

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SENATE

VOL.CXXII

Wednesday, April 10, 2024, at 3:30 p.m., Council Chambers, Gilmour Hall 111

PRESENT: David Farrar (Chair), Ahmed Abdalla, Maxwell Altman, Paul Andrews, James Benn, Kusum Bhatta, Mark Boda, Blaise Bourdin, Lorraine Carter, Narat Charupat, Kim Dej, Claudia Emerson, Paul Faure, Carlos Filipe, Saara Greene, Faiza Hirji, Khaled Hassanein, Steve Hranilovic, Jeremiah Hurley, Suleiman Igdoura, Manish Kacker, Andy Knights, Sarrah Lal, Graeme Luke, Maureen MacDonald, Michael McGillion, John Medcof, Rick Monture, Paul O'Byrne, Stacey Ritz, Kalai Saravanamuttu, Chris Sinding, Dennis Souder, Stephanie Springgay, Pamela Swett, Susan Tighe, Mark Walton, Zimo Wang, Renae Watchman, Jeff Weitz, Margaret Zanel, Andrea Thyret-Kidd (*University Secretary*), Michelle Zheng (*Associate University Secretary*), Alysha Sless (*Assistant University Secretary*)

REGRETS: Hfsa Awan, Dina Brooks, Saher Fazilat, Alfonso Iorio, Lili Litwin, Brenda O'Connor, Joëlle Papillon, Heather Sheardown, Eugenia Zuroski

OBSERVERS: Catherine Anderson, Carolyn Brendon, Sandra Carroll, Andrea Farquhar, Vivian Lewis, Jack Mah, Elisabeth Marquis, Dawn Martin-Hill, Gianni Parise, Melissa Pool, Karen Richmond, Sean Van Koughnett, Barrington Walker, Rob Walters

OPEN SESSION

David Farrar welcomed members to the meeting and acknowledged that we meet today on the traditional territories of the Mississauga and Haudenosaunee nations and within the lands protected by the Dish with One Spoon wampum agreement.

At the last meeting, Provost Susan Tighe along with Bernice Downey, Dawn Martin-Hill and IEC Community Co-Chair Mark Hill talked about a new bursary program to support Indigenous students. It is a unique program because it not only assists with tuition, but also helps cover cost-of-living expenses such as housing, childcare, food and transportation. D. Farrar explained that this bursary is an important recognition of the additional financial barriers faced by Indigenous students in accessing and completing university. It also reflects McMaster's deep commitment to supporting the success of Indigenous students, and to fostering greater inclusivity on our campus. This is an important and meaningful program, and D. Farrar thanked everyone involved in developed this bursary, including: Chrissy Doolittle, Dawn Martin-Hill, Alexandra Trottier, Nicole Martin-Enlund, Elya Porter, Sean Van Koughnett, Liz Way and Brad Coburn.

D. Farrar recognized that today is Eid-Al Fitr and Passover begins on April 22 and ends on April 30. D. Farrar wished all those observing a safe and peaceful celebration and reminded the McMaster community members of our foundational commitments to human rights, inclusion, and belonging. Members were advised that a list of resources for the McMaster community are available online.

A few weeks ago, McMaster hosted an innovation and entrepreneurship showcase. It was a terrific event, which featured about 20 startup founders who have benefited from McMaster's innovation ecosystem and a panel discussion with three alumni working in the startup space. It also included a surprise appearance by

John Valliant, Professor of Chemistry and Chemical Biology and founder of Fusion Pharmaceuticals, a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company located at McMaster Innovation Park and McMaster's first unicorn, which recently made international headlines with the news that global pharmaceutical giant AstraZeneca had acquired the company for more than \$2.4 billion US dollars.

D. Farrar explained that McMaster has a long history of translating our research into real-world impact and now we are accelerating our ability to transfer our knowledge. To help support this, we have launched a new website to connect aspiring entrepreneurs with the many resources available. You can visit entrepreneurship@mcmaster.ca to learn more.

As part of this showcase, three McMaster faculty members were named the university's inaugural Professor Entrepreneur Fellows, a new program that provides faculty members with time and resources to pursue an entrepreneurial venture. One of those new fellows is Wael El-Dakhakhni who is also a member of Senate. D. Farrar congratulated W. El-Dakhakhni on this exciting accomplishment.

Last week, D. Farrar had the pleasure of attending the Wilson College of Leadership and Civic Engagement's inaugural public lecture. The event featured Mark Hill, former Elected Chief of Six Nations of the Grand River and IEC Community Co-Chair Steve Paikin, journalist and host of TVO's The Agenda and Medora Uppal, Chief Executive Officer of the YWCA Hamilton. The panel was moderated by Sara Wolfe, a business consultant Executive-in-Residence at the Rotman School of Business and the inaugural External Director of Wilson College, who does not come from what you would think of as the traditional business school model of leadership. S. Wolfe is interested in many different areas, so it was a very interesting discussion.

D. Farrar reported that Gerry Wright, professor in the Department of Biochemistry and Biomedical Sciences, has been awarded the prestigious 2024 Killam Prize. G. Wright also served as the lead of the Global Nexus School of Pandemic Prevention and Response. His work on antimicrobial resistance has produced numerous landmark studies which have shaped the direction of research in his field, and that are helping to combat the serious public health threat posed by antimicrobial resistance.

Senators should have received an email regarding the Nominations for the Senate Representative to the Board of Governors. Nominations are to be received by the University Secretariat no later than Friday, April 19 at 4:00 p.m. and an election will be carried out electronically between April 24-26.

1. Approval of Agenda – Open Session

D. Farrar advised that there was a request to move the January 17, 2024 minutes to the regular agenda.

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Senate approve the Open Session agenda for the meeting of April 10, 2024 and that item 2 be approved by Consent.

The motion was **Carried**.

CONSENT**2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting of March 20, 2024 – Open Session**

Motion:

that the minutes of the Open Session of the meeting held on March 20, 2024 be approved as circulated.

Approved by Consent.

REGULAR**3. Business Arising****1. Minutes of the Previous Meeting of January 17, 2024 – Open Session**

Members considered the January 17, 2024 minutes. A member expressed that they would have liked a reference to a discussion started by a senator's comment around discouraging participation in dissent. The member noted their objection to the minutes.

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the minutes of the Open Session of the meeting held on January 17, 2024 be approved as circulated.

The motion was **Carried**; 3 opposed, 1 abstention.

4. Enquiries

There were no enquiries.

5. Communications**1. Annual Report of the McMaster Research Ethics Board, 2022-2023**

Tara La Rose, McMaster Research Ethics Board *Chair*, presented the report.

T. La Rose explained that the McMaster Research Ethics Board (MREB) consists of knowledgeable and highly skilled individuals. The Board has a trend of chairs and members returning for additional terms which promotes the preservation of institutional memory. T. La Rose provided an overview of the appointment terms, meetings, and educational sessions. MREB is collaborating with Barrington Walker in the assessment of new policies. T. La Rose acknowledged the MREB members who help support researchers' success.

A member raised a question around the tax reporting requirements for research participants noting that there are sensitive situations where participants do not want their names or data to

be known. T. La Rose explained that the policy is still in the design phase and there will be significant changes. A. Knights added that it is an important topic and a working group has been established to review policies at other universities and discuss the changes. A. Knights noted that the challenge is balancing the CRA legal requirements and Tri-Council rules.

A member expressed that the policy should be brought to the Senate for approval because it intersects with research. Members noted that it is an administrative policy and questioned why it would require the Senate's approval. A. Knights advised that he would consult with the Vice-President, Operations and Finance and the Secretariat for the appropriate approvals.

This item was for information.

2. Strategic Plan

D. Farrar provided members with an update on the Strategic Plan.

D. Farrar explained that the Strategic Plan was developed in 2020 during the pandemic. It consists of five areas: Inclusive Excellence, Teaching and Learning, Research and Scholarship, Engaging Local, National, Indigenous and Global Communities, and Operational Excellence. The plan is to continue with the five areas and develop two major aspects of focus for each of the areas to be worked on over the next two years. That will provide focus through the end of D. Farrar's term and to the end of the first year of the incoming President's appointment. Alex Usher from Higher Education Strategy Associates is assisting with the work and consultations with the community are underway.

A member suggested looking at Tribal Colleges and Universities.

This item was for information.

3. Task Force on Graduate Funding Report

Steve Hranilovic, *Vice-Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies*, presented the report.

S. Hranilovic noted that graduate students are the core of the institution and graduate funding is provided in recognition of the role. A Task Force was launched over a year ago, at the request of the Provost, in response to affordability challenges. After engagement with the community, the final report was submitted to the Provost and will be presented at Graduate Council next week. S. Hranilovic provided an overview of the five key themes in the report, and noted that the biggest outcome of the process were the discussions and the community that was formed. S. Hranilovic thanked everyone who participated, the graduate students who shared feedback and were partners in the process, the faculty, staff and Associate Deans.

Members asked questions around the continuance of the Task Force, the inclusion of more members, and around accountability and updates. S. Hranilovic explained that the work of the Task Force is finished and going forward, a Graduate Council committee will be formed that

includes elected members from Graduate Council. The committee will provide regular updates to the Senate for information through Graduate Council.

A question was raised around the minimum funding levels for Masters students, the barriers it creates and how data will be shared. S. Hranilovic explained that privacy is important and that aggregated data was shared at the faculty level. No peer institutions in Canada are sharing this data and McMaster is the first. S. Hranilovic noted that the source of funds has to be acknowledged and there are remarkable differences amongst Faculties. Some Faculties have a minimum for Masters students but not all do. A member noted that more money is needed from granting agencies and lobbying is important. D. Farrar noted that the U15 are lobbying for scholarships for graduate students and research funding.

This item was for information.

4. Report from the Vice-President, Research

Andy Knights, *Acting Vice-President, Research*, presented the report.

A. Knights provide an update on the two new Associate Vice-Presidents and the progress they are making in their areas. A. Knights noted that the Seed Fund is now in the fourth round and \$2.7 million has been invested in eight startups in the first three rounds. Members were provided with an overview of the Societal Impact area. A. Knights added that the Strategic Research Plan will be brought forward to the Senate.

A question was asked regarding whether the McMaster Innovation Park (MIP) is bringing in resources. A. Knights explained that there is an ongoing process around the role of MIP. It crosses into the research mandate and other aspects of the University. A. Knights advised that it will be brought forward at a later date. There is a lot of attention being paid to the park and it will be an innovation park for Mac by Mac.

This item was for information.

6. Report from Graduate Council

Steve Hranilovic, *Vice-Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies*, presented the report.

S. Hranilovic explained that at its meeting on March 19, 2024, Graduate Council approved the following changes:

1. Curriculum Revisions

- a. Faculty of Business
 - i. Master of Finance
 - ii. Graduate Diploma in Professional Accountancy
 - iii. Master of Business Administration, Co-op
 - iv. Master of Business Administration, Full-Time
 - v. Master of Business Administration

- b. Faculty of Science
 - i. Chemistry M.Sc.

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Senate approve the Faculties of Business and Science curriculum revisions, for inclusion in the 2024-2025 Graduate Calendar, as circulated.

The motion was **Carried**.

The remainder of items were for information.

- 2. **Curriculum Revisions**
- 3. **New Awards**

7. **Report from Undergraduate Council**

Kim Dej, *Chair of Undergraduate Council*, presented the report.

1. **New Non-Academic Microcredential in Engaging and Partnering for People-Centred Care**

At the meeting held on February 27, 2024, the Undergraduate Council reviewed and approved the new Non-Academic Microcredential in Engaging and Partnering for People-Centred Care. While normally non-academic microcredentials would be reported for information to the Undergraduate Council, the Faculty of Health Sciences made a submission to the University Student Fees Committee and as such, requires approval of the Senate.

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Senate approve the establishment of the Non-Academic Microcredential in Engaging and Partnering for People-Centred Care, as circulated.

The motion was **Carried**.

2. **New Program Proposal: Combined Honours in Leadership and Civic Studies and Another Subject**

At the meeting held on March 26, 2024, the Undergraduate Council reviewed and approved the proposal for the Combined Honours in Leadership and Civic Studies and Another Subject degree program for inclusion in the 2025-2026 Undergraduate Calendar. This is the Wilson College curriculum approvals that Deans Hurley and Swett referenced at the last Senate meeting.

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Senate approve the establishment of the Combined Honours in Leadership and Civic Studies and Another Subject degree program for inclusion in the 2025-2026 Undergraduate Calendar, and as circulated.

The motion was **Carried**.

3. Curriculum Revisions for Inclusion in the 2024-2025 Undergraduate Calendar

At the meeting held on March 26, 2024, the Undergraduate Council reviewed and approved revisions to the Academic General Regulations as proposed by the Faculty of Social Sciences. The revision includes a cap on number of required courses for program completion.

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Senate approve the revisions to the Faculty of Social Sciences' Academic General Regulations for inclusion in the 2024-2025 Undergraduate Calendar, as circulated.

The motion was **Carried**.

4. Revisions to the Policy on Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work

At the same meeting, the Undergraduate Council reviewed a set of proposed revisions to the Policy on Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work, which included the name change of the policy. Senators were reminded that the policy was sent to the March Senate meeting for information and members were asked to provide their feedback. K. Dej noted that no feedback or questions were received from Senators. The tracked changes version in the materials reflects the changes from the version previously circulated in the March Senate package.

K. Dej explained that the revised version includes a duplication of the language. The requirement of speaking to an academic advisor for 35% of missed work was added to the student report to ensure students see it. K. Dej noted that she reached out to MUFA and Joint Committee and because the revisions were minor, they felt it did not require a discussion.

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Senate approve the revisions to the Policy on Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work, including the name change of the policy, effective July 1, 2024 and as circulated.

The motion was **Carried**.

The remainder of items were for information.

5. **Terms of Award**
6. **Minor Curriculum Revisions for Inclusion in the 2024-2025 Undergraduate Calendar**
8. **Report from the University Planning Committee**

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

1. **Proposal to Establish the Firestone Institute for Respiratory Health (FIRH)**

At its meeting on March 27, 2024, the University Planning Committee approved the proposal to establish the Firestone Institute for Respiratory Health (FIRH).

S. Tighe invited Paul O'Byrne to speak to the new institute.

P. O'Byrne explained that the Firestone Institute is not new. It was developed in 1998 as a hospital institute combining clinical entity with clinical and basic science and P. O'Byrne was the first director of the institute. The institute is now being put forward as a hospital and university institute.

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Senate approve the establishment of the Firestone Institute for Respiratory Health (FIRH), as circulated.

The motion was **Carried**.

2. **Closure of the Fraunhofer Project Centre for Biomedical Engineering in Advanced Manufacturing (BEAM)**

At the same meeting, the University Planning Committee approved the closure of the Fraunhofer Project Centre for Biomedical Engineering in Advanced Manufacturing (BEAM).

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Senate approve the closure of the Fraunhofer Project Centre for Biomedical Engineering and Advanced Manufacturing (BEAM), as circulated.

In response to a question regarding the facility, Gianni Parise explained that the infrastructure was accessible to all faculty members and the space at MIP is being used by other tenants.

The motion was **Carried**.

The remainder of items were for information and were presented for approval through Undergraduate Council.

3. **New Non-Academic Microcredential Program: Engaging and Partnering for People-Centred Care**
4. **New Program Proposal: Combined Honors in Leadership and Civic Studies and Another Subject**

9. **Report from the Committee on Appointments**

Jeff Weitz, *Member of the Senate Committee on Appointments*, presented the report.

J. Weitz explained that at its meeting on March 25, 2024, the Committee on Appointments approved the following recommendation and now recommends it to Senate for approval:

1. **Terms of Reference**

- a. Revised Terms of Reference and Name Change - Teresa Cascioli Chair in Entrepreneurial Leadership

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Senate approve, for recommendation to the Board of Governors, the revised terms of reference for the Teresa Cascioli Chair in Entrepreneurial Leadership and the name change to the Chair in Entrepreneurial Leadership, as circulated.

The motion was **Carried**.

10. **Report from the Committee on By-Laws**

Stephanie Springgay, *Chair of the Committee on By-Laws*, presented the report.

Senate accepted the Notice of Motion for amendments to the Terms of Reference for both the Committee on Honorary Degrees and the Committee on Student Affairs at its meeting on March 20, 2024.

1. **Terms of Reference – Committee on Honorary Degrees**

At its meeting on March 28, 2024, the Committee reviewed and recommended that Senate approve the revisions to the Committee on Honorary Degrees Terms of Reference.

The Committee made an additional revision to the committee membership and specified that the faculty members are Senators.

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Senate, on the recommendation of the Committee on By-Laws, approve the proposed revisions to the Committee on Honorary Degrees Terms of Reference, as circulated.

The motion was **Carried**.

2. Terms of Reference – Committee on Student Affairs

At the same meeting, the Committee reviewed and recommended that Senate approve the revisions to the Committee on Student Affairs Terms of Reference.

The Committee made an additional revision to the committee membership and clarified that the MAPS President, who is a consultant, can send a delegate but that it needs to be a student delegate, not an administrator.

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Senate, on the recommendation of the Committee on By-Laws, approve the proposed revisions to the Committee on Student Affairs Terms of Reference, as circulated.

The motion was **Carried**.

11. Report from the Committee on Student Affairs

Sean Van Koughnett, *Chair of the Senate Committee on Student Affairs*, present the report.

1. 2024-2025 Residence Agreement/Contract

- a. 2024-2025 Residence Agreement/Contract (New Agreement)
- b. 2023-2024 Residence Agreement/Contract (Previous Agreement)

S. Van Koughnett explained that at its meeting on March 27, 2024 the Committee on Student Affairs met and considered amendments to the Residence Agreement/Contract. Amendments included updates to dates and times, and language around COVID-19. The Committee had further feedback for Sections 11 and 12 Communicable/Infectious Diseases, and the additional revisions were approved by e-vote on April 5, 2024.

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Senate approve the 2024-2025 Residence Agreement/Contract.

In response to a question regarding residence eligibility for first year students and the suggestion of having a lottery system, S. Van Koughnett explained that the University is not able to offer residence to all first-year students at this time. A lottery system has been considered over the years but due to a number of factors, including trying to recruit the best students and practical matters around operations, it has not been implemented. S. Van Koughnett noted that the process is open for discussion and could be brought to the Deputy Provost. The member commented that since all students have been admitted to

McMaster, and McMaster has a mission for inclusive excellence, it should be a lottery system.

S. Van Koughnett noted that once Lincoln Alexander Hall opens a first year residence guarantee will be possible, unless enrolment grows.

The motion was **Carried**.

12. Other Business

There was no other business.