

The 513th Meeting of the Trent University Senate

Tuesday, January 16, 2024 2:00 p.m.

Via Zoom

Minutes

Present were: Senators Leo Groarke, Riley Ambrose, Joel Baetz, Suzanne Bailey, Peri Ballantyne, Stefan Bilaniuk, Cathy Bruce, Craig Brunetti, Shutao Cao, Ann Celestini, Michael Chan-Reynolds, Kirk Collins, Finis Dunaway, Noah Edwards, Wenying Feng, Scott Henderson, Holger Hintelmann, Richard Hurley, Nancie Im-Bolter, Michael Khan, William Kim, Jean-François Koprivnjak, Lawrence Lam, Hugo Lehmann, Paul Manning, Kelly McGuire, Liam Mitchell, Dennis Murray, Heather Nicol, Kathryn Norlock, Fergal O'Hagan, Karleen Pendleton Jiménez, Rovel Rehman, Catalina Sagarra, Paula Sherman, Mark Skinner, Emily Tufts, Sarah Twomey, Beth Wallace, Sarah West, Rylin Wormington, Robert Wright, Juman Zanzoul and Asaf Zohar. Official Visitors Alma Barranco-Mendoza, Connor Koch, Geoff Navara, Brandon Remmelgas and David Tough. Associate University Secretary (Senate) Tara Harrington and Coordinator, Board and Senate Support Taylor Edwards.

Regrets: Senators Bruce Cater, Anthony Coulter, Suresh Narine, Shaun Watmough and Heather Crowley.

Welcome and adoption of the Agenda

The meeting opened with a welcome to the traditional territory:

We respectfully acknowledge that we are on treaty and traditional territory of the Michi Saagiig Anishinabeg. We offer our gratitude to First Nations for their care for, and teachings about, our earth and relations. May we honour those teachings.

Open Session

Chair's Remarks and Announcements. The Chair noted that while the report of the Blue-Ribbon Panel had not (yet) resulted in any increase in government funding, it had resulted in increased press regarding the post-secondary education sector. He also reported that Trent, along with Centennial College, University of Toronto Scarborough (UTSC), Ontario Tech University and Durham College had launched the Environmental and Related Technologies Hub (EaRTH District). The consortium will work cooperatively to advance sustainable solutions to local environmental challenges in the GTA.

Senator Bruce informed Senators that the federal government had developed a policy with the aim of protecting Canadian interests in what they believed were sensitive areas of research from agencies that were identified as posing potential risks to our national interests. The policy was to include a list of those areas of research as well as the agencies of concern. The policy was to be released shortly.

Minutes and Business arising Meeting of December 5, 2023. The minutes were approved as presented.

Senator O'Hagan reviewed the final version of the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Guidelines noting that generative AI was still evolving and that we would need to stay current. He pointed out that the guidelines were intended as a resource to faculty and use of the guidelines was discretionary.

Undergraduate Studies Committee Report. Senator Norlock presented the report which included the following recommendations:

International Development Studies—Change the name of the department from International Development Studies to Department of Global Justice and Development.

Anthropology—Expand ANTH 4153H into two courses-ANTH 4153H and ANTH 4163H

Cultural Studies—Two new courses-CUST-MDST 2184H and CUST 2550H.

Compress CUST 2016Y to CUST 2516H

Split CUST 3175Y into CUST 3176H and CUST 3177H.

Physics—Regularize PHYS 2605H.

Sociology—Modify requirements of Specialization in Health Studies, Specialization in Social Justice & Equity Studies and Specialization in Socio-Legal Studies..

Senate approved the recommendations as presented.

Graduate Studies Committee Report. Senator Brunetti presented the report which included the following recommendations:

MSc in Forensic Science--New course FRSC 5600H.

MSc in Nursing, Professional Practice Leadership-Change degree regulations to reduce by 0.5 the number of credits required.

MA in Sustainability Studies—New course SUST 5550H/IDSR 6550H.

MSc and Graduate Diploma in Bioenvironmental Monitoring and Assessment—Change to course prerequisite: Landscape Ecology (BEMA 5010H).

Senate approved the recommendations as presented.

COU Academic Colleague Report. Senator Pendleton Jiménez briefed Senators on the October and December meetings of the Colleagues. She reported that the discussions had centered on three main themes—follow-up to the Blue-Ribbon Panel, free speech in the context of the Israel-Hamas conflict and the upsurge in anti-LGBTQ2S+ movements.

Adjournment.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00.

Dr. L. Groarke, Chair

T. Harrington, Secretary