

The 524th Meeting of the Trent University Senate

Tuesday, April 8, 2025 2:00 p.m.

AJM Smith Room

Minutes

Present: Senators Cathy Bruce (Chair), Iyiola Alade, Joel Baetz, Suzanne Bailey, Stefan Bilaniuk, Craig Brunetti, Shutao Cao, Bruce Cater, Kirk Collins, Finis Dunaway, Wenying Feng, Michael Hickson, Stephen Hill, Gold (Ayodeji) Jegede, Michael Khan, Hugo Lehmann, Lawrence Lam, Byron Lew, Sanela Martic, Michele McIntosh, Liam Mitchell, Mark Neufeld, Fergal O'Hagan, Emma Perratt, Stephanie Rutherford, Catalina Sagarra, Mark Skinner, Vincent Sun, Emily Tufts, Sarah West, Robert Wright, and Susan Wurtele. Official Visitors Alma Barranco-Mendoza, 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: Tariq A-Idrissi, Marilyn Burns, Benjamin Hickey, Cheryl Turk

Regrets: Senators Neil Emery, Holger Hintelmann, Nancie Im-Bolter, Heather Klyn-Hesselink, Suresh Narine, Alan O'Connor, Aiden Schneider, Paula Sherman, Joshua Syneko, Mrunmayee Vichare and Andrew Vreugdenhil.

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.

Open Session

Chair's Remarks and Announcements. The Chair addressed the recent ice storm and resultant power outage noting that staff had worked hard to keep everyone on campus safe. Anticipating that this will not be the last significant weather event, we will be looking at measures that can be taken to reduce the impact of future events.

In a recent guest speaking engagement at Trent, the Mayor of Peterborough used a racial slur during a class discussion. The guest speaker subsequently released an apology. Trent also issued a release which reinforced our collective responsibility to ensure a safe and inclusive learning environment for our University community, and a commitment to make guest speakers aware of our policies (Discrimination and Harassment, and Free Speech). Trent Administration continues to have important conversations with both the faculty and student associations.

Senators were reminded that all convocation ceremonies would take place in the Athletic Centre due to the remedial work being done on the catwalk.

Following reports of faculty experiencing challenges crossing the Canada/US border, the Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT) has advised academics to avoid non-essential travel to the United States.

Minutes and Business arising Meeting of March 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:

Global Justice & Development/Gender & Social Justice - New Specialization in Gender, Law & Human Rights Advocacy.

Global Justice & Development/Political Studies - New Specialization in International Law & Policy.
Business - Four new articulation agreements that would allow qualified graduates of Sault College's Business, Business-Accounting, Business-Human Resources and Business-Marketing diploma programs to enter Trent's BBA program with advanced standing (10 credits).

Ancient Greek & Roman Studies – New regular course AGRS-HIST 3104H.

Anthropology – Two new regular courses-ANTH 4280H and ANTH 4285H.

Modify requirements for the Specialization in Biological Anthropology.

Business- New regular course ADMN 2600H.

Modify BBA requirements.

Modify requirements for the Specialization in Entrepreneurship, the Specialization in Finance and the Specialization in Marketing & consumer Culture.

Modify requirements for the dual degree BBA-Trent/Swansea Dual Degree – Law.

Canadian Studies – Change the ICR designation, cross-listing, number, title and course description for two courses—~~CAST-ERST-GEOG-INDG 2041H~~ to CAST-ERST-GEOG-EDUC 2043H and ~~CAST-ERST-GEOG-INDG 2042H~~ to CAST-ERST-GEOG-EDUC 2044H.

Computer Science – Modify requirements for Postgraduate Certificate in Applied Artificial Intelligence.

Education – New course-EDUC 4683Y.

Modify program requirements for the I/S program for both the public school system and the Catholic school system.

English Literature – Modify program requirements for the Bachelor of Arts in English Literature program.

Rename the ~~Specialization in Racial & Social Justice~~ to Specialization in Literatures of Social Justice.

Modify requirements for the Specialization in Literary History.

Gender & Social Justice – New regular course GESO 2465H.

Modify requirements for the Specialization in Sexuality Studies.

Logistics & Supply Chain Management – New course LSCM 4600Y which was also added as an elective for the single-major Honours program.

Mathematics & Statistics/Economics – Modify requirements for the Postgraduate Certificate in Financial Analysis.

Psychology – New regular course-PSYC 3790H.

Senator Martic reported that one of the requirements for the Specialization in Finance as well as one of the exclusions for AIST 2010H were incorrectly detailed in the USC report. During discussion it was noted that there was also an error on the course code for one of the electives in the Trent/Swansea Dual Degree Law program.

Senate approved the recommendations as revised.

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

Ph.D. in Psychology – Changes to curriculum and degree requirements.

MSc in Applied Modelling and Qualitative Methods – New course AMOD 5640Y.

Change to course description, and removal of prerequisite and course exclusion from AMOD 5230H.

MA and MSc in Anthropology - New course-ANTH 5050Y.

Master of Arts Management – Three new courses-ARTM 5000H-IDSR 6000H, ARTM 5500H-IDSR 6500H and ARTM 5020H-IDSR 6022H.

MA in English Literature – Change to course title for ENGL 5902H and two new courses ENGL 5903H and ENGL 5350H.

Change course code for ENGL 5305H-CUST 5504H and ENGL 5306H-CSID 5202H-CAST 6102H.

Master of Instrumental Chemical Analysis – Change to course title and description for ICAN 5002H.

Senate approved the recommendations.

2025-26 Faculty Committee Assignments. Senator Lehmann presented the list reminding Senators that faculty were invited to express their preferences for committee assignments annually. To the extent possible, those preferences were considered in assigning faculty to committees. Senate approved the list with one Senator abstaining.

Cyclical Program Review Committee Report. Senator Bailey presented the report which included the Implementation Report for the S BA/BSc and MA/MSc in Anthropology and the BA/BSc in Archaeology.

Senate received the report as information.

2025-26 Budget Presentation. VP Finance and Administration T. Al-Idrissi provided an overview of the 2025-26 budget discussing the underlying assumptions and guiding principles used in developing the budget.

Academic Program Structures Discussion. During a discussion led by Senators Hill and Wurtele, Senate discussed the number of academic credentials and micro-credentials noting that this number had increased significantly over recent years. There were concerns that the number of degree programs, certificates (both undergraduate and post-graduate), options and specializations, added to previously existing program offerings, could be overwhelming and confusing for prospective and current students. We need to find ways to make it easier for current, and prospective, students to understand the programs available to them. Senators also touched on interdisciplinary programming and advising. This will be discussed at the decanal level over the next year.

Any Other Business. Senators expressed concern about the current environment in the USA noting that there would be long-lasting and far-reaching impacts of the changes being made. Research and academic freedom being at risk. Faculty with specific concerns were advised to reach out to the Office of Research and Innovation.

Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 3:58.

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