



Special Meeting of Senate

AGENDA

1:30 p.m., Friday, April 17, 2015

NOTE: NEW IVEY BUILDING, ROOM 1100
1255 Western Road

1. Motion regarding the President – **Exhibit I**
2. Report of the Operations Agenda Committee – Notice of Motion regarding the Chair of Western's Board of Governors – **Exhibit II**
3. Adjournment

Senate meetings are scheduled to begin at 1:30 p.m. and normally will end by 4:30 p.m. unless extended by a majority vote of those present.

Motion of Non-Confidence in President Amit Chakma

Recommended: That the Senate of the University of Western Ontario has lost confidence in President Amit Chakma.

Background:

Irene Birrell, University Secretary
4101A Stevenson Hall,
University of Western Ontario
London, Ontario
Canada

April 7, 2015

Dear Irene Birrell,

Pursuant to Article 4 section 2 of the University of Western Ontario Senate by-laws, we, the undersigned senators, are writing to request “a special meeting of the Senate” to be convened at the earliest possible date.

The purpose of this meeting shall be to debate and vote on a motion framed within the parameters of the University of Western Ontario Act, “Powers of Senate”, Clause 30 (e), which states that the Senate may “inquire into and publish reports upon any matter that affects the academic reputation or effectiveness of the University;” and (f) “pass resolutions and make recommendations to the Board with respect to any matter connected with the administration of the University and the promotion of its affairs.”

The Senate is empowered under the University of Western Ontario Act to pass resolutions and make recommendations to the Board with respect to any matter connected with the administration of the University and the promotion of its affairs. The Senate wishes to advise the Board that President Chakma’s acceptance of pay in lieu of leave of \$440,000 at the same time as this Senate has repeatedly been told that there is no money to address faculty budgetary issues shows a gross error in judgment and a deep lack of understanding of the priorities of this institution. The text of the motion is: “The Senate of the University of Western Ontario has lost confidence in President Amit Chakma.”

We are also aware of other notices of motion related to this motion that will be given on April 10. It is our belief that a special meeting of the Senate will enable fulsome, focused and timely deliberation of these important issues. A delay in the consideration of these motions until the next scheduled Senate meeting on May 8th will only postpone the healing process for our community.

REPORT OF THE OPERATIONS/AGENDA COMMITTEE

1. **Notice of Motion of a Vote of Non-Confidence in the Chair of the Board of Governors**

Recommended: That the Senate of the University of Western Ontario has lost confidence in the

Notice of Motion as presented April 10, 2015

Given that the Chair of the Board of Governors, Mr. Chirag Shah, has made public statements that demonstrate a profound lack of understanding of the core mission of the university, the work undertaken by its faculty, students and staff and the realities of administrative leaves; and given that Mr. Shah condoned and defended a contract that was penned in 2009, when the economic downturn led to profound belt tightening elsewhere across campus, and resulted in a payment in 2014 of over 1 million dollars while several faculties across campus were facing budget cuts and staff were losing their jobs, the Senate of the University of Western Ontario has lost confidence in the Chair of the Board of Governors, Mr. Chirag Shah.