

McMaster University

SENATE MINUTES

VOL. LXXIV

Wednesday, September 11, 2019 at 3:30 p.m.  
In the Council Room (111), Gilmour Hall

---

**PRESENT:** Dr. David Farrar (Chair), Dr. Aaron Schat, Dr. Alison Holloway, Dr. Ameil Joseph, Dr. Anne Niec, Dr. Bhagwati Gupta, Dr. Chandrima Chakraborty, Dr. Christina Baade, Dr. Dina Brooks, Dr. Doug Welch, Dr. Hans Boden, Dr. Ishwar Puri, Dr. Janie Astephen-Wilson, Dr. Jeremiah Hurley, Dr. Joseph Sokalski, Dr. Juliet Daniel, Dr. Katherine Cuff, Dr. Kathryn Mattison, Dr. Kim Dej, Dr. Kim Jones, Dr. Laura Parker, Dr. Martin Horn, Dr. Maureen MacDonald, Dr. Megan Brickley, Dr. Nancy Doubleday, Dr. Nicola Nicolici, Dr. Pamela Swett, Dr. Patrick Bennett, Dr. Peter Miu, Dr. Phil Zylla, Dr. Robert O'Brien, Dr. Sherman Cheung, Dr. Susan Searls Giroux, Dr. Thomas Adams, Dr. Pamela Baxter, Mr. Jim McCaughey, Mr. Roger Couldrey, Mr. Ryan Witcher, Ms Cassidy Bereskin, Ms Geil Astorga, Ms Anita Acai, Ms Beth Manganelli Staite, Ms Moira Taylor, Mr Muneeb Ahmed, Mr. Sahand Sepehrvand, Ms Andrea Thyret-Kidd (University Secretary), Ms Michelle Zheng (Associate University Secretary), Ms Alysha Suckert (Governance Coordinator)

**OBSERVERS:** Ms Carolyn Brendon, Ms Esme Davies, Dr. Susan Denburg, Ms Barbara Eftekhari, Ms Melissa Pool, Ms Alison Sills, Mr. Sean Van Koughnett

**REGRETS RECEIVED:** Dr. Judy Fudge, Dr. Leonard Waverman, Dr. Paul O'Byrne, Mr. Gary Collins, Ms Leah Allen

---

**A. OPEN SESSION**

**OPENING REMARKS**

Dr. Farrar welcomed members to the meeting and welcomed the following new Senators:

- *Ms Andrea Thyret-Kidd, University Secretary*

Dr. Farrar explained that Ms Thyret-Kidd took the oath of office on September 6, 2019. Dr. Farrar noted that the new Chancellor, Santee Smith, will be officially installed on November 21, 2019 and that there is a new Board Chair who may attend some Senate meetings.

- *Dr. Pamela Swett, Dean, Faculty of Humanities*
- *Dr. Sherman Cheung, Mr. Ryan Witcher, Faculty of Business*
- *Dr. Kim Jones, Mr. Sahand Sepehrvand, Faculty of Engineering*
- *Dr. Kathryn Mattison, Dr. Chandrima Chakraborty, Dr. Martin Horn, Dr. Joseph Sokalski, Ms Geil Astorga, Faculty of Humanities*

- *Dr. Judy Fudge, Dr. Ameil Joseph, Ms Cassidy Bereskin, Faculty of Social Sciences*
- *Dr. Patrick Bennett, Dr. Laura Parker, Dr. Bhagwati Gupta, Faculty of Science*
- *Dr. Dina Brooks, Dr. Janie Astephen-Wilson, Mr. Muneeb Ahmed, Faculty of Health Sciences*
- *Dr. Juliet Daniel, Ms Leah Allen, Board Representatives*

Dr. Farrar explained that there is a lot of transition occurring at the University, he is the Acting President, Dr. Susan Searls Giroux is the Acting Provost and Dr. Karen Mossman is the Acting VP Research. In addition to the new Chancellor and Secretary, there is also a new Board Chair. The key goal for the year is to lead the University through this period of transition and ensure that we are well-prepared for the arrival of the new President once the selection process is complete. The senior team is working hard to ensure that research, student experience, internationalization and community engagement priorities continue to advance.

Dr. Farrar noted that the provincial government has now formally launched the SMA 3 process. The Strategic Mandate Agreement is the formal contract that each University and College in the province has with the government. SMA 3 will outline our areas of priority and includes a range of metrics by which we will be measured. The performance metrics focus on two key areas: skills and job outcomes which includes graduation rates, experiential learning, skills and competencies, graduate employment and earnings; and community and economic impact. Further updates will be provided as the process unfolds. Discussions with individual institutions will begin in October and will focus on establishing notional performance/outcomes-based funding for institutions; setting performance targets against the government's metrics; and confirming the weightings that institutions will assign to each of these metrics.

McMaster will be hosting The Magna Charta Observatory conference on October 16 and 17, 2019. This is the first time the MCO conference has been held in North America. The theme of the conference is *University Freedoms and Responsibilities: Responding to the Challenges of the Future*. It features Dr. Sigal Ben-Porath (University of Pennsylvania) speaking about free speech on campus and Dr. Jim Dunn speaking about sustainable communities in the context of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Dr. Farrar reminded Senators that the Socrates Project continues this year with a wide program of events, including lectures, panel discussions, and cultural events and encouraged members to look into the events.

Dr. Farrar informed Senators that McMaster is about to move up in the Times Higher Education World University Rankings from 77 in the world to 72. Dr. Farrar noted that it is hard to move up 5 spaces; it is a testament to the quality of our faculty and learning environment and is validation of what a great university we are.

A question was asked regarding the timeline for the SMA 3. Dr. Farrar explained that the University is working through the process of agreeing on the metrics. The last metric to agree on will happen in October after which the University will work with the government to determine a baseline for each metric. The metrics will come into effect in 2020 and two thirds of funding will become performance based.

**1 APPROVAL OF AGENDA – OPEN SESSION**

**Note that the consent agenda is to be adopted with the approval of the agenda.**

There were no requests to move items from the Consent to the Regular agenda for the Open Session.

It was duly moved and seconded,

**That Senate approve the Open Session agenda for the meeting of September 11, 2019 and that items 2 to 4 be approved or received by Consent.**

The motion was **carried**.

**CONSENT****2 MINUTES of the Meeting of June 5, 2019 – Open Session**

Motion:

**That the minutes of the Open Session portion of the meeting held on June 5, 2019 be approved as circulated.**

**Approved by Consent.**

**3 COMMUNICATIONS**

- a. **Introduction to Senate**
- b. **Senate Meeting Schedule for 2019-20**
- c. **Senate Membership List for 2019-20**
- d. **Senate Committee List for 2019-20**
- e. **Invitation – Senate Reception**

**4 REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

D. Farrar

**A. Actions Taken on Behalf of Senate (for information)**

- a. **Cancellation of Fields M.Sc. and Ph.D. for Health Research Methodology**
- b. **Change to Admission Requirements for Speech Language Pathology**
- c. **Terms of Reference for Assistant Dean, Child Life and Pediatric Psychosocial Care Graduate Program**
- d. **Terms of Reference for Director, Chemical Biology Graduate Program**
- e. **Terms of Reference for Associate Director, Chemical Biology Graduate Program**

- f. **Revisions to the Tenure and Promotion Policy**
- g. **McMaster Institute on Health Equity Proposal**

### **REGULAR**

#### **5 BUSINESS ARISING**

There was no business arising for Open Session.

Dean MacDonald advised the members of Senate that she is the COU Academic Colleague for McMaster and that every University has a representative. Her role is to be the Academic Representative in the forum and to present back to members of Senate. Dean MacDonald explained that the theme of this year is one of the reporting outcomes of the SMA 3. If members wish to have issues brought to the forum, they can contact Dean MacDonald.

#### **6 ENQUIRIES**

There were no enquiries.

#### **7 COMMUNICATIONS**

##### **a. Preliminary Enrolment Figures**

Mr. S. Van Koughnett provided an update on preliminary undergraduate enrollment figures as of September 1, 2019. This year over 58,000 applications were received. The total incoming level 1 registrants is 6,472 which is 7.2% over our target. There are 1,237 visa students which is 10.8% over our target, and 5,235 domestic students which is 6.3% over our target. Mr. S. Van Koughnett thanked staff in the Registrar and Faculty offices. Final numbers will be available after November.

Dr. D. Welch provided an update on the preliminary graduate enrollment figures. Currently there are 4,080 full-time students and 691 part-time students. There is an increase of 79 doctoral students over last year and an increase of 83 master students compared to September 1, 2018.

#### **8 OTHER BUSINESS**

##### **a. Request from the Committee to Recommend a President**

Ms A. Thyret-Kidd provided an overview of this report.

Ms Thyret-Kidd explained that the Committee is underway for the presidential search. According to the bylaws, the Committee had 9 months to provide a recommendation to Senate. At this time, the Committee is asking for an extension until December 31,

2019. Ms A. Thyret-Kidd noted that the Committee is active, completing work, and expects to make a recommendation this fall.

] Dean MacDonald presented the motion.

It was duly moved and seconded,

**That Senate approve an extension of the nine-month reporting deadline until December 31, 2019.**

The motion was **carried**.