

The 526th Meeting of the Trent University Senate

Tuesday, September 16, 2025 2:00 p.m.
A.J.M. Smith Room

Minutes

Present: Senators Cathy Bruce (Chair), Iyiola Alade, Suzanne Bailey, Liana Brown, Craig Brunetti, Shutao Cao, Michael Chan-Reynolds, Anthony Coulter, Neil Emery, Jonathan Greene, Stephen Hill, Holger Hintelmann, Gold (Ayodeji) Jegede, Ihor Junyk, Heather Klynn-Hesselink, Lawrence Lam, Erick Laming, Hugo Lehmann, Byron Lew, Mowei Liu, Paul Manning, Michele McIntosh, Jennifer Moore, Marina Morgenshtern, Van Nguyen-Marshall, Heather Nicol, Naomi Nichols, Kathryn Norlock, Fergal O'Hagan, David Patton, Karleen Pendleton Jiménez, Emma Perratt, Catalina Sagarra, Mark Skinner, Aaron Slepko, Vincent Sun, Joshua Syneko, Emily Tufts, Mrunmayee Vichare, Sarah West, Robert Wright and Susan Wurtele. Official Visitors and junior student members: Laszlo Ban, Alma Barranco-Mendoza, Dwayne Collins, Heather Crowley, Esther Kambale, Connor Koch. Associate University Secretary (Senate) Tara Harrington and Coordinator, Board and Senate Support Taylor Edwards.

Regrets: Senators Gary Burness and Lewis MacLeod

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.

Prof. Kristi Buccieri, A/Associate Dean for Centre for Teaching and Learning, announced the winners of the 2024-25 Decanal Awards for Teaching Excellence and Outstanding Graduate Mentorship:
Decanal Award for Teaching Excellence in Education is awarded to Dr. Kingsley Hurlington.
Trent Durham GTA Award for Teaching Excellence is awarded to Dr. Anita Boey.
Decanal Award for Teaching Excellence in Nursing is awarded to Julie Plessl.
Decanal Award for Teaching Excellence in the Humanities and Social Sciences is awarded to Dr. Barbara Mokthhewenkwe Wall.
Decanal Award for Teaching Excellence in the Sciences is awarded to David Riegert.
School of Graduate Studies Award for Outstanding Graduate Mentorship for Senior Mentors is awarded to Dr. Marguerite Xenopoulos.

The Chair drew the attention of Senators to two documents included in the Senate package—the call for input on the draft Chancellor profile and the call for nominations for 2026 honorary degrees. She

asked that Senators review the draft profile and provide any feedback to Tara. She also asked that faculty, and academic departments, consider submitting nominations for honorary degrees.

Government Reviews: The Ministry of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security (formerly the Ministry of Colleges and Universities) established a province-wide review of governance at universities. They have held consultation sessions with university presidents, the Council of Ontario Universities, university Board chairs and vice-chairs and University secretaries. In addition, the Ministry launched an Efficiency and Accountability review process. Trent participated in this exercise during the summer and continues to do so.

Renewal of Vision and Mission: We began this last year and the work continues. We are now at the stage where the external consultants are analysing the feedback received. A report will be brought to Senate in November for discussion and a final opportunity for you to provide feedback. The renewed vision and mission will be presented at the January meeting for approval before being sent to the Board of Governors for their approval.

Senate: Last year we introduced special discussion topics—discussions regarding academic topics that were outside the scope of committee reports. This was successful and we plan to continue this during the 2025-26 Senate year. If you have suggestions for topics you would like Senate to discuss, please share them with any member of Senate Exec or with Tara Harrington.

2024-25 also saw the introduction of post-Senate announcements posted on the portal that relayed the highlights of the decisions made by Senate. These will also be continued this year.

Minutes and Business arising Meeting of May 6, 2025. The minutes were approved as presented.

Draft 2025-26 Senate Workplan. A workplan for the 2025-26 Senate year was presented. The plan shows the cycle of Senate activities and will be updated as information becomes available. Senate approved the workplan.

Any Other Business.

Adjournment.

The meeting adjourned at 3:14.

Dr. C. Bruce, Chair

T. Harrington, Secretary