



SENATE MINUTES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022, 2:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Virtual Meeting

Present: D. MacLatchy (Chair), M. Ahmed, D. Antonowicz, G. Ashoughian, M. Brolley, P. Bryden, R. Buehler, M. Cantalini-Williams, J. Casey, S. Chamberlain, L. Chu, A. Clarke, J. Coolman, A. Dang, D. Deutschman, J. Empey, C. Eni-McLean, S. Ensign, A. Essaji, C. Francis, S. Ghamat, K. Hogarth, P. Ironstone, C. Johnston Turner, I. Joseph, M. Kelly, L. King, V. Kitaev, S. Lachapelle, D. Law, H. LeBlanc, L. Luccisano, K. Lund, D. Maoz, B. McKay, P. McLaren, L. McLeod, J. McMurray, K. Menon, C. Miyata, J. Newman, A. Noriega, L. Noronha, A. Parker, J. Popham, S. Ramsay, M. Reesor, J. Reid, K. Shankardass, C. Smith, D. Treleaven, B. Vale, A. Vannelli, M. Walton-Roberts, K. Werbin, M. Woodford, K. Yri, G. Yun, J. Zhan, K. Zhu.

Regrets: R. Ame, S. Cameron, B. Glencross, L. Hawton Kitamura, J. Hennebry, A. Herman, E. Mercier, A. Ngo, J. Schwieter, M. Wilson.

Absent: N. Amanullah, G. Brockett, L. Notten.

Secretariat: A. Arnold, A. Juhik, S. Kelly, A. Kornobis.

A. Introduction

1. **Call to Order**, D. MacLatchy

D. MacLatchy welcomed Senators and acknowledged the ongoing devastating conflict in Ukraine, outlining the support available for the Laurier community, specifically Ukrainian and Russian students.

a. Approval of the Consent Agenda

MOTION (K. Zhu/P. Ironstone): **that Senate approve the Consent items listed for approval under item C.1. Carried.**

2. **Leadership Update**

a. Report of the President, D. MacLatchy

D. MacLatchy began by providing a COVID-19 update: Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health sent a memo revoking instructions regarding vaccine policies; Laurier will keep its mandatory vaccination policy in place until at least the end of the winter term and will continue to monitor public health guidelines; masking indoors and daily screen remains mandatory.

D. MacLatchy attended the Brantford-Brant Chamber of Commerce joint MP/MPP breakfast along with other Laurier representatives and then hosted MP Larry Brock for a tour of the Brantford Campus, highlighting Laurier's efforts to contribute to thriving downtown core. Afterwards, they met with MPP Mill Bouma to continue advocating for the expansion of the Faculty of Education at the Brantford campus. The Kitchener-Waterloo and the

Brantford community are both working on a proposal for provincial funding for a new hospital plan. D. MacLatchy noted that MCU announced that the government will further delay the activation of performance-based funding for one additional year of SMA3.

Preparation for Saint Patrick's Day is underway, connecting with municipal partners, WLUSU, GSA, and UW. An unsanctioned gathering is predicted as COVID-19 restrictions have eased. Communications have gone out to students and local high schools regarding the unsafe environment created by these gatherings. Special Constable Service has an operational plan with all emergency partners. There will be student restricted access to some Laurier buildings and residences will have a zero-guest policy.

b. Report of the Provost & VP Academic, A. Vannelli

A. Vannelli began by noting February 28th marked a full return to in-person on campus, receiving positive feedback so far from Deans.

A. Vannelli shared the support being offered to Ukrainian and Russian students noting that Laurier International has coordinated direct communications to impacted students with the intention to check-in on their well-being and to provide support to help them successfully complete the winter term. Each student is being individually supported by an International Student Advisor.

A. Vannelli provided an updated on the budget process noting that they are in the final stages of preparing the draft operating, ancillary, and capital budgets for Senate and Board review. A balanced operating budget will be presented based on a 1% budget target.

Interviews for Black and Indigenous scholars is underway; further update will be provided after the April 7th meeting with Chairs and Equity Representatives involved. The search committee for the Dean of Lazaridis School of Business and Economics continues to meet. The position profile for Associate Vice-President: Academic has been shared and applications are being accepted. Dr. Brent Wolfe was appointed to a one-year term as Associate Vice President and Acting Dean of the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies beginning July 1, 2022.

The Senate discussed the importance of broadening refugee support and discussed the program for Students Overcoming War and World University Service of Canada.

c. Report from the Board of Governors, P. McLaren

P. McLaren provided an update on the Board activities in February including: approval of changes to number of policies; receiving update on the Laurier Strategy; a presentation from the Faculty of Science; a summary of investment performance; and a presentation on Milton.

- d. **Question Period: Written or Verbal**
The Senate discussed the AVPA appointment process and making the position an ex-officio of Senate; Senate Governance Committee will look at the Senate membership and faculty apportionment first before it comes to Senate for approval.
3. **Business Arising from Previous Minutes**, D. MacLatchy
No business arising from previous minutes.

B. Discussion

1. **Milton Update**, A. Vannelli / L. Noronha / J. Newman
A. Vannelli, L. Noronha, and J. Newman provided an update on Milton explaining that: it is part of the Milton Education Village and on greenbelt land; academic vision is planetary health and sustainability in academic and research programs; program curricula will embody principles of accessibility, equity, diversity, inclusivity, and Indigenous way of knowing. Milton will help with Laurier's transition to research-intensive, comprehensive university. A draft Milton Campus Master Plan was shared noting that details may still change and that the campus will be approximately the same size as the Waterloo Campus.

The Senate discussed how engineering is being developed. A. Vannelli assured it will be a strong program that meets the accredited program requirements while providing a unique opportunity for students.

2. **In Camera Session**
MOTION (B. Vale/A. Noriega): **to move the meeting *in camera*. Carried.**
3. **Reports and Recommendations from Standing Committees**
 - a. **Senate Executive and Finance Committee**, D. MacLatchy
 - i. **2022-2023 Tuition Fee Report**, J. Fraser / R. Reid
J. Fraser and R. Reid provided an update on the Tuition Fee Report explaining that Laurier is in a similar position as last year, expecting domestic tuition to remain frozen next year. Tuitions were reduced by 10% in 2019 and have been frozen since. Once new framework is released, the adjustments will be made and brought for approval.

Tuition fees are a crucial revenue source and make 50% of total revenue. The university has full discretion over the fee setting process for international tuition as international students are not regulated by the tuition framework. The proposal for 2022/23 is to increase international students' tuition by 5-10% for new students in undergraduate programs and 0-8% for graduate programs. Tuition will be capped at 5% for returning students. The Senate discussed where Laurier sits compared to other institutions and how

the increases compared to previous years.

MOTION (A. Clarke/K. Hogarth): **that on the recommendation of the Senate Executive and Finance Committee, Senate recommend the Board of Governors approve the 2022-2023 Tuition Fee Report, as proposed. Carried. (2 abstentions)**

- b. **Senate Committee on Research and Publications, J. Newman**
 - i. Senate Research Culture Survey Update
J. Newman provided an update on the Senate Research Culture Survey noting that this was first presented to Senate in January 2021 and will eventually be done every five years. It was also noted that progress has been difficult during the pandemic but that there has been progress on number of important fronts including Research Ethics Board, Research Finance, Research Theme Ambassadors, Partnering with Library, etc.
 - c. **Senate Governance Committee, S. Ramsay**
 - i. Senate Governance Committee Terms of Reference
Due to time constraints, this item was moved to the next Senate meeting.
 - ii. Senate Attendance Review
As part of an annual process, the Secretariat Office has reached out to Senators to offer supports and opportunities to ensure Senators are engaged. Along with quorum, Senate needs engagement to function effectively.
 - d. **Senate Honorary Degree Committee, D. MacLatchy**
 - i. Policy 2.8, Honorary Degree and Order of Wilfrid Laurier University, A. Kornobis
Due to time constraints, this item was moved to the next Senate meeting.
4. **Senate Meetings – Return to Campus, D. MacLatchy / A. Kornobis**
D. MacLatchy and A. Kornobis mentioned that the Board of Governors is having an in-person meeting in April and wanted to see whether Senators would also like to transition to in-person or remain online for the remainder of the term. This was discussed at the Senate Governance Committee meeting but restrictions have since been lifted.

The Senate discussed the pros and cons of remaining online noting that online is better for accessibility, functionality, and convenience but perhaps Senate cannot remain virtual when Laurier staff, faculty and students are

obligated to return in person. Further discussion included a hybrid option to balance out a transition to the new normal.

5. **Matters from the Consent Section of the agenda**

None noted.

6. **Other Business**

No other items were brought forward.

7. **Adjournment**

By consensus.

C. Consent Items

The following items were provided for approval or information. The items noted for approval were approved by consent.

1. **Items for Approval**

- a. Agenda
- b. Minutes, Senate, January 24, 2022

2. **Items for Information**

- a. Report of the Senior Executives
- b. COU Academic Colleague Report
- c. Early Career Research Award Recipients 2021-2022
- d. University Research Professor Award 2022-2023
- e. Winter Enrolment Report
- f. Record of SEFC approval: Senate Governance Nominating Report