



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SENATE

September 13, 2024

The meeting was held at 1:30 at the Somerville House, Great Hall

SENATORS:

A. Agyapong	C. Hall	M. Modeski
C. Alcantara	L. Henderson	I. Namukasa
S. Bahadoor	K. Henricus	D. Neufeld
M. Bassnett	J. Herrera	A. Nocilla
S.H. Beatty	J. Ijam	K. Olson
J. Beecroft	J. Jin	V. Parsa
B. Begg	I. Johnsrude	I. Paul
K. Bertrand	A. Jokhu	P. Pexman
N. Borradaile	E. Kamimura	G. Philip
A. Botterell	M. Kim	S. Powell
S. Buhrow	H. Kirk	A. Puvirajah
A. Bryson	D. Kotsopoulos	D. Robinson
J. Campbell	D. Laird	M. Sanita Lima
K. Choi	J. Lamarche	S. Schmid
A. Christie	L. Logan	A. Shepard
B. Chronik	L. Lingard	K. Siddiqui
M. Cleveland	G. Little	A. Simon
N. Coates	A. Liu	Z. Sinel
K. Coley	A. Lukawski	D. Smith
A. Cooke	T. Mantler	F. Strzelczyk
E. Da Costa	O. Matthews	S. Whitehead
L. Davis	M. McGrath	N. Zabian
M. Davison	D. Meister	A. Zecevic
M. El-Sakka	A. Meyer	
J. Garland	M. Mills	

Observers: C. Bressette, L. Cho, C. Chung, J. Doerksen, E. Kalaydjian, N. Keyghobadi, S. Lewis, E. Marshall, M. Medapati, O. Oloya, S. Roland, V. Sarkany, J. Scott, J. Weststar

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

A. Bryson offered a Land Acknowledgement.

MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING

ITEM 2.0 – Minutes of the Meeting of June 7, 2024

It was moved by D. Laird, seconded by J. Garland,

That the minutes of the meeting of June 7, 2024, be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Additionally, F. Strzelczyk responded to questions of clarification concerning future updates on the proposed capital project, a shuttle service for students and their families traveling to and from campus, and parking availability downtown.

The Provost concluded her presentation by inviting all faculty members to volunteer to participate in an academic procession during Convocation.

REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT (RESEARCH)

P. Pexman, Vice-President (Research), provided a verbal update on the research activities conducted over the summer. She began her report by acknowledging the outstanding contributions of Western researchers who have been recognized for their exceptional work and have been honored with

REPORT OF THE SENATE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

On behalf of the Senate Nominating Committee, D. Kotsopoulos provided the report of the Nominating Committee.

ITEM 7.1 – Announcement of a Chair and Vice-Chair of the Senate NominatiMC 2JE 12

“Registration and Progression in Three-Year, Four-Year and Honours Programs” be granted to solely accommodate the admission of international students with delayed study permits, enabling them to begin as full-time students in the Winter term.

CARRIED

**REPORT OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC CURRICULUM AND AWARDS
(ACA)**

On behalf of the Senate Committee on Academic Curriculum and Awards, S. Roland presented the ACA report.

ITEM 9.1 – Announcement of a Chair and Vice-Chair of the Senate Committee

That on the recommendation of the Operations/Agenda Committee, Senate approve that effective July 1, 2024, the terms of reference of the Nominating Committee be revised as shown in Item 13.1(a)(ii).

CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Information Items Reported by OAC on Unanimous Consent:

- ITEM 13.1(c) – Speaking Rights at Senate – Chair of the Senate Committee on Academic

That students currently enrolled in the module be permitted to graduate upon fulfillment of the module requirements by August 31, 2029, and

That the module be withdrawn effective September 1, 2029.

CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

ITEM 13.3(c)(i) – School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies: Major Modification to the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Music (Fields of Musicology and Music Theory)

- ITEM 13.3(h)(ii) – New Western-Funded Scholarships, Awards and Prizes.

REPORT OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON UNIVERSITY PLANNING (SCUP)

ITEM 13.4(a) – Revisions to the Supply Chain Canada Chair

The Future of Convocation at Western

Report of the Convocation Task Force

Presentation to Senate
September 13, 2024



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Convocation Task Force

- Amy Bryson – University Secretary (Chair)
- Temi Akin-Aina – Associate Vice-President, Alumni Relations
- Waliu Alaka – Graduate Student
- Chris Alleyne – Associate Vice-President, Housing & Ancillary Services
- Pauline Barmby – Professor, Faculty of Science
- Kelly Burke – Executive Director, Office of the Provost (Provost's designate)
- Sherif Elmagrabhy – Undergraduate Student
- Joan Finegan – Director of Convocation
- Kibret Mequanint – Marshal of Convocation
-



Identified priorities from community consultations

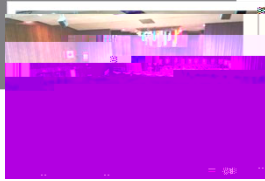
- 9 Accessibility for all Convocation venues and activities.
- 9 The on-campus experience is an important element of Convocation celebrations for graduates, guests, and volunteers.
- 9 W



Proposed alternate venues

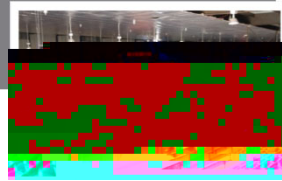
Alumni Hall

- Current challenges will soon be insurmountable
- Facility upgrades required



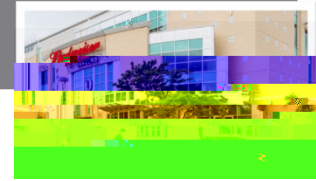
Thompson Arena/Rec Centre

- Currently not viable given seating and HVAC issues
- With upgrades, could meet future needs



Budweiser Gardens

- Addresses all current challenges
- Fanshawe using this venue since 2022



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Accepted recommendations and next steps

Short-Term

- Temporarily re-locate Convocation off-campus for a period of at least 5 years
- Budweiser Gardens recommended
- Beginning June 2025

Long-Term

- Convocation to return to an on-campus event
- Commence capital-planning process for construction/renovation of multi-purpose facility that meets current and future Convocation needs

Ceremony size and timing

- Increase number of graduates from roughly 400 to 850
- Maintain current timing of ceremonies

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