

October 15, 2021

The meeting was held at 1:30 p.m. via Zoom.

SENATORS:

A. Shami
K. Arora
G. Balfour
P. Barmby
A. Barnfield
A. Baxter
J. Baxter
I. Berry
E. Boussoulas
D. Brou
S. Burke
E. Chamberlain
J. Chazi
M. Cleveland
K. Coley
J. Compton
S. Constas
J. Corrigan
J. Cuciurean
S. Datars Bere
M. Davison
G. De Viveiros
R. Dekoter
M. Fahmida
J. Garland
K. Gibbons
A. Haque
N. Harney

L. Henderson
R. Heydon
S. Hodgson
T. Joy
S. Kadish
E. Kalaydjian
S. Karky
G. Kelly
D. Kotsopoulos
J. Lacefield
D. Laird
J. Langille
M. Lebo
D. Lee
L. Lewis
J. Li
L. Logan
M. Longtin
D. Malloy
M. Milde
L. Miller
J. Minac
K. Mooney
S. Morrison
A. Nelson
J. Nord
A. Pahargarh
M. Patel

P. Peddle
S. Powell
S. Prichard
D. Purcell

Land Acknowledgement

A. Pyati offered a Land Acknowledgement.

S.21-204 **Minutes of Prior Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting of September 17, 2021 were approved as circulated.

S.21-205 **Business Arising from the Minutes**

L. Logan, Vice-President (Operations & Finance), responded to a question from the last Senate meeting on ventilation measures in office spaces and other areas on campus. She

- Search for an independent third-party reviewer to investigate the events of September is underway.
- Increased the number of Special Constables on campus.
- In the process of hiring Safety Ambassadors to be present in residence halls, particularly in the evenings and weekends.
- Police confirmed the tragic events that led to the death of first year student Gabriel Neil were unrelated to other events that may have occurred at Medway-Sydenham Hall.
- A candlelight vigil was held on October 1, 2021, remembering the life of Gabriel Neil at TD Stadium.
- The Great Hall and Alumni Hall have been made available to offer increased study and gathering space for students due to social distancing requirements.

The President concluded his report by thanking the Western community for a successful academic start to the year, but noted there is work to be done regarding culture. Western is one of Canada's greatest universities, with world class research and teaching, deserving of recognition. He noted that the Western community needs to have a reset in the relationship between fun and the fundamental academic mission of the institution, which can be achieved through a collective effort to promote change in the culture.

REPORT FROM THE OPERATIONS/AGENDA COMMITTEE

S.21-207 **ITEM 5.1 – Revisions to the Senate Election Procedures**

It was moved by M. Milde, seconded by G. Kelly,

That the Senate Election Procedures be revised as shown, effective October 15, 2021.

CARRIED

S.21-208 **ITEM 5.2 – Senate Observer: Associate Vice-President (Equity, Diversity and Inclusion)**

It was moved by M. Milde, seconded by G. Kelly,

That an Observer seat on Senate be assigned effective immediately for the Associate Vice-President (Equity, Diversity and Inclusion).

CARRIED

The USC representative expressed support of the addition of the Associate Vice-President (Equity, Diversity and Inclusion) as an Observer, as it will allow for an equity and anti-racism lens on Senate.

S.21-209 **ITEM 5.3 – Senate E-Vote Result regarding the Notice of Motion to Revise the Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences – Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs**

E. Chamberlain provided an update on the Notice of Motion received at the last Senate meeting, regarding the temporary provision of additional self-reported absences. She advised that OAC's recommendation on the SRA motion was to discard the E-Vote result and bring it forward to Senate for consideration at its October meeting. It appears on the agenda as Item 7.1, under the Report of SCAPA. OAC also recommended that Senate be asked to determine a process for the use and determination of Senate e-votes for time-sensitive matters, to be

REPORT FROM THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC POLICY AND AWARDS

S.21-214 **ITEM 7.1 – Notice of Motion Referred from Senate: Revision to the Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences – Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs**

J. Cuciurean provided an overview of the Notice of Motion presented at the September 17 Senate meeting regarding the temporary provision of additional self-reported absences (SRAs). SCAPA recommended the motion to Senate on the following considerations:

- The return to campus and start of the fall term has been a difficult time for the Western community and resulted in heightened stress among students.
- Students may be dealing with trauma relating to the passing of a first-year student and the investigation of gender based sexual violence incidents.
- Additional SRAs could be a tool that can support the students dealing with trauma, which can be long lasting and present at a later date.
- Additional SRAs will encourage students who may be displaying COVID-

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

REPORT FROM THE OPERATIONS/AGENDA COMMITTEE

S.21-219 **Information Items Reported by the Operations/Agenda Committee on Unanimous Consent**

- 11.1(a) – Officers of Convocation

REPORT FROM THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC POLICY AND AWARDS

Information Items Reported by the Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Awards

S.21-220 The following items reported by the Senate Committee on University Planning were received for information by unanimous consent:

- ITEM 11.2(a) – Notice of Motion Referred by Senate: Revision to the Adding and Dropping Courses Policy
- ITEM 11.2(b) Sessional Dates
 - o 11.2(b)(i) Undergraduate Sessional Dates – 2022-23
 - o 11.2(b)(ii) Faculty-Specific Undergraduate Sessional Dates – 2022-23
- ITEM 11.2(c) New Scholarships and Awards

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

S.21-221 **Information Items Reported through Announcements and Communications on Unanimous Consent**

The following items were reported through Announcements and Communications and were received for information by unanimous consent:

- 11.3(a) Honorary Degree Recipients – Autumn 2021

S.21-222 **ITEM 11.4 – Senate E-Vote (Time Sensitive): Notice of Motion: Revision to the Adding and Dropping Courses Policy Approval**

Senate received for information the results of the E-Vote for the Notice of Motion: Revision to the Adding and Dropping Courses Policy Approval received at the September 17, 2021 Senate meeting. The motion received sufficient votes and passed.

S.21-223 **DISCUSSION AND QUESTION PERIOD**

The full text of questions submitted in advance of the meeting were posted in the Agenda at Item 13.0 prior to the meeting. The questions and responses are summarized below.

1. A Senator inquired why polling stations were not hosted on-campus for the federal election held on September 20th and if the University will host on-campus voting in the upcoming >>BDs0 Tw provincial and municipal elections.