done. Our residence is full and that is a key part of a robust campus. An in-person experience is what most students want.

On July 25, 2022, SJU invited members of the local Indigenous community to our campus to join us for a televised viewing of Pope Francis' meeting in Alberta with residential school survivors and their families and the Holy Father's apology. We were honoured to have Elder M. Henry start the morning with a ceremonial fire and then lead a sharing circle and smudging ceremony following the viewing. Elder Henry will also be at the Feast tomorrow evening. The President looks forward to future conversations on what reconciliation means for our community and to explore opportunities for SJU.

The Orientation and Investiture Ceremony was held on September 11, 2022, attended by students, faculty, staff, and Board members. Students got brief exchanges with faculty to receive their pin and you could see they were engaged. Thank you to everyone for that good start.

The Feast of St. Jerome annual liturgy and dinner is tomorrow night, Saturday, October 1, 2022. It is an important event in raising funds for SJU student scholarships (which is very much in line with SJU's Strategic Plan). The keynote speaker, Father J. Martin, S.J., will speak about the relationship between LGBTQ Catholics and the church. The event will also recognize and honour the life of K. Sweeney, the wife of SJU's first lay chancellor J. Sweeney, with the Sweeney Award.

11. Indigenization and Decolonization

The Chair expects there will be a lot to report on this item in the future.

The Chair acknowledged the need for an Indigenous advisory committee. An important item this committee will address, with Indigenous feedback, is a land acknowledgement particular to SJU that is more reflective and inclusive.

12. Updates from Academic Departments

There were no updates from academic departments.

13. New Business

D. Lobb is directing a new play called *Ali & Ali: The Deportation Hearings*, Kitchener-Waterloo Little Theatre. The production, cast by Canadians with colour, is about Canadians with colour, with nine performances running November 10-26, 2022.

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

Moved: D. Seljak, **Seconded:** K. Bonner, **Carried.**

September 30, 2022

/cs