

McMaster University

SENATE MINUTES

VOL. CIII

Wednesday, May 18, 2022 at 3:30 p.m.

Zoom

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**PRESENT:** Dr. Anna Danielova, Dr. Chandrima Chakraborty, Dr. Chris Sinding, Dr. David Farrar, Dr. Dina Brooks, Dr. Doug Welch, Mr. Findley McSevney, Dr. Gregory Hooks, Ms Haleigh Wallace, Dr. Heather Sheardown, Dr. Jeff Weitz, Dr. Jeremiah Hurley, Mr. Jim McCaughey, Dr. Judy Fudge, Dr. Juliet Daniel, 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. Maureen MacDonald, Dr. Michael McGillion, Dr. Nikolai Penner, Dr. Paul O’Byrne, Dr. Phil Zylla, Dr. Rick Monture, Ms Sarrah Lal, Ms Shaden Ahmed, Dr. Stephanie Springgay, Dr. Sue McCracken, Ms Susan Galloway, Dr. Susan Tighe, Dr. Todd Hoare, Ms Andrea Thyret-Kidd (University Secretary), Ms Christine Richard (Associate University Secretary), Ms Alysha Sless (Assistant University Secretary)

**OBSERVERS:** Ms Carolyn Brendon, Ms Esme Davies, Dr. Jean Wilson, Ms Melissa Pool, Dr. Nicholas Kevlahan, Dr. Peter Mascher, Dr. Sandra Carroll, Mr. Sean Van Koughnett, Dr. Susan Denburg, Ms Vivian Lewis

**REGRETS:** Ms Beth Manganeli Staite, Ms Debbie Martin, Mr. Hasan Siddiqui, Dr. Karen Kidd, Dr. Karen Mossman, Dr. Melinda Gough, Dr. Pamela Swett, Dr. Peter Graefe, Ms Saher Fazilat,

**INVITED/GUESTS:** Dr. Kim Mason, Dr. Andy Knights

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**A. OPEN SESSION**

**OPENING REMARKS**

Dr. Farrar informed members that the University is continuing to monitor the pandemic and required safety measures. Senators received an email update yesterday confirming that the mask mandate will be paused as of June 1, 2022. Although masks will not be required, members of McMaster’s community are encouraged to wear masks when indoors, or when in close proximity to others while outdoors. Free Level 3 surgical masks are still available at several locations, including the Campus Store.

As of May 1, 2022, the vaccination mandate was paused for staff, faculty, students, and visitors. Since vaccination continues to be important to reducing the impact of the pandemic, community members are encouraged to get booster shots and to keep their vaccination records up to date

through MacCheck. Dr. Farrar added that members of our community are also asked to continue using the COVID-19 Self-Assessment tool and to follow any direction provided. As a reminder, if you are feeling unwell, please stay at home. The University will continue monitoring this evolving situation, as well as Public Health and government requirements, and will share any further updates over the summer months.

A member requested more context on the decision to pause the mask mandate. Dr. Tighe explained that they received advice from Public Health. Dr. O’Byrne added that there was a thorough and careful period of consideration and that decisions were made based on recommendations from Public Health and the lessening of pressures on the hospital systems.

Dr. Farrar explained that the provincial budget was released in late April but will not be passed until after the election on June 2, 2022. There are a few elements that Senators might be interested in:

#### Postsecondary Education/Research

- No changes have been made to overall postsecondary operating funding. A tuition framework freeze for 2022-23 was announced in advance of the budget.
- Investments have been made in targeted areas, including:
  - \$142 million over three years to provide additional supports for nursing-related programs and to expand the number of medical school graduates; and
  - \$55 million over three years to invest more in research and innovation to support productivity, economic growth, and address current and future pandemic preparedness.
- The government has also invested \$9 million over three years to support the nine Indigenous-governed-and-operated Indigenous Institutes.
- Colleges have been given enhanced degree granting abilities, including new, three-year applied degrees and additional four-year degree programs.
- In March 2022, the Ontario government announced the creation of Intellectual Property Ontario. The agency will serve as a resource for IP expertise to help postsecondary institutions, researchers, and companies maximize the value of their IP.

#### Economic Development

- Budget 2022 also lays out a number of items focused on economic development. This includes working collaboratively with the manufacturing industry to develop an Advanced Manufacturing Strategy, as well as targeted support through a new Life Sciences Innovation Program. This program will help Ontario’s small and medium-sized enterprises advance the commercial potential of therapeutics and medical and digital technologies, such as cell therapies, mRNA vaccines and applications of artificial intelligence, to improve diagnosis and treatment of disease.

Dr. Farrar noted that the Government Relations team will monitor the outcome of the election and follow-up when appropriate to build relationships with the new government and promote both McMaster and the needs of the higher education sector.

Senators were reminded that next week we begin our first in-person Convocation ceremonies since the Fall of 2019. Dr. Farrar noted that this is quite a landmark after the last two years and that he is looking forward to being able to meet our graduating students and see them cross the stage after all their hard work and achievements. In addition to the regular series of ceremonies, we are also holding in-person legacy ceremonies for students from the classes of 2020 and 2021, whose convocations were held virtually because of COVID-19 restrictions. Dr. Farrar thanked the Registrar's Office for the extraordinary amount of work to prepare for all these events.

Dr. Farrar expressed that we were all horrified this week by the mass shooting in Buffalo. These tragic events remind us how critical it is to press ahead with efforts to educate, resist, and eradicate systemic racism. Just a few days ago, EDI leads from Canadian universities met to advance the Scarborough Charter on Anti-Black Racism and Black Inclusion, work that now has an even greater resonance and urgency. As an institution, we remain steadfast in our commitment to addressing racial violence, to redressing systemic racism, and to continuing to support and advance Black excellence.

## **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 May 18, 2022 and that item 2 be approved by Consent.**

The motion was **carried**.

## **CONSENT**

## **2 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF APRIL 13, 2022 – OPEN SESSION**

Motion:

**that the minutes of the Open Session portion of the meeting held on April 13, 2022 be approved as circulated.**

**Approved** by Consent.

## **REGULAR**

## **3 BUSINESS ARISING**

There was no business arising.

## **4 ENQUIRIES**

A member asked how decisions are made to determine which policies are approved by Senate, such as the Discrimination & Harassment Policy, and which are not. The member felt that any policies impacting faculty terms and conditions should be approved by Senate.

Dr. Farrar explained that policies, such as the Discrimination & Harassment Policy, affect the entire community and are typically approved by both the Board of Governors and Senate. Policies relating to the academic community are typically reviewed by Senate and working conditions for faculty are negotiated at the Joint Committee. Concerning the Right to Disconnect Policy, Human Resources lead a process to create a new policy as required by legislation. Conversations were held with MUFA, and it was agreed that the policy would go to the Joint Committee. Ms Thyret-Kidd added that typically Senate manages academic matters, and the Board of Governors manages financial matters. The member noted that they feel there is a lack of clarity around which policies Senate considers.

## 5 COMMUNICATIONS

### a. Institutional Quality Assurance Process Cyclical Program Reviews

Dr. Doug Welch, Vice-Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies, presented the report. Dr. Welch explained that once a year they provide the results of the quality assurance process. The summary outlines the main points from the review and the review includes the Dean's response and provides recommended changes and timelines.

This item was for information.

## 6 REPORT FROM GRADUATE COUNCIL

Dr. Doug Welch, Vice-Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies, presented the report.

### 1. Expansion to Allowed Hours of On-Campus Work for Full-time Graduate Students

Dr. Welch explained that having a restriction on hours for on-campus employment was unreasonable. The changes were circulated to all Deans and Associate Deans and was discussed at Provost Council and reviewed by Human Resources.

It was duly moved and seconded,

**that Senate approve expanding the allowed hours of on-campus work for full-time graduate students, as a one-year pilot effective May 1, 2022, as recommended by Graduate Council.**

Members noted that 20 hours of work is a lot of hours and asked why an exemption (rather than increase to minimum hours) was not implemented. Dr. Welch explained

that if students cannot obtain work on campus they will work outside of McMaster. The motivation is to ensure there is no institutional barrier when work related to studies is available. This is part of a larger set of initiatives, and this change has been done on other campuses and found to be positive.

Members noted their support for the change and stressed the importance of good supervision.

The motion was **carried**.

2. Faculty of Business – M.B.A Program

It was duly moved and seconded,

**that Senate approve the Faculty of Business revisions, for inclusion in the 2022-2023 Graduate Calendar, as recommended by Graduate Council and set out in the attached.**

The motion was **carried**.

3. Faculty of Social Sciences – Master of Public Policy Program

It was duly moved and seconded,

**that Senate approve the Faculty of Social Sciences revisions, for inclusion in the 2022-2023 Graduate Calendar, as recommended by Graduate Council and set out in the attached.**

The motion was **carried**.

The remainder of items were for information.

4. Faculty of Business
5. Faculty of Engineering
6. Faculty of Health Sciences
7. Faculty of Humanities
8. Faculty of Science
9. Faculty of Social Sciences
10. Graduate Calendar Administrative Section Updates

**7 REPORT FROM UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL**

Dr. Kim Dej, Acting Vice-Provost, Faculty, presented the report.

1. Establishment of Certificate & Diploma Programs

Dr. Dej explained that at its April 19, 2022 meeting, Undergraduate Council approved one new concurrent certificate.

- a. Concurrent Certificate in Critical Practice in Child Welfare

It was duly moved and seconded,

**that Senate approve the establishment of the Concurrent Certificate in Critical Practice in Child Welfare, as set out in the attached.**

The motion was **carried**.

The remainder of items were for information.

2. Terms of Award
3. Notice of Undergraduate Program Closures
4. Establishment of New Certificate and Diploma Programs
5. Closure of Certificate and Diploma Programs
6. Establishment of Certificate of Completion Programs
7. New BHSc (Integrated Rehabilitation and Humanities) Program

## **8 REPORT FROM THE UNIVERSITY PLANNING COMMITTEE**

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

1. Research Centres & Institutes Annual Report 2021

Dr. Tighe explained that at its meeting on April 20, 2022, the University Planning Committee received the 2021 Research Centres & Institutes Annual Report.

Dr. Andy Knights, Associate Vice-President, Research, provided an overview of the report. Dr. Knights explained that the Office of the Vice-President of Research was committed to bring forward an annual report on Research Centres & Institutes. They developed a form for all directors to capture key performance indicators and the report presents significant activity, student engagement and cross-disciplinary engagement.

Dr. Farrar thanked the VPR Office for all their work.

This item was for information.

## **9 REPORT FROM THE COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS**

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

### **April SCA Report**

On April 11, 2022, the Committee on Appointments approved the following recommendations and now recommends them to Senate for approval:

**1. Terms of Reference**

- a. Establishment of Associate Dean, Graduate Studies and Associate Dean, Research, DeGroote School of Business

It was duly moved and seconded,

**that Senate approve the establishment of the Associate Dean, Graduate Studies and the Associate Dean, Research, in the DeGroote School of Business, as circulated.**

Dr. Hassanein added that the changes are consistent with four of the other Faculties.

The motion was **carried**.

- b. Establishment of the Stephen A. Jarislowsky Chair in Pandemic Research and Prevention

It was duly moved and seconded,

**that Senate approve for recommendation to the Board of Governors, the establishment of the Stephen A. Jarislowsky Chair in Pandemic Research and Prevention, as circulated.**

The motion was **carried**.

- c. Revised Terms of Reference for the Michael G. DeGroote Chair in Infectious Diseases

It was duly moved and seconded,

**that Senate approve for recommendation to the Board of Governors, the proposed revisions to the Michael G. DeGroote Chair in Infectious Diseases Terms of Reference, as circulated.**

The motion was **carried**.

**May SCA Report**

On May 9, 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 for the Director, Integrated Business and Humanities

It was duly moved and seconded,

**that Senate approve the proposed revisions to the Director, Integrated Business and Humanities Terms of Reference, as circulated.**

The motion was **carried**.

- b. Revised Terms of Reference for the Distinguished Business Research Professor

It was duly moved and seconded,

**that Senate approve the proposed revisions to the Distinguished Business Research Professor Terms of Reference, as circulated.**

The motion was **carried**.

**10 REPORT FROM THE COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Dr. Laura Parker, Chair of the Committee on Academic Integrity, presented the report. Dr. Kim Mason, Academic Integrity Officer, was in attendance to answer questions.

**1. Revisions to the Academic Integrity Policy**

Dr. Parker explained that on April 26, 2022, the Committee on Academic Integrity approved the following revisions to the Academic Integrity Policy concerning contract cheating.

- a. Proposed Addition to Section 18. Academic Dishonesty Offences
- b. Proposed Addition to Appendix 3: Academic Dishonesty Explanations

It was duly moved and seconded,

**that Senate, on the recommendation of the Committee on Academic Integrity, approve the revisions to the Academic Integrity Policy effective July 1, 2022, as circulated.**

The motion was **carried**.

- 2. 2019-2020 Annual Report
- 3. 2020-2021 Annual Report



At the same meeting, the Committee on Academic Integrity received and discussed the two annual reports that are now presented to the Senate for information.

Dr. Parker thanked Ms Mason and noted that these are extraordinary times, and that the workload is higher than typical.

In response to a question regarding the University of Toronto lawsuit concerning contract cheating, Ms Mason explained that a company was using the University of Toronto's materials and providing them to students. McMaster has experienced similar concerns with students using contract cheating and that her office works with the Office of Legal Services on these matters.

Dean MacDonald added that the Council of Ontario Universities (COU) had a discussion regarding contract cheating and that many institutions are concerned that students may give access to internal learning management systems, and to course materials. Ms Mason noted that she sits on the Academic Integrity Committee for Ontario and there is a sub-committee focussed on contract cheating. They are working towards legislation to prohibit these types of companies from operating in Ontario.

## 11 OTHER BUSINESS

### a. Proposed Revisions to the Senate By-Laws

Ms Andrea Thyret-Kidd, University Secretary, presented the item. Ms Thyret-Kidd explained that the proposed edits include updates to titles, the inclusion of gender-neutral language, changes to committee memberships, and the addition of Vice-Chairs on committees.

By-Law changes require approval in principle from Senate, approval from the By-Laws committee and final approval from Senate.

It was duly moved and seconded,

**that the Senate approve in principle, the proposed revisions to the Senate By-Laws and refer the revisions to the By-Laws Committee for review.**

The motion was **carried**.