

McMaster University

SENATE MINUTES

VOL. C

Wednesday, February 9, 2022 at 3:30 p.m.

Zoom

PRESENT: Dr. David Farrar, Dr. Anna Danielova, Dr. Chandrima Chakraborty, Dr. Chris Sinding, Dr. Dina Brooks, Dr. Doug Welch, Dr. Gregory Hooks, Dr. Heather Sheardown, Dr. Jeremiah Hurley, Dr. Judy Fudge, Dr. Juliet Daniel, Dr. Karen Kidd, Dr. Karen Mossman, Dr. Khaled Hassanein, Dr. Kim Dej, Dr. Kim Jones, Dr. Laura Parker, Dr. Lia Bronsard, Dr. Lorraine Carter, Dr. Maikel Rheinstadter, Dr. Mark Walton, Dr. Martin Horn, Dr. Matthew Miller, Dr. Maureen MacDonald, Dr. Melinda Gough, Dr. Michael McGillion, Dr. Pamela Swett, Dr. Patrick Bennett, Dr. Paul Faure, Dr. Paul O’Byrne, Dr. Peter Graefe, Dr. Rick Monture, Dr. Stephanie Springgay, Dr. Sherman Cheung, Dr. Sue McCracken, Dr. Susan Tighe, Dr. Todd Hoare, Dr. Wael El-Dakhakhni, Dr. Susan Reid, Ms Saher Fazilat, Ms Bernadette Corpuz, Ms Amanda Bakke, Mr. Findley McSevney, Ms Haleigh Wallace, Ms Shaden Ahmed, Ms Sarrah Lal, Ms Susan Galloway, Ms Zoe Tsai, Ms Mary Williams, Mr. Jim McCaughey, Mr. Keegan Johnson, Ms Beth Manganelli Staite, Mr. Hasan Siddiqui, Ms Andrea Thyret-Kidd (University Secretary), Ms Christine Richard (Associate University Secretary), Ms Alysha Sless (Governance Coordinator), Ms Kelly Snow (Governance Coordinator)

OBSERVERS: Dr. Adrienne Xavier, Ms Andrea Farquhar, Dr. Arig al Shaibah, Mr. Denver Della-Vedova, Ms Carolyn Brendon, Ms Esme Davies, Dr. Jean Wilson, Dr. Nicholas Kevlahan, Ms Maya Verma, Ms Melissa Pool, Dr. Peter Mascher, Dr. Sandra Carroll, Mr. Sean Van Koughnett, Dr. Susan Denburg, Ms Vivian Lewis

REGRETS: Dr. Jeff Weitz

INVITED/GUESTS: Ms Debbie Martin, Dr. Kate Whalen, Dr. David Shore, Mr. Aaron Roberts, Mr. James Sikkema, Mr. Michael Schutz, Ms Nancy Doubleday, Ms Nancy McKenzie, Mr. Owen Saull, Mr. Paul Andrews

A. OPEN SESSION

OPENING REMARKS

Dr. Farrar welcomed everyone to the meeting and welcomed those on campus back to McMaster.

Dr. Farrar explained that as Senators are well aware, the last few weeks have seen a gradual, staged return to campus for faculty, students, and staff, with in-person classes now underway for

both undergraduate and graduate students. The University is continuing to focus on addressing health, safety, and wellness concerns as they arise, and is working to provide as much guidance and support to members of our community as possible, as everyone gets used to spending time on campus and seeing one another in person. Questions have arisen particularly with regard to issues of accessibility, testing, masking, and ventilation. To help ensure that people feel as comfortable as possible, the University is offering Level 3 surgical masks free of charge for all students, faculty, and staff who wish to use them. Further information is available on the Back to Mac website. Free rapid antigen tests are also being provided to employees in critical campus areas, including tests for frontline staff and instructors who are supporting the key operational, in-person learning, and research needs of the university.

Dr. Farrar advised that the operational team continues to work through these and other issues and to listen to concerns and provide responses as quickly as possible. Information is also being made available and regularly updated regarding practical issues ranging from parking, food and dining options, library hours, and recreational facilities. It is a period of adjustment for the entire community and the University leadership recognizes that there are many challenges still to be overcome as we work to transition back to in-person teaching and learning, navigate a campus that is new or unfamiliar to many, and meet classmates and colleagues in person, perhaps for the first time. Dr. Farrar noted that as we move through this transition as a community, it is important that we continue to support one another, exercise compassion and understanding, and try to remain as flexible as possible. Questions will continue to arise, and they will not necessarily have the answers right away, but they are committed to providing all the information needed to support our community and make this a successful return to campus.

A member noted that the Provincial Minister of Health announced this afternoon that free rapid tests would be available to everyone through grocery stores and pharmacies. Ms Fazilat added that the University had ordered tests in December when supply was limited and has put a hold on the second order.

A member voiced concerns around students not following the mask mandates in study halls and the library and that it is making other students worried. Dr. Tighe explained that there have been a number of follow-ups within the library to ensure that everyone is wearing masks.

Dr. Farrar advised that February is Black History Month (BHM), an important time when we recognize and celebrate the contributions and achievements of Black and African diasporic peoples. The Black History Month Planning Committee, in partnership with the Equity and Inclusion Office and other partners throughout McMaster, are holding virtual and in-person events throughout the month. Details are available on the Daily News and are being widely publicized across the campus. Senators are welcome and encouraged to attend.

1 APPROVAL OF AGENDA – OPEN SESSION

Dr. Farrar confirmed that no requests had been received to move items from the Consent to the Regular agenda of the Open Session.

It was duly moved and seconded,

that Senate approve the Open Session agenda for the meeting of February 9, 2022 and that items 2 and 3 be approved or received by Consent.

The motion was **carried**.

CONSENT

2 MINUTES of the Meeting of January 12, 2022 – Open Session

Motion:

that the minutes of the Open Session portion of the meeting held on January 12, 2022 be approved as circulated.

Approved by Consent.

3 REPORT FROM THE SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- 1. Policy on Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work**
- 2. Sexual Violence Policy**

Received by Consent.

REGULAR

4 BUSINESS ARISING

a. Response to Senate Enquiry

Dr. Farrar reminded Senators of the enquiry that was raised at the January Senate meeting regarding the Discrimination and Harassment Policy and thanked the University Secretary, Ms. Thyret-Kidd, for preparing the response. The item was for information and as the Memo notes, a routine cyclical review of the Discrimination and Harassment policy will begin later this year, at which time any concerns, suggestions for edits, or revisions can be raised and thoroughly discussed. Senators were encouraged to send any comments or suggestions to the Secretariat for inclusion in the review.

A member noted that they now feel uncomfortable having voted on a policy where there was a substantive change when the changes were not outlined. Dr. Farrar explained that the final document and the original document were circulated, and that there were no track changes as it was a substantive rewrite including significant formatting changes. Dr. Farrar noted that they are committed to providing track changes going forward and Ms Thyret-Kidd added that the Secretariat will ensure that memos accompany changes in the future.

A member noted that the response letter did not address the Student Code of Rights and Responsibilities and asked if the response was the same. Ms Thyret-Kidd explained that a similar change was made but that it was reflected in the track changes.

5 ENQUIRIES

There were no enquiries.

6 COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications.

7 REPORT FROM GRADUATE COUNCIL

This report was for information.

8 UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL

Dr. Kim Dej, Acting Vice-Provost, Faculty, presented the report. Dr. Dej noted that the University Planning Committee approved these items this morning and thanked McMaster Continuing Education. Dr. Dej explained that on January 25, 2022 Undergraduate Council approved the following recommendations:

1. Establishment of Certificates and Diploma Programs

- a. Full-Stack Development Diploma.
- b. Certificate of Professional Learning in User Experience and User Interface (UX/UI) Design.
- c. Certificate of Professional Learning in Front-End Development.
- d. Certificate of Professional Learning in Back-End Development.

It was duly moved and seconded.

that Senate approve the establishment of the Full-Stack Development Diploma, as set out in the attached.

The motion was **carried**.

It was duly moved and seconded,

that Senate approve the establishment of the Certificate of Professional Learning in User Experience and User Interface (UX/UI) Design, the Certificate of Professional Learning in Front-End Development and the Certificate of Professional Learning in Back-End Development.

A question was asked regarding the programs being separated. Dr. Dej explained that they are separated because adult learners appreciate the smaller course.

The motion was **carried**.

2. Curriculum Revisions for Inclusion in the 2022-2023 Undergraduate Calendar

Dr. Dej explained that at the same meeting on January 25, 2022, Undergraduate Council approved for recommendation to Senate, the major curriculum revisions from:

- a. Arts & Science Program**
- b. Faculty of Health Sciences**
- c. Faculty of Science**
- d. Faculty of Social Sciences**
- e. Glossary, General Academic Regulations**

for inclusion in the 2022-2023 Undergraduate Calendar. The University Planning Committee met this morning and approved items a. and c. The following omnibus motion was presented:

It was duly moved and seconded,

that that the Senate approve all programs and major revisions for inclusion in the 2022-2023 Undergraduate Calendar.

The motion was **carried**.

The remainder of items were for information.

3. Policy on Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work – Winter 2022 Term

4. Terms of Award

5. Curriculum Revisions for Inclusion in the 2022-2023 Undergraduate Calendar

9 REPORT FROM THE UNIVERSITY PLANNING COMMITTEE

Dr. Susan Tighe, Provost and Vice-President (Academic), presented the report.

At its meeting of January 19, 2022, the University Planning Committee approved the following items and now recommends them to Senate:

1. Proposal for McMaster Institute for Research on Aging| Dixon Hall Centre (MIRA|DH)

It was duly moved and seconded,

that Senate approve, for recommendation to the Board of Governors, the establishment of the McMaster Institute for Research on Aging | Dixon Hall Centre (MIRA|DH), as circulated.

The motion was **carried**.

2. Closure of Certificate and Diploma Programs

It was duly moved and seconded,

that Senate approve the closure of the Certificate in Metallurgy of Iron and Steel, as set out in the attached.

The motion was **carried**.

10 REPORT FROM THE COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS

Dr. Todd Hoare, Chair of the Committee on Appointments, presented the reports.

On January 17, 2022, the Committee on Appointments approved the following recommendations and now recommends them to Senate for approval:

1. Terms of Reference

a. Revised Terms of Reference – Hannah Chair

It was duly moved and seconded,

that Senate approve the proposed revisions to the Hannah Chair Terms of Reference, as circulated.

The motion was **carried**.

2. SPS B13 Revisions

Dr. Hoare explained that the proposed revisions provide clarity to the language in the policy and proposes inclusion of all faculty members appointed as of June 30, 2022.

It was duly moved and seconded,

that Senate approve, for recommendation to the Board of Governors, the proposed revisions to SPS B13 Extension of Timeline for Academic Assessments in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic, effective March 3, 2022.

A member noted that some faculty did not take the extension when they came up for renewal and asked if they are still able to take the extension. Dr. Hoare confirmed they still have the opportunity to use the extension.

The motion was **carried**.

11 OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.