



ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY

Senate Council

Minutes of the Friday, May 22, 2020 Meeting

Present: Scott Kline (Chair), Cristina Vanin (Vice Chair), Carol Acton, John Arnou, Veronica Austen, Steven Bednarski, Kieran Bonner, Honor Brabazon, Sue Brubacher, Roberta Cauchi-Santoro, Tristanne Connolly, Andrew Deman, Carm De Santis, Maureen Drysdale, Mike Gourlay, Stephanie Gregoire, Kerry Lappin-Fortin, Zack MacDonald, Diana Lobb, David Perrin, Viola Poletes Montgomery, Lorna Rourke, BJ Rye, David Seljak, Mark Spielmacher, Andrew Stumpf, Anastasia Tataryn, Sylvia Terzian, Bruno Tremblay, Denise Whitehead, Carter Watkinson, Chad Wriglesworth

Recording Secretary: Katrina Kaczala

Guests/Resources: Christine Schwendinger

Absent: Chris Burris, Fred Desroches, Norm Klassen*, Jolanta Komornicka*, Jane Nicholas, John Rempel, Toni Serafini*, Ryan Touhey, David Williams, Nikolaj Zunic
**regrets*

On Sabbatical/Leave: Susan Brophy, Alysia Kolentsis

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

Open Session

S. Kline welcomed Cater Watkinson, the new student representative on Senate Council.

1. Prayer/Refection

C. Acton opened the meeting with a reflection.

2. Chair's Remark's

No remarks

3. Agenda Review, Declare Conflicts, Additions, Changes

Motion: To approve the agenda as presented.

Moved: D. Lobb, **Seconded:** D. Whitehead, **Carried.**

Consent Agenda

4. **Approval of the Minutes of April 24, 2020**
5. **Library Report**
6. **Experiential Learning and Advisory Committee Report**

Motion: To approve and receive for information by consent items 4 to 6.

Moved: D. Perrin, **Seconded:** S. Bednarski, **Carried.**

Regular Agenda

7. **Business Arising from the Minutes of April 24, 2020**

No business arising.

8. **Committee on Research and Scholarship**

The Committee on Research and Scholarship brought forth the new Indigenous-centred Research policy for a first reading. This policy will help to ensure that Indigenous-centred research at St. Jerome's remains consistent with university standards and research practices are respectful of Indigenous Peoples and Cultures.

Motion: That SJU Senate Council give the Indigenous-centred Research policy a first reading.

Moved: V. Austen, **Seconded:** D. Perrin, **Carried.**

9. **Governance Committee Report**

The Governance Committee received inquiries about changing the timeslot currently held for Senate Council meetings due to conflicts members have with other meetings, specifically University of Waterloo department meetings. As such, the Governance Committee introduced this topic to Senate Council for further discussion and to determine next steps. It was suggested that a poll be taken to determine the most appropriate timeslot for the majority of Senate Council member's schedules. The Governance Committee will arrange a poll and collect responses.

The Governance Committee reminded Senate Council members of the deadlines to submit nominations for upcoming vacancies on committees and encouraged members to nominate someone or put their name forward.

Senate Council members were also reminded of the additional Senate Council meeting taking place on Friday, May 29, 2020. The meeting will be used for Senate Council to review the proposed budget before it is sent to the Board of Governors for approval.

10. **Academic Committee Report**

V. Austen provided Senate Council with a high level overview of the Spring 2020 course evaluations document included in the meeting materials. Feedback from Senate Council members was being sought to determine what Spring 2020 course evaluations will look like.

It was noted by Senate Council members that course evaluations are especially valuable for Contract Academic Staff (CAS) within the job market and that whatever decision is made their validity should be maintained.

It was determined that for the Spring and Fall 2020 terms SJU will use the Arts eEvaluate online course evaluation system as a stop gap measure until a more in depth review of SJU's course evaluation system can be performed. It was agreed that this topic would be brought back before Senate Council for further discussion in the fall.

Motion: That Spring 2020 and Fall 2020 SJU course evaluations be held using UW Arts course perception surveys through the eEvaluate system.

That the data collected will be provided to the instructor who will not be compelled to share the data.

That upon request, an instructor will be provided with a letter for their records explaining the exceptional circumstances of Spring 2020 and Fall 2020 course evaluations at SJU.

Moved: V. Austen, **Seconded:** D. Perrin, **Carried. 1 abstention, 1 opposed.**

11. Interim Vice President Academic and Dean's Report

C. Vanin provided the Interim Vice President Academic and Dean's report orally. Highlights included:

Spring and Fall course offerings will be released early next week.

UGAG will be meeting virtually.

Over 300 co-op students have been hired and trained by the University of Waterloo to be Online Learning Assistants (OLA). They will assist in providing support for remote learning in the Spring term. St. Jerome's was allocated two OLAs who will assist instructors in preparing for courses and provide remote learning support during the term.

12. Teaching in 2020-2021

C. Vanin asked that instructors name the resources they require to assist them with remote learning, and also identified some resources already available that can be accessed through the University of Waterloo.

Senate Council members discussed the need for additional IT and TA support and raised concerns about ensuring that CAS members are provided with additional remote learning support.

Questions about the healthy and safety of individuals returning to campus arose. The SJU joint health and safety committee has been meeting to discuss measures that can be taken to ensure

returning to campus will be safe. The University of Waterloo safety committee has also been meeting to begin planning safety measures.

13. Interim President's Report

S. Kline provided the Interim President's report orally.

S. Kline indicated that he is expecting to receive further clarity on residence operations in the Fall soon, which will assist in decision making.

Senate Council will be presented with the proposed budget at their next meeting. They can expect to see a deficit budget projected.

S. Kline thanked Senate Council members and relayed his appreciation for their hard work.

14. Updates from Academic Departments

- SJU Graduation Ceremony – an online experience is being prepared. Faculty members will be asked to submit written words in support to the graduating students. There is also a plan to hold a reunion/graduation ceremony on May 2, 2021 for the students who are graduating this year.

15. New Business

An inclusive pride flag will be flown in June.

Motion: To adjourn the meeting.

Moved: D. Seljak, **Seconded:** D. Lobb, **Carried.**

[Secretarial Note: There was no confidential session on May 22, 2020 as there were no confidential items requiring appearance before Senate Council]

kk/

May 22, 2020