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MEETING MINUTES OF THE UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL

Tuesday, January 27, 2026 at 2:30 p.m.
Gilmour Hall, Council Room (Room 111)

Attendance: Kim Dej (*Chair)*, Blake Clayton, Sean Corner, Rosa da Silva, Gonzalo Dejo Mau, Sarah Dickson-Anderson, Darran Fernandez, Mohammed Hussein, Ayesha Khan, Karen McGarry, Caitlin Mullarkey, Beth Marquis, Eliza Ritchie, Aaron Schat, Mohammad Salhia, Rob Whyte, Michelle Zheng (*Associate University Secretary*), Kelly Snow (*Assistant University Secretary*)

Consultants: Jordan Charron, Carolyn Brendon, Lynn Giordano, Amy Gullage, Carla Hodal, Jennifer Hamilton, Cathy Mackenzie, Liz Maguire, Sarah Robinson, Greg Rombough, Maria White

Invited: Laurel Yates, Student Representative

Regrets: Zubair Azizi, Elliot Gorman, Yasmeen Mirza, Sean Van Koughnett

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1. Call to Order

Kim Dej, *Chair of the Undergraduate Council,* called the meeting to order.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting - December 9, 2025

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Undergraduate Council approve the minutes of the meeting held on December 9, 2025, as circulated.

The motion was ***Carried.***

3. Business Arising

There was no business arising.

4. Chair's Remarks

No remarks were offered.

5. Report from the Executive Committee

K. Dej presented the Committee's report.

1. Updated 2025-2026 Committee Memberships

Via an electronic vote held from January 19–22, 2026, the Undergraduate Council Executive Committee approved revisions to committee memberships for the 2025–2026 academic year on behalf of the Undergraduate Council.

These revisions include Rita Cossa's appointment to the Quality Assurance Committee to fill a recent vacancy, as well as Laurel Yates' appointment to the Curriculum & Admissions Committee following the resignation of the previous student representative from the Faculty of Business. Laurel Yates' appointment to the Undergraduate Council was still pending Senate approval on February 11, 2026.

This item was for information only.

6. Report from the Awards Committee

Rosa da Silva, *Chair of the Awards Committee,* presented the report.

1. Terms of Award

At its meeting on January 13, 2026, the Undergraduate Council Awards Committee reviewed and approved terms of awards for recommendation to the Undergraduate Council.

a. Proposed New Awards
b. Proposed New Bursaries
c. Changes to Award Terms
d. Changes to Bursary Terms
e. Awards to be Removed from the Undergraduate Calendar
f. Award Name Changes (for information only)

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Undergraduate Council approve the recommendations contained in the Report from the Office of the Registrar & Financial Support, as circulated.

The motion was ***Carried.***

7. Report from the Joint Committee on Certificates, Diplomas and Microcredentials

Aaron Schat, *Chair of the Joint Committee on Certificates, Diplomas and Microcredentials,* presented the report.

1. New and Revised Concurrent Certificate Programs

At its meeting on January 13, 2026, the Joint Committee on Certificates, Diplomas and Microcredentials reviewed and approved new concurrent certificates from the Faculties of Social Sciences, Science, Health Sciences and Humanities. The Committee also approved minor revisions to existing certificates and diplomas.

a. Faculty of Social Sciences

Karen McGarry**,** *Associate Dean, Undergraduate Studies*, provided a brief overview of the concurrent certificate programs.

New:

- New Concurrent Certificate in the Cultural Perceptions of Death
- New Concurrent Certificate in Indigenous Knowledges, Ecosystems & Society
- New Concurrent Certificate in Child and Youth Education for Social Sciences
- Concurrent Certificate in Criminology

Revisions:

- Concurrent Certificate in Work and Labour Studies

It was duly moved and seconded,
that the Undergraduate Council approve, for recommendation to the University Planning Committee and the Senate, the establishment of the *Concurrent Certificate in the Cultural Perceptions of Death,* as recommended by the Faculty of Social Sciences for inclusion in the *2026-2027 Undergraduate Calendar*, and as circulated.

The motion was ***Carried.***

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Undergraduate Council approve, for recommendation to the University Planning Committee and the Senate, the establishment of the *Concurrent Certificate in Indigenous Knowledges, Ecosystems & Society*, as recommended by the Faculty of Social Sciences for inclusion in the *2026-2027 Undergraduate Calendar*, and as amended.

There was a small amendment as an earlier title of the certificate had been listed in the requirements.

The motion was ***Carried.***

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Undergraduate Council approve, for recommendation to the University Planning Committee and the Senate, the establishment of the *Concurrent Certificate in Child and Youth Education for Social Sciences*, as recommended by the Faculty of Social Sciences for inclusion in the *2026-2027 Undergraduate Calendar*, and as circulated.

The motion was ***Carried.***

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Undergraduate Council approve, for recommendation to the University Planning Committee and the Senate, the establishment of the *Concurrent Certificate in Criminology*, as recommended by the Faculty of Social Sciences for inclusion in the *2026-2027 Undergraduate Calendar*, and as circulated.

The motion was ***Carried.***

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Undergraduate Council approve the proposed revisions to the Concurrent Certificate in Work and Labour Studies, as recommended by the Faculty of Social Sciences for inclusion in the *2026-2027 Undergraduate Calendar*, and as circulated.

The motion was ***Carried.***

b. Faculty of Science

R. da Silva, *Associate Dean, Undergraduate Studies*, provided a brief overview of the revisions.

Revisions:

- Concurrent Certificate in Environmental Sustainability (ES)
- Concurrent Certificate in Geographic Information Science (GIS)
- Concurrent Certificate in Urban Studies and Planning (USP)
- Concurrent Certificate in Science Communication
- Concurrent Certificate in Kinesiology
- Concurrent Certificate in Quantum Science and Technology
- Anti-Racism, Inclusion and Equity (ARIE) in Science

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Undergraduate Council approve the proposed revisions to the Concurrent Certificates in:

- ***Environmental Sustainability (ES)***
- ***Geographic Information Science (GIS)***
- ***Urban Studies and Planning (USP)***
- ***Science Communication***
- ***Kinesiology***
- ***Quantum Science and Technology***
- ***Anti-Racism, Inclusion and Equity (ARIE) in Science***

as recommended by the Faculty of Science for inclusion in the 2026-2027 Undergraduate Calendar, and as circulated.

The motion was ***Carried.***

c. Faculty of Health Sciences

Rob Whyte, *Vice-Dean, Education*, provided a brief overview of the new concurrent certificate program and the proposed revisions.

New:

- Concurrent Certificate in Human Anatomy (CCHA)

Revisions:

- Biomedical Sciences (BMS)
- Health Humanities and Social Sciences
- Immunology, Microbiology, & Virology (IMV)
- Rehabilitation Sciences (RS)

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Undergraduate Council approve, for recommendation to the University Planning Committee and the Senate, the establishment of the *Concurrent Certificate in Human Anatomy (CCHA)*, as recommended by the Faculty of Health Sciences for inclusion in the 2026-2027 Undergraduate Calendar, and as circulated.

The motion was ***Carried.***

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Undergraduate Council approve the proposed revisions to the Concurrent Certificates in:

- ***Biomedical Sciences (BMS)***
- ***Health Humanities and Social Sciences***
- ***Immunology, Microbiology, & Virology (IMV)***
- ***Rehabilitation Sciences (RS)***

as recommended by the Faculty of Health Sciences for inclusion in the *2026-2027 Undergraduate Calendar*, and as circulated.

The motion was ***Carried.***

d. Faculty of Humanities

Sean Corner, *Associate Dean, Undergraduate Studies*, provided a brief overview of the new concurrent certificate programs and revisions.

New:

- New Concurrent Certificate in Acting
- New Concurrent Certificate in Art & Social Change
- New Concurrent Certificate in History and Education
- New Concurrent Certificate in Music
- New Concurrent Certificate in Public Relations
- New Concurrent Certificate in Stage Design
- New Concurrent Certificate in Studio Art
- New Concurrent Certificate in Visual Studies

Revisions:

- Concurrent Certificate in Cinema Studies
- Concurrent Certificate in Creative Writing and Narrative Arts (CWNA)
- Concurrent Certificate in Critical Curatorial Studies (CCCS)
- Concurrent Certificate in Leadership, Equity & Social Change
- Diploma in Music Performance
- McMaster English Readiness for Graduate Excellence Certificate
- Summer Transition through English Prep (STEP) Certificate
- The Humanities Concurrent Certificate: Skills for Life

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Undergraduate Council approve, for recommendation to the University Planning Committee and

the Senate, the establishment of the *Concurrent Certificate in Acting (CCA)*, as recommended by the Faculty of Humanities for inclusion in the 2026–2027 Undergraduate Calendar, and as circulated.

The motion was ***Carried*.**

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Undergraduate Council approve, for recommendation to the University Planning Committee and the Senate, the establishment of the *Concurrent Certificate in Art & Social Change (CCASC)*, as recommended by the Faculty of Humanities for inclusion in the 2026–2027 Undergraduate Calendar, and as circulated.

The motion was ***Carried*.**

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Undergraduate Council approve, for recommendation to the University Planning Committee and the Senate, the establishment of the *Concurrent Certificate in History and Education (CCHE)*, as recommended by the Faculty of Humanities for inclusion in the 2026–2027 Undergraduate Calendar, and as circulated.

The motion was ***Carried*.**

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Undergraduate Council approve, for recommendation to the University Planning Committee and the Senate, the establishment of the *Concurrent Certificate in Music (CCM)*, as recommended by the Faculty of Humanities for inclusion in the 2026–2027 Undergraduate Calendar, and as amended.

It was noted that there was an amendment so that the certificate may not be taken by students in the music program.

The motion was ***Carried*.**

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Undergraduate Council approve, for recommendation to the University Planning Committee and the Senate, the establishment of the *Concurrent Certificate in Public Relations (CCPR)*, as recommended by the Faculty of Humanities for inclusion in the 2026–2027 Undergraduate Calendar, and as circulated.

The motion was ***Carried*.**

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Undergraduate Council approve, for recommendation to the University Planning Committee and the Senate, the establishment of the *Concurrent Certificate in Stage Design (CCSD)*, as recommended by the Faculty of Humanities for inclusion in the *2026–2027 Undergraduate Calendar*, and as circulated.

The motion was ***Carried*.**

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Undergraduate Council approve, for recommendation to the University Planning Committee and the Senate, the establishment of the *Concurrent Certificate in Studio Art (CCSA)*, as recommended by the Faculty of Humanities for inclusion in the *2026–2027 Undergraduate Calendar*, and as circulated.

The motion was ***Carried*.**

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Undergraduate Council approve, for recommendation to the University Planning Committee and the Senate, the establishment of the *Concurrent Certificate in Visual Studies (CCVS)*, as recommended by the Faculty of Humanities for inclusion in the *2026–2027 Undergraduate Calendar*, and as circulated.

The motion was ***Carried*.**

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Undergraduate Council approve the proposed revisions to the Concurrent Certificates in:

- ***Cinema Studies***
- ***Creative Writing and Narrative Arts (CWNA)***
- ***Critical Curatorial Studies (CCCS)***
- ***Leadership, Equity & Social Change***
- ***Humanities: Skills for Life***

as recommended by the Faculty of Humanities for inclusion in the *2026-2027 Undergraduate Calendar*, and as circulated.

The motion was ***Carried*.**

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Undergraduate Council approve the revisions to the Diploma in Music Performance, as recommended by the Faculty of Humanities for inclusion in the 2026-2027 Undergraduate Calendar, and as circulated.

The motion was ***Carried*.**

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Undergraduate Council approve the revisions to the McMaster English Readiness for Graduate Excellence Certificate, as recommended by the Faculty of Humanities for inclusion in the 2026-2027 Undergraduate Calendar, and as circulated.

The motion was ***Carried*.**

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Undergraduate Council approve the revisions to the Summer Transition through English Prep (STEP) Certificate, as recommended by the Faculty of Humanities for inclusion in the 2026-2027 Undergraduate Calendar, and as circulated.

The motion was ***Carried.***

8. Report from the Curriculum & Admissions Committee

Beth Marquis, *Chair of the Curriculum & Admissions Committee*, presented the Committee's report.

1. New Program Proposal in Nuclear Engineering

At the meeting held on January 13, 2026, the Curriculum and Admissions Committee approved, for recommendation to Undergraduate Council, the following new program proposals in Nuclear Engineering:

Sarah Dickson-Anderson**,** *Associate Dean, Undergraduate Studies, Faculty of Engineering*, provided an overview of the new programs.

- Nuclear Engineering (B.Eng.) program
- Nuclear Engineering Co-op (B.Eng.) program
- Nuclear Engineering and Society (B.Eng.Society) program
- Nuclear Engineering and Society Co-op (B.Eng.Society) program
- Nuclear Engineering and Management (B.Eng.Mgt.) program
- Nuclear Engineering and Management Co-op (B.Eng.Mgt.) program

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Undergraduate Council approve, for recommendation to the University Planning Committee and the Senate, the establishment of the new *Nuclear Engineering (B.Eng.) program*, as recommended by the Faculty of Engineering for inclusion in the *2026–2027 Undergraduate Calendar*, and as circulated.

The motion was ***Carried*.**

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Undergraduate Council approve, for recommendation to the University Planning Committee and the Senate, the establishment of the new *Nuclear Engineering Co-op (B.Eng.) program*, as recommended by the Faculty of Engineering for inclusion in the *2026–2027 Undergraduate Calendar*, as circulated.

The motion was ***Carried*.**

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Undergraduate Council approve, for recommendation to the University Planning Committee and the Senate, the establishment of the new *Nuclear Engineering and Society (B.Eng.Society) program*, as recommended by the Faculty of Engineering for inclusion in the *2026–2027 Undergraduate Calendar*, and as circulated.

The motion was ***Carried*.**

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Undergraduate Council approve, for recommendation to the University Planning Committee and the Senate, the establishment of the new *Nuclear Engineering and Society Co-op (B.Eng.Society) program*, as recommended by the Faculty of Engineering for inclusion in the *2026–2027 Undergraduate Calendar*, and as circulated.

The motion was ***Carried*.**

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Undergraduate Council approve, for recommendation to the University Planning Committee and the Senate, the establishment of the new *Nuclear Engineering and Management (B.Eng.Mgt.) program*, as recommended by the Faculty of Engineering, for inclusion in the *2026–2027 Undergraduate Calendar,* and as circulated.

The motion was ***Carried*.**

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Undergraduate Council approve, for recommendation to the University Planning Committee and the Senate, the establishment of the new *Nuclear Engineering and Management Co-op (B.Eng.Mgt.) program*, as recommended by the Faculty of Engineering, for inclusion in the *2026–2027 Undergraduate Calendar,* as circulated.

The motion was ***Carried*.**

2. Addenda to Curriculum Revisions for the 2026-2027 Undergraduate Calendar

At the same meeting, the Curriculum and Admissions Committee approved, for recommendation to Undergraduate Council, the addenda to curriculum revisions contained in the following reports for inclusion in the *2026-2027 Undergraduate Calendar.* All minor curriculum addenda were encompassed by the omnibus motion.

a. Faculty of Engineering

S. Dickson-Anderson provided a brief overview of the report. Members heard that the revisions pertain to the new Nuclear Engineering Program.

b. Faculty of Social Sciences

K. McGarry provided a brief overview of the report.

c. Faculty of Health Sciences

R. Whyte provided a brief overview of the report. Members heard that that the only major revision was a change in admissions requirements for the MD/Ph.D. program in the Michael DeGroote School of Medicine.

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Undergraduate Council approve, for recommendation to the Senate, the change in admissions requirements for the MD/Ph.D. program in the Michael DeGroote School of Medicine by the Faculty of Health Sciences for inclusion in the *2026–2027 Undergraduate Calendar*, as circulated.

The motion was ***Carried*.**

d. Faculty of Humanities

S. Corner provided a brief overview of the report.

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the Undergraduate Council approve the curriculum addenda proposed by the Faculties of Engineering, Health

Sciences, Social Sciences and Humanities for inclusion in the *2026-2027 Undergraduate Calendar*, as circulated.

The motion was ***Carried.***

9. Other Business

K. Dej called for any other business.

10. Adjournment

As there was no other business, the meeting adjourned at 3:35 PM.