

McMaster University

SENATE MINUTES

VOL. CVII

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

Via Zoom

PRESENT: Dr. David Farrar, Mr. Ahmed Abdalla, Dr. Alfonso Iorio, Ms Brenda O'Connor, Dr. Brenda Vrkljan, Dr. Chris Sinding, Dr. Claudia Emerson, Dr. Dina Brooks, Mr. Findley McSevney, Ms Heva Olfman, Dr. Jeff Weitz, Dr. Jeremiah Hurley, Mr. Jim McCaughey, Dr. Joëlle Papillon, Dr. Kalai Saravanamuttu, Dr. Karen Mossman, Dr. Khaled Hassanein, Dr. Kim Dej, Dr. Lorraine Carter, Dr. Maikel Rheinstadter, Dr. Manaf Zargoush, Dr. Mark Boda, Mr. Mark Fahmy, Dr. Mark Walton, Dr. Maureen MacDonald, Dr. Mehdi Narimani, Dr. Melinda Gough, Dr. Narat Charupat, Dr. Nathan Andrews, Dr. Pamela Swett, Dr. Paul Andrews, Dr. Paul Faure, Dr. Paul Higgs, Dr. Paul O'Byrne, Dr. Rick Monture, Ms Saher Fazilat, Dr. Steve Hranilovic, Dr. Sue McCracken, Dr. Todd Hoare, Ms Andrea Thyret-Kidd (University Secretary), Ms Christine Richard (Associate University Secretary), Ms Alysha Sless (Assistant University Secretary)

OBSERVERS: Ms Andrea Farquhar, Ms Carolyn Brendon, Dr. Elisabeth Marquis, Dr. Katherine Cuff, Dr. Matheus Grasselli, Ms Melissa Pool, Mr. Rob Walters, Dr. Sandra Carroll, Dr. Steven Bray, Dr. Susan Denburg

REGRETS: Dr. Nikolai Penner, Dr. Michael McGillion, Dr. Hendrik Poinar, Dr. Susan Tighe, Dr. James Benn, Dr. Renae Watchman, Dr. Deborah Sloboda, Dr. Pau Pujolas, Ms Gloria Van, Dr. Stephanie Springgay, Ms Zahrah Talawala, Ms Debbie Martin, Dr. Lia Bronsard

A. OPEN SESSION

OPENING REMARKS

Dr. Farrar welcomed members to the meeting and acknowledged that today we are meeting on the traditional territories of the Mississauga and Haudenosaunee nations, within the lands protected by the Dish with One Spoon Wampum Covenant. At the last meeting, Dr. Farrar mentioned that he would be seeking guidance from the Indigenous Education Council (IEC) on how to incorporate a land acknowledgement into recurring meetings. Dr. Farrar will be meeting with the IEC on November 23 and is looking forward to listening to their advice and reporting back to the Senate.

Dr. Rick Monture provided members with an overview of the wampum belt that is displayed in the Council Chambers room and explained that the wampum belt was given by Six Nations Polytechnic President, Rebecca Jamieson in 2014, and is meant to symbolize the relationship of educational partnership between McMaster and Six Nations Polytechnic. The design is based on

the Silver Covenant Chain, or Friendship Belt, that was given by the Haudenosaunee to the British Crown around 1647 in New York State. This belt consisted of two figures that represent the Haudenosaunee and the British and the agreement that unites them, one based upon peace, respect, and open communication. If one of our nations wished to call a council to discuss a matter of concern, they would invite the other to a meeting to resolve the situation to mutual agreement and satisfaction. This political relationship exists to this day – at least in the understanding of the Haudenosaunee.

Dr. Monture added that the wampum belt in Council Chambers symbolizes this spirit and intent of friendship and open dialogue that shall exist between McMaster University and Six Nations Polytechnic, a relationship that has been in existence since 1992. The third figure in the middle represents our students (Indigenous and non-Indigenous) who will benefit from our mutual responsibilities to use good words and kind actions in our educational practice. The presence of the belt serves as a continual reminder of our important, collective responsibility now and in the years to come.

Dr. Farrar explained that sustainability in all its forms, is a key component of McMaster’s strategic plan. McMaster recently released its second annual Sustainability Report, which highlights the initiatives and accomplishments of students, faculty and staff who are working to address climate change and advance the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals.

Initiatives include:

- The launch of the Community Fridge, a food donation program that has been running for six months and addresses food insecurity within our campus community. It is located just outside the McMaster University Student Centre.
- The ACCESS Tech donation drive, which encourages our community to bring in their used technology to donate to Hamiltonians in need.
- The installation of electric boilers on campus to reduce our carbon footprint.

Over the weekend, Dr. Farrar attended a tree planting event for the McMaster Carbon Sink Forest, located beside the McMaster Forest. Members of the McMaster and Hamilton communities planted an additional 300 trees in the forest, which captures and stores carbon dioxide to help mitigate the effects of climate change. It also includes research projects that, among other things, measure how much carbon is being captured.

Dr. Farrar noted that the Faculty of Humanities’ Career Apprenticeship Program has won global recognition by receiving the prestigious “Excellence in Innovation” Award from the International Economic Development Council. The program is a partnership between the Faculty, our Alumni office, the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce, and the Hamilton Economic Development Office. It is funded by McMaster donor Alan Rottenberg. Dr. Farrar congratulated the Faculty of Humanities on this award and noted that it is great to see Humanities graduates succeeding in this way and contributing to our region’s prosperity and growth.

A couple of weeks ago, Dr. Farrar also attended the annual Gairdner Awards to watch McMaster’s Deborah Cook receive the prestigious 2022 Canada Gairdner Wightman Award. The

award celebrates researchers whose discoveries have had a major impact on scientific progress and human health.

Dr. Farrar reminded Senators that innovation and commercialization of research is a key priority for McMaster. Recently, adMare BioInnovations, a non-profit organization that provides funding and scientific and research support for projects with strong commercialization potential, entered into a partnership with McMaster. As part of this partnership, adMare will be working with Dr. Sheila Singh, Professor in the Department of Surgery, Division of Neurosurgery and Dr. Jakob Magolan, Associate Professor in the Department of Biochemistry and Biomedical Sciences to translate their clinical research program into a targeted therapy that could prevent the formation of metastasis in patients with brain cancer. The development of this technology will form the basis of a new Canadian biotech company. McMaster is becoming very active in the area of start-ups and commercialization, and this new partnership is an exciting part of that.

On November 1, Dr. Farrar took part in a Queen's Park Day organized by McMaster's Public Affairs team. There were meetings with a number of key staff, deputy ministers and government ministers, including the Minister of Colleges and Universities Jill Dunlop and the Minister of Finance, Peter Bethlenfalvy. Dr. Farrar explained that they raised a number of important issues including fiscal sustainability, Canada's Global Nexus for Pandemics and Biological Threats and our nuclear research. A reception was held for MPPs and senior government officials which was well-attended and included some of our students and Deans.

The October 24th municipal election resulted in a new mayor and 9 new councillors. McMaster sent a letter of congratulations to Hamilton's newly elected mayor, Andrea Horwath who is also a McMaster grad.

Dr. Farrar highlighted the federal government's fall economic statement which includes a number of items that are relevant and important to highlight. The government announced that all Canada Student Loans will be permanently interest-free. They have also put a substantial amount of money into modernizing the National Research Council's scientific infrastructure to help support Canadian innovation. They have put money into research and innovation, particularly around electricity generation such as electricity storage systems and small nuclear reactors. The statement also mentioned the establishment of the Canadian Innovation and Investment Agency and the government's commitment to invest \$1 billion over five years to support its initial operations. Dr. Farrar added that the federal government has prioritized immigration as a key factor for Canada's economic future and is also exploring a new global trade relations strategy.

Dr. Farrar explained that senior leaders continue to be pleased with how the community has managed the return to campus, which continues to be based on advice from public health and from our internal experts. McMaster has always strongly encouraged masking as one of the best ways to protect yourself and others from COVID-19 and other respiratory disease. There has been no change to public health guidelines, and our internal experts are recommending that we continue with our current approach. Dr. Farrar noted that while there has been a masking change at some institutions in our sector, we will continue to rely on the advice from public health and our internal experts.

Dr. Farrar introduced and welcomed the following new members:

Faculty of Business: Dr. Manaf Zargoush
Faculty of Social Sciences: Dr. Pau Pujolas, Dr. Renae Watchmen, Dr. James Benn
Undergraduate Students: Mr. Mark Fahmy, Ms Zahrah Talawala
Graduate Students: Ms Gloria Van

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 November 9, 2022 and that item 2 be approved by Consent.

The motion was **carried**.

CONSENT

2 MINUTES of the Meeting of October 19, 2022 – Open Session

Motion:

that the minutes of the Open Session of the meeting held on October 19, 2022 be approved as circulated.

Approved by Consent.

REGULAR

3 BUSINESS ARISING

There was no business arising.

4 ENQUIRIES

There were no enquiries.

5 COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications.

6 REPORT FROM GRADUATE COUNCIL

This item was for information.

7 REPORT FROM THE UNIVERSITY PLANNING COMMITTEE

Dr. Steve Hranilovic, member of the University Planning Committee, presented the report.

At its meeting on October 19, 2022, the University Planning Committee approved the following recommendations and now recommends them to Senate for approval or information:

1. Proposal for the Creation of the Wilson College of Leadership and Civic Engagement

Dr. Hranilovic explained that the proposal is for the creation of a new joint program from the Faculties of Humanities and Social Sciences entitled Wilson College of Leadership and Civic Engagement.

It was duly moved and seconded,

that Senate approve, for recommendation to the Board of Governors, the creation of Wilson College to function as a program, as circulated.

The motion was **carried**.

2. Proposal for the Centre for Advanced Research for Mental Health and Society

Dr. Hranilovic explained that the purpose of the Centre for Advanced Research on Mental Health and Society (ARMS) is to lead the way for mental health research in the social sciences. The interdisciplinary Centre will encourage collaboration between health sciences, social sciences, and community engaged perspectives.

It was duly moved and seconded,

that Senate approve, for recommendation to the Board of Governors, the establishment of the Centre for Advanced Research for Mental Health and Society (ARMS), as circulated.

The motion was **carried**.

3. Name Change Proposal

Dr. Hranilovic explained that the rationale for the change is that the name “Classics” is not sufficiently representative of what the department does and what it offers to students in its programs (and to students outside the program and the faculty).

It was duly moved and seconded,

that Senate approve, for recommendation to the Board of Governors, the name change of the *Department of Classics* to the *Department of Greek and Roman Studies*.

The motion was **carried**.

The remainder of items were for information.

4. Report from Undergraduate Council
5. McMaster Accessibility Council 2021 Annual Report

8 REPORT FROM THE COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS

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

On October 24, 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 – Associate Dean, Academic, Faculty of Engineering

It was duly moved and seconded,

that Senate approve the revised terms of the reference for the Associate Dean, Academic, Faculty of Engineering, as circulated.

Members discussed the title of the position, Associate Dean, Academic, as it gives the perception that other positions are not academic. Dr. MacDonald explained that this position is appropriate and is in line with the same position in other Faculties. Dr. Farrar advised that he will ensure that the Provost is aware of the discussion.

The motion was **carried**.

- b. Revised Terms of Reference – Chair in Infection and Anti-Infective Research

It was duly moved and seconded,

that Senate approve the revised terms of reference for the Chair in Infection and Anti-Infective Research, as circulated.

The motion was **carried**.

- c. Terms of Reference – Establishment of the Associate Vice-President Research (Society and Impact)

It was duly moved and seconded,

that Senate approve the establishment of the Associate Vice-President Research (Society and Impact), as circulated.

The motion was **carried**.

- d. Terms of Reference – Establishment of the Academic Director, Wilson College for Leadership and Civic Engagement

It was duly moved and seconded,

that Senate approve the establishment of the Academic Director, Wilson College for Leadership and Civic Engagement, as circulated.

The motion was **carried**.

- e. Terms of Reference – Establishment of the Endowed Wilson Chair in Leadership and Civic Studies

It was duly moved and seconded,

that Senate approve the establishment of the Endowed Wilson Chair in Leadership and Civic Studies, as circulated.

The motion was **carried**.

9 OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.