



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SENATE**

April 16, 2021

The meeting was held at 1:30 p.m. via Zoom.

SENATORS:

Z. Al-Asamil  
L. Archibald  
P. Barmby  
A. Baxter  
J. Baxter  
G. Belfry  
L. Briens  
D. Brou  
C. Burghardt-  
Jesson  
S. Burke  
C. Burucúa  
E. Chamberlain  
L. Cipriano  
K. Coley  
J. Corrigan  
J. Cuciurean  
S. Datars Bere  
M. Davison  
R. Dekoter  
J. Finegan  
R. Flemming  
L. Frederking  
J. Garland  
L. Ghattas  
K. Gibbons  
T. Granadillo  
R. Gros

C. Harasym  
L. Henderson  
R. Heydon  
H. Hill  
V. Hocke  
S. Hodgson  
D. Jeffrey  
T. Jenkyn  
C. Jensen  
G. Kelly  
J. Kitz  
D. Kotsopoulos  
K. Lawleso3c38 (as)  
K. Mequanint  
A. Meyer  
M. Milde  
L. Miller  
K. Miller  
J. Minac  
S. Morrison  
A. Nelson

C. Nolan  
A. Pahargarh  
J. Nord  
P. Peddle  
S. Pitel  
S. Powell  
S. Prichard  
V. Radcliffe  
L. Rigg  
S. Roland  
G. Santos  
E. Sapuridis  
I. Savani  
A. Shepard  
C. Steeves  
G. Tigert  
J. Toswell  
G. West  
S. Whitehead  
J. Wilson  
K. Yeung  
J. Yoo  
B.A. Younker

Observers: B. Baron, T. Belton, C. Bressette, R. Bgeginski, C. Brunette-Debassige, R. Chelladurai,  
J. Doerksen, B. MacDougall-Shackleton, J. Massey, M. McGlynn, M. Reesor, k. seanor

**Land Acknowledgement**

S. Roland offered a Land Acknowledgement.

S.21-69

S.21-72 **Information Items Reported by the Operations/Agenda Committee on Unanimous Consent**

The following items reported by the Operations/Agenda Committee were received for information by unanimous consent:

- ITEM 5.1(a) – Senate Membership – Vacancies Filled by Appointment Information

**REPORT FROM THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC POLICY AND AWARDS**

S.21-73 **ITEM 5.2(a) Faculty of Information and Media Studies: Revisions to the Admission Requirements of the Major in Media, Information and Technoculture (MIT) and the Major in Media and the Public Interest (MPI) and Revisions to the “Admission Priority for First Year FIMS Students” Policy**

It was moved by R. Gros, seconded by S. Roland,

That effective September 1, 2021, the admission requirements of the Major in Media, Information and Technoculture (MIT) and the Major in Media and the Public Interest (MPI) be revised as shown, and That the “Admission Priority for First Year FIMS Students” policy be revised.

CARRIED

S.21-74 **ITEM 5.2(b) –**









(Academic Programs):

A. Pahargarh (Student), K. Coley (Dean, Faculty of Engineering), T. Isaacs (Associate Dean, Academic, Faculty of Arts & Humanities), Bipasha Baruah (SS), K. Yeung (Sci).

S.21-98 **ITEM 8.4 –**



- In response to the pandemic, significant additional one-time costs (totaling \$18.2 million) in the following areas: on-line course development, I.T. infrastructure expansion, pandemic supplies, facilities planning and modifications to ensure a safe campus, virtual student services, and health and safety initiatives
- Total operating revenue is projected to be \$833.1 million, an increase of 3.2% over 2020-21
- Total expenditures are projected to be \$829.2 million, a decrease of 1.6% over 2020-21

As the strategic plan is underway, six themes have emerged to represent the University's priorities for the next year. S. Prichard highlighted the budget response to the six priority themes:

1. **Faculty and Staff Renewal:** Plans for 94 proposed new faculty positions and 42 new staff positions within the faculties and an additional 100 new proposed staff positions. This is the largest increase in faculty and staff positions proposed and for which the budget accounts in many years.
2. **Ej0.76 .29 - Tw 0.454 0 Td:hi (4)-7.7 (m)ii (y ye)1.-7.7g-0.001 S ( i)-7 ((p)-0u.)-7.7d**

- A sum of \$2.5 million in one

L. Logan, Vice-President (Operations & Finance) responded that the University does not have a regular source of funding for capital projects. Funds are borrowed for some of the University's capital needs, in balance with other sources of funding within the capital structure of the University. L. Logan advised the Fieldhouse expense is appropriately defined in the budget to move the project forward.

A Senator inquired if there are ongoing discussions regarding altering the model that shapes the faculty renewal process. The Senator noted the current model does not allow for any significant renewal in the faculty of Arts and Humanities, which is continually losing faculty, meanwhile facing an increase in student enrolments.

S. Prichard responded that there are ongoing discussions in regards to budget models to support interdisciplinary work and faculty renewal. She noted that for the first time this year, the faculty of Arts and Humanities received a transfer of budget due to the large number of students from other disciplines who enrolled in classes in the faculty of Arts and Humanities.

An Observer submitted the following question in advance, relating to the University Operating and Capital Budgets:

I want to start by commending Western's 2021-2022 Capital and Operating Budget. In several areas, the USC has found many of the investments to be extremely student-centric, particularly those towards the creation of the Office of an AVP EDI, Indigenous and EDI-focused curriculum improvements, as well as continued commitment to sustainability and improving our campus' environmental impact. I did,

SS.21-101 **ITEM 10.2 – Strategic Planning Update**

M. Davison, Chair of SCUP, provided an oral update on the Strategic plan. The Strategic Plan Steering committee has been engaged in consultations by faculty and theme, and is in the process of integrating information into the initial draft.

T. Rice (Executive Director, Marketing Communications) provided Senators with a presentation on the process and phases of the Strategic Planning consultations.

The President thanked the Western community, including faculty, staff, and members of the Strategic Planning Steering committee for their efforts and collaboration to preserve and enhance Western's strengths. The President advised a draft of the Strategic Planning framework will be presented to Senate in May, with an opportunity for a large-scale discussion. A final draft will be presented in June.

A Senator inquired if members of Senate will be able to view an initial draft of the document to offer comments prior to the May Senate meeting.

The President responded that Senators will be presented with a draft prior to the upcoming Senate meeting in May, for an opportunity to provide comments and feedback. The delay to the June Senate meeting is intended to provide additional time to review and incorporate all of the feedback received at Senate, prior to bringing it forward in June.

SS.21-102 **ITEM 12.0 – Report of the Academic Colleague**

Senate received the Academic Colleague Report on the April 2021 meeting for information.

S.21-103 **DISCUSSION AND QUESTION PERIOD**

An Observer submitted the following question in advance:

**Follow-up Regarding Senate Elections**

I would like an update on the matter of Lecturers' right to vote in Senate elections. Western is the outlier among Ontario universities in forbidding Lecturers to vote or to stand for Senate election. Denying Lecturers the ability to participate in collegial governance is an equity issue, as this group is disproportionately female and precariously employed. The prospect of a non-voting observer seat at Page 182 Senate is not an advance, as meetings are already open and members of the audience can

