

The 523rd Meeting of the Trent University Senate

Tuesday, March 11, 2025 2:00 p.m.

Via Zoom

Minutes

Present: Senators Cathy Bruce (Chair), Iyiola Alade, Joel Baetz, Suzanne Bailey, Stefan Bilaniuk, Craig Brunetti, Shutao Cao, Kirk Collins, Neil Emery, Wenying Feng, Michael Hickson, Holger Hintelmann, Michael Khan, Hugo Lehmann, Lawrence Lam, Byron Lew, Sanela Martic, Liam Mitchell, Fergal O'Hagan, Emma Perratt, Stephanie Rutherford, Catalina Sagarra, Paula Sherman, Mark Skinner, Angela Slater-Meadows, Andrew Vreugdenhil, Beth Wallace, Sarah West, Robert Wright, and Susan Wurtele. Official Visitors Alma Barranco-Mendoza, Dwayne Collins, Brennan Cornell, Heather Crowley, Chioma Ifeanyichukwu, Connor Koch and Brandon Remmelgas. Associate University Secretary (Senate) Tara Harrington and Coordinator, Board and Senate Support Taylor Edwards.

Guests: Marilyn Burns and Benjamin Hickey

Regrets: Senators Jodi Ambrose, Bruce Cater, Finis Dunaway, Nancie Im-Bolter, Michele McIntosh, Suresh Narine, Mark Neufeld, Alan O'Connor, Aiden Schneider, Joshua Syneko, Emily Tufts, and Mrunmayee Vichare.

Welcome and adoption of the Agenda

The meeting opened with a welcome to the traditional territory:

We respectfully acknowledge that we are on the 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.

Closed Session

University Honours Subcommittee Report. The Chair presented the recommendations of the University Honours Subcommittee of individuals nominated for 2025 Eminent Service Awards. She noted that the awards are bestowed by the Board of Governors on the recommendation of Senate. The recommendations had been reviewed by Senate Executive and unanimously approved for submission to Senate.

Senate approved submitting the names to the Board of Governors.

Open Session

Chair's Remarks and Announcements.

The president provided an update on the proposed 2025-26 budget noting that it would be going forward to the Board of Governors for approval on March 28. Budget deliberations will aim to:

- Protect the academic mission, reputation and quality of programs
- Protect the quality of the student experience
- Maintain the University's culture with the least impact on faculty and staff
- Minimize risk exposure
- Enhance operating efficiencies and improve revenue generation to regain financial sustainability

Dr. Kristy Buccieri, A/ Associate Dean for Centre of Teaching and Learning, announced the recipients of the 2024-25 teaching awards:

- Symons Award for Excellence in Teaching---David Riegert, Mathematics and Statistics
- Award for Educational Leadership and Innovation---Dr. Joanna Freeland, Biology
- Award for Excellence in Online Teaching---Dr. George Kovacs, Ancient Greek and Roman Studies
- CUPE 3908-1 Award for Excellence in Teaching---Dr. Paul Mazzocchi, Political Studies
- Award for Excellence in Teaching Assistance---Mark Trumble, Mathematics and Statistics

Dr. Holger Hintelmann, A/Vice President, Research and Innovation, announced the recipients of the research awards:

- Distinguished Research Award--- Dr. Marguerite A. Xenopoulos
- Early Career Researcher Award Recipients---Mary-Claire Buell, Dr. Melanie Rosen, and Dr. Stephanie Tobin
- Research Impact Award---Dr. Thomas Hossie.

Minutes and Business arising Meeting of February 11, 2025. The minutes were approved as presented.

Undergraduate Studies Committee Report. Senator Martic presented the report which included the following proposals for major and minor modifications:

Political Studies – New Certificate in Democratic Leadership.

Sociology - New Specialization in Black Studies.

Anthropology - Four new courses-ANTH-BIOL 2490H, ANTH 3030H, ANTH 4470H and ANTH 4471H.

Biology – Two new courses to replace existing courses-BIOL 1500H and BIOL 1501H would replace ~~BIOL1050H~~ and ~~BIOL 1051H~~.

Education – New course to replace existing course-EDUC 2050H to replace ~~EDUC 2950H~~.

The school also proposed modifying program requirements for the Teacher Education Stream and renaming some courses.

Global Development Studies – Split ~~GDST 2000Y~~ into GDST 2001H and GDST 3001H and modify program requirements to reflect this change.

Mathematics – Four new courses-MATH 1006H, MATH 1111H, MATH 1121H and MATH 1122H. Changes to existing course titles and descriptions for MATH 1005H, MATH 1010H and MATH1120H. Modify program requirements to reflect these changes and additions for the BSc in Mathematics in the following programs: single major Honours, joint-major Honours, single-major General, joint major General and the BSc in Financial Science single-major Honours and BSc in Mathematical Economics single-major Honours.

Biology – Modify program requirements for the following programs to reflect the new MATH courses: BSc in Biology- single- and joint-major Honours and General, BSc in Conservation Biology, BSc in Conservation Biology – Co-op and BSc in Forensic Biology.

Chemistry - Modify program requirements for the following programs to reflect the new MATH courses: BSc in Biochemistry & Molecular Biology -single-major Honours, joint-major Honours and single-major General, BSc in Chemistry - single-major Honours, joint-major Honours and single-major General and joint-major General, and BSc in Environmental Chemistry single-major Honours and single-major General and the Trent/Swansea Dual Degree program in Chemical Engineering.

Physics - Modify program requirements for the following programs to reflect the new MATH courses: BSc in Physics - single-major Honours, joint-major Honours and single-major General and joint-major General and minor in Physics, BSc in Physics single-major Honours and single-major General, BSc in Computer Science & Physics and BSc in Mathematical Physics single-major Honours.

Senate approved the recommendations.

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

MA and MSc in Anthropology – Modify program degree requirements.

Change credit value for ANTH 5163H from a half credit to a full credit.

MSc, Master and Graduate Diploma in Bioenvironmental Monitoring and Assessment – New course – BEMA 5016H.

MA in Cultural Studies – Change to course codes for ~~CUST 5509H~~ to CUST 5311H, ~~CUST 5510H~~ to CUST 5307H and ~~CUST 5512H~~ to CUST 5401H.

Deletion of CUST 5501H, CUST 5502H and CUST 5507H.

MA in History – Change course code for HIST 5105H to HIST-CSID-SUST 5701H.

Master of Instrumental Chemical Analysis – Modify program requirements.

Ph.D. Indigenous Studies – Change to Comprehensive Examination (INDG 6740H) regulations.

Senator Brunetti noted that the proposed change to the comprehensive examination in the

Indigenous Studies Ph.D. program reflected Indigenous pedagogies and would benefit students.

Instead of a take home exam with a pass/fail grading scheme, students would be allowed a maximum of two attempts and would receive support if the first attempt was not successful.

Senate approved the recommendations.

Research Policy Committee Report. Senator Hintelmann presented proposed revisions to the Policy on Research Organizations noting that most of the changes were minor. The approval process for research policies was discussed. It was explained that the approval process accurately reflected the framework set out in the Policy on Policies leading Senators to question whether the Policy on Policies should be reviewed. Senate approved the revised policy as presented.

Cyclical Program Review Committee Report. Senator Bailey presented the report which included the Implementation Reports for the Environmental and Life Sciences programs and the Final Assessment Report (FAR), & Implementation Plan – Executive Summary-for the programs offered in School of the Environment. Senate received the report as information.

Any Other Business. There was a brief discussion about the current political climate in the United States and the impact it was having on academia.

Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 3:25.

Dr. C. Bruce, Chair
T. Harrington, Secretary