

The 509th Meeting of the Trent University Senate

Tuesday, May 16, 2023 2:00 p.m.
Via Zoom

Minutes

Present were: Senators Leo Groarke, Suzanne Bailey, Peri Ballantyne, Rita Bode, Cathy Bruce, Gary Burness, James Connelly, Noah Edwards, Cyndi Gilmer, Scott Henderson, Holger Hintelmann, Richard Hurley, Nancie Im-Bolter, Michael Khan, Hugo Lehmann, Paul Manning, Sanela Martic, Claire Mooney, Dennis Murray, Heather Nicol, Kathryn Norlock, Fergal O'Hagan, Karleen Pendleton Jiménez, Marco Pollanen, Raul Ponce-Hernandez, Mark Skinner, and Kelly Young. Official Visitors Heather Crowley, David Hollands and Moira Howes. Associate University Secretary (Senate) Tara Harrington and Coordinator, Board and Senate Support Taylor Edwards.

Regrets: Senators Sam Barry, Craig Brunetti, Ann Celestini, Michael Chan-Reynolds, Saud Choudhry, Aiden Cooke, Anthony Coulter, Hugh Hodges, William Kim, Whitney Lackenbauer, Lily Lalonde, Lawrence Lam, Mark Neufeld, Van Nguyen-Marshall, Phuong Nguyen, Viviana Pinheiro, Steven Rafferty, Annalise Smart, Paul Szpak and Shay Surujnarain,

Welcome and adoption of the Agenda

The meeting opened with a welcome to the traditional territory:
We respectfully acknowledge that we are on treaty and traditional territory of the Michi Saagiig Anishinabeg. We offer our gratitude to First Nations for their care for, and teachings about, our earth and relations. May we honour those teachings.

Chair's Remarks and Announcements.

The Chair started his remarks by thanking Senators for their work during the year. He went on to report that the Council of Ontario Universities (COU) had met with the Blue-Ribbon Panel appointed by the Premier to discuss funding of post-secondary education. He noted that, in a recent survey conducted in Ontario, 78% of respondents supported an increase in funding for universities.

Minutes and Business arising Meeting of April 18, 2023. The minutes were approved as presented.

Nominating and Governance Subcommittee Report. The Office of the Provost had recommended revisions to the Terms of Reference for several Senate committees:

- Academic Planning and Budget Committee to be renamed Academic Planning and Policy Committee (AP&P). AP&P would assume responsibility for some policy-related responsibilities currently within the mandate of the Undergraduate Academic Policy Committee.
- Undergraduate Academic Policy Committee (UAPC) to be disbanded.
- Undergraduate Studies Committee (USC)-Changes to the mandate to incorporate some of the responsibilities of the disbanded UAPC.

- Cyclical Program Review Committee (CPRC)-Minor revisions to the language regarding the mandate, a proposed change to the composition to allow the Chairship to be held by an Associate Dean and other minor changes to the composition.

The report also included proposed changes to the composition of the Senate Executive Committee:

- The Chair of the Undergraduate Academic Policy Committee (UAPC) would be removed once the committee was disbanded.
- The Chair of the Teaching and Learning Advisory Committee (T&L) would be removed to reflect the evolution in the committee's work. T&L does not make recommendations to Senate in the same way that other Senate committees do and the seat on Executive had not been filled for a number of years.
- Two Deans, to be named by the Provost, would be added.

Senate approved the changes as presented.

Undergraduate Studies Committee Report. Senator Mooney presented the report, which included the following recommendations for approval:

Business—New Postgraduate Certificate in Business Administration.

Regularize ADMN-ECON 4890Y, a trial course.

Political Studies—New Option in Leadership.

Senate approved the recommendations as presented.

Graduate Studies Committee Report. In Senator Brunetti's absence Senator Henderson presented the report which included the following proposals:

MA Anthropology—Change program requirements for accelerated option.

Change description and course content for ANTH 5153Y.

New course—ANTH 5163H.

MEd in Educational Studies—New course—EDUC 5032H.

Proposed change to program requirements.

MA in Interdisciplinary Aging Studies—New course—AGNG 5000H.

MA in Canadian Studies & Indigenous Studies—Change calendar copy regarding grading system used for admissions requirements.

MSc in Forensics Science—Change course name and duration for FRSC 5090H.

Graduate Academic Integrity Policy. The policy had been revised to include language specific to student use of artificial intelligence (AI) content generating tools that had become widely available.

Senate approved the recommendations as presented.

Undergraduate Academic Policy Committee. Senator Henderson presented the report which included the following proposals:

Undergraduate Academic Integrity Policy--Like the Graduate Academic Integrity Policy, the

Undergraduate Academic Integrity Policy had been revised to include language regarding the use of artificial intelligence (AI) content generators.

Definition of Academic Year and Sessions- Had been revised to include a definition of Reading Week and place restrictions on the scheduling or assignment of some types of work or assessment during the week.

The Trent/Fleming School of Nursing had proposed removing the CASPer test as a requirement during the admissions process. The test was made a requirement in 2016 and was supposed to be a good indicator of an applicant's "soft" skills but this had not proven to be the case.

Senate approved the recommendations as presented.

Senator Groarke noted that the new AP&P would undertake a review of the graduate, and undergraduate academic integrity policies to ensure that they were in sync.

Senate discussed the impact artificial intelligence generators could have on course development and assessment and agreed that Senate should monitor this over the next few years.

Academic Planning and Budget Committee Report. Senator Khan presented a proposal to create a new academic department to be located on the Durham campus—Child and Youth Studies.

Senator Khan reported on the dramatic growth in the program since the program started—from 36 declared majors in 2016/17 to 320 declared majors in 2022/23. He reviewed the consultation process that had taken place and reported that if the proposal was approved by Senate it would go forward to the Board of Governors for information.

Senate approved the recommendation as presented.

Strategic Research Plan. Senator Bruce presented the draft Strategic Research Plan (SRP). She noted that the draft reflected feedback received during the consultation phase (incl consultation with Senate) and included a new section, Transformative Spaces. The draft plan identified six priority areas for future research:

- Student Engagement with Research
- Enhanced Communication of Research
- Faculty Support & Mentorship
- Research Funding & Partnerships
- Research Leadership
- Research Collaboration.

Senate approved the plan as presented.

Senator Bruce also reviewed the annual report of the Research Policy Committee which included updates on:

RPC activity

Research Awards

Internal Grants

External Research Grants

Research Ethics Board.

Senate received the report as information.

Cyclical Program Review Committee Report. Senator Hintelmann presented the Final Assessment Report (FAR) for the MA/PhD Cultural Studies.
Senate received the report as information.

Adjournment.

The meeting adjourned at 2:55.

Dr. L. Groarke Chair
T. Harrington, Secretary