



## SENATE MINUTES

Hybrid Meeting

Tuesday, March 4, 2025, 2:30 – 4:45 p.m.

Present: D. MacLatchy (Chair), D. Antonowicz, B. Basso, M.L. Byrne, J. Cairns, M. Cantalini-Williams, L. Chu, A. Clarke, K. Clarke, V. Collis, J. Coolman, M. Coulter, J. Crowell, A. Davis, L. Dawe, S. Doherty, A. Domurath, M. Elayyan, M. Emery, A. Essaji, G. Foster, E. Fox Tree, S. Gillies, A. Hansra, P. Ironstone, C. Johnston Turner, M. Khan, S. Lachapelle, N. Lehecka, K. Lund, R. Makarov, P. Mallet, D. Maoz, E. Mazaheri, R. McGowan, B. McKay, T. McLaren, D. McMurray, K. Murray, L. Noronha, H. Northwood, A. Parker, J. Popham, S. Poynter, S. Ramsay, C. Smith, D. Thomas, D. Treleaven, P. Urquhart, J. Wang, K. Werbin, D. Wheatley, B. Wolfe, G. Yun, A. Zaidi

Regrets: A. Akanni, B. Assiginaak, S. Chan, L. Habtemichael, D. Henderson, M. Kelly, C. Matheson, J. Monture, J. Newman, N. Patel, M. Skop, D. Smith, T. Snoddon, J. Straub, A. Tariq

Absent: W. Arshad, B. Chiu, L. Felice, C. McAdam, S. Perry, H. Pimlott, F. Wang

Secretariat: K. Jack, A. Juhik, A. Kornobis, A. Lukin, P. Marfisi

### 1. Open Session

#### a. Call to Order & Approval of the Consent Agenda, D. MacLatchy

**Motion (A. Domurath/D. Maoz):** that Senate approve the Consent items listed for approval under item 7.a. **Carried.**

#### b. Leadership Update

##### i. Report of the President

D. MacLatchy updated Senators about the publication of the report celebrating the University's 25 years of impact in Brantford-Brant, the upcoming International Women's Day celebrations, and that the search for the Vice-President: Student Affairs is progressing. She advised that engagement has begun with local provincial officials following the election, and that conversations continue with the City of Brantford. There were no questions.

##### ii. Report of the Provost and VP: Academic

H. Northwood advised that her usual newsletter to the community will be distributed next week, and then she provided a brief update on a variety of matters, including: the tremendous turnouts to and participation in the

recent Brantford, and Provost/Financial Sustainability town halls, and, that the presentations and recordings are available online; an update on applications and confirmations, and she encouraged Senators to take part in the coming open houses; that more information about international student numbers and other admission matters will be provided in her next newsletter. There were no questions.

iii. Report from the Board of Governors

L. Chu provided Senators with an overview of the February 13, 2025 Board of Governors meeting. There were no questions.

c. Business Arising from the Previous Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

2. Reports and Recommendations from Standing Committees

a. Senate Academic Planning Committee

i. Faculty Petitions

T. McLaren spoke to the proposed revision to the Faculty Petitions procedures and she expressed thanks to individuals across campus who are involved with petitions.

**Motion (T. McLaren/P. Urquhart):** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee the Senate approve the revision to Faculty Petitions Procedures, in the undergraduate academic calendar, to take effect for the 2025/2026 academic year. **Carried.**

ii. In-Person Program: Definition Revision, T. McLaren  
T. McLaren spoke to the proposed change and the rationale.

**Motion (T. McLaren/S. Ramsay):** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee the Senate approve the revision to the definition of In-Person Program, in the undergraduate and graduate academic calendars, to take effect for the 2025/2026 academic year. **Carried.**

iii. Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies

B. Wolfe introduced and briefly spoke to each submission.

Senate heard motions a. and k. as an omnibus motion.

a) Major Modification, Master of Education

**Motion (B. Wolfe/B. Basso):** that on the recommendation of the

Senate Academic Planning Committee the Senate approve the addition of the Virtual Hybrid delivery mode for the Master of Education. **Carried.**

Senate heard motions b., c., d., e., and f. as an omnibus motion.

- b) Major Modification, MA, MES, MSc, PhD in Geography  
**Motion (B. Wolfe/M-L. Byrne):** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee the Senate approve the closure of the four programs that comprise the Waterloo-Laurier Joint Graduate Program in Geography. **Carried.**
- c) Major Modification, MA in Geography  
**Motion (B. Wolfe/M-L. Byrne):** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee the Senate approve the changes in program requirements to the MA in Geography in order to transition to a standalone graduate program. **Carried.**
- d) Major Modification, MES in Geography  
**Motion (B. Wolfe/M-L. Byrne):** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee the Senate approve the changes in program requirements to the MES in Geography in order to transition to a standalone graduate program. **Carried.**
- e) Major Modification, MSc in Geography  
**Motion (B. Wolfe/M-L. Byrne):** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee the Senate approve the changes in program requirements to the MSc in Geography in order to transition to a standalone graduate program. **Carried.**
- f) Major Modification, PhD in Geography  
**Motion (B. Wolfe/M-L. Byrne):** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee the Senate approve the changes in program requirements to the PhD in Geography in order to transition to a standalone graduate program. **Carried.**

Senate heard motions g., i., and m. as an omnibus motion.

- g) Major Modification, MSc in Mathematics  
**Motion (B. Wolfe/P. Urquhart):** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee the Senate approve the changes within the fields of concentration within the MSc in Mathematics degree. **Carried with one vote against.**

Senate heard motions h., i., and j. as an omnibus motion.

- h) Major Modification, MSc in Psychology – Cognitive and Behavioural Neurosciences

**Motion (B. Wolfe/P. Mallet):** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee the Senate approve the change in program requirements for the MSc in Psychology program. **Carried.**

- i) Major Modification, PhD in Psychology – Developmental Psychology  
**Motion (B. Wolfe/P. Mallet):** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee the Senate approve the course changes and changes to the program requirements of the PhD in Psychology – Developmental Psychology field. **Carried.**
- j) Major Modification, PhD in Psychology – Social Psychology  
**Motion (B. Wolfe/P. Mallet):** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee the Senate approve the changes to the program requirements for the PhD in Psychology – Social Psychology field. **Carried.**
- k) Major Modification, Master of Social Work – Indigenous Field of Study  
**Motion (B. Wolfe/B. Basso):** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee the Senate approve the addition of an in-person hybrid mode of delivery for the Master of Social Work – Indigenous Field of Study. **Carried.**
- l) Major Modification, Master of Arts in Social Justice and Community Engagement  
**Motion (B. Wolfe/P. Urquhart):** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee the Senate approve the changes to the Major Research Project Option of the MA in Social Justice and Community Engagement program. **Carried with one vote against.**
- m) Major Modification, Master of Arts in Communication Studies  
**Motion (B. Wolfe/P. Urquhart):** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee the Senate approve the creation of a Type 1 Graduate Diploma in Communication Studies. **Carried with one vote against.**

iv. Faculty of Arts

S. Lachapelle introduced each item for Senators.

- a) Major Modification, History, Ancient Studies  
**Motion (S. Lachapelle/P. Urquhart):** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee the Senate approve the creation of a General BA in Ancient Studies. **Carried.**
- b) Major Modification, History  
**Motion (S. Lachapelle/C. Johnston Turner):** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee he

Senate approve the addition of the History Teaching Specialization.  
**Carried.**

- c) Major Modification, History (FLA Brantford)

**Motion (S. Lachapelle/B. McKay):** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee the Senate approve the changes to the requirements of the Public History Specialization.

**Carried.**

- v. Faculty of Human and Social Sciences

B. McKay provided a brief overview of each item.

- a) Major Modification, Criminology

**Motion (B. McKay/J. Popham):** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee the Senate approve the creation of a Specialization in Foundations of Cybercrime in the Honours BA in Criminology programs. **Carried.**

Senate heard motions b., c., d., and e. as an omnibus motion.

- b) Major Modification, Game Design and Development

**Motion (B. McKay/J. Popham):** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee the Senate approve the changes to the program requirements and mode of delivery of the Honours BA Game Design and Development. **Carried.**

- c) Major Modification, Game Design and Development

**Motion (B. McKay/J. Popham):** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee the Senate approve the changes to the program requirements and a change in the mode of program delivery in the Honours BA Game Design and Development in Combination with another Honours BA Program. **Carried.**

- d) Major Modification, Game Design and Development

**Motion (B. McKay/J. Popham):** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee the Senate approve the changes to the mode of program delivery and the removal of an existing degree program offering from a location for the Minor in Game Design and Development. **Carried.**

- e) Major Modification, Game Design and Development

**Motion (B. McKay/J. Popham):** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee the Senate approve a minor in Critical Game Studies for the Faculty of Human and Social Sciences.  
**Carried.**

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vi. Faculty of Science

H. Northwood advised that one item sent to the February Senate Academic Planning Committee for approval had been sent in error, and hence was not brought forward to Senate.

A. Clarke introduced the proposal for the new program mode of delivery.

a) Major Modification, Physics and Computer Science

**Motion (A. Clarke/L. Dawe):** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee the Senate approve the addition of an in-person hybrid mode of delivery for the following programs: BA Computer Science in Combination, Honours BA Computer Science, and Honours BSc in Computer Science program. **Carried.**

b) Senate Executive and Finance Committee

a) 2025-2026 Budget Development Update

L. Noronha and Z. Danis spoke to the presentation distributed with the agenda, highlighting: the budget context; last year's approved budget; the coming year's budget drivers; next steps to final approval by the Board of Governors, which is now planned for June to allow more time for due diligence and discussion. Senators heard about the funding formula and strategy; how reserves will be used to help offset some of the expected deficit, but that this will not be sustainable in the long run; ongoing austerity measures; and how efforts made by the Laurier community over the last decade have made a critical difference to the University's finances. H. Northwood provided Senators with an overview of the budget driver related to the direct costs of teaching, and commended the Faculties for increased summer enrollments and efforts undertaken to help with retention of upper year students.

In discussion: some considerations about possible tariff impacts and how that issue is being monitored in a variety of areas; that Ontario legislation already drives the University toward Ontario-based businesses for the procurement of certain goods and services; probable impacts of tariffs on pension plan investments, which do not affect the operating budget; potential assistance that may come forward from both the federal and provincial levels of government.

b) 2024-2025 6-Month Fiscal Update

Z. Danis spoke to the presentation distributed with the agenda, highlighting generally the second quarter's results which provide a budget-to-actuals variance analysis for the operating, ancillary, and consolidated funds, a year-end forecast, and analysis of major variances to the budget. She noted that the second quarter drivers remain and are

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expected to continue.

3. Matters from the Consent Section of the Agenda

None.

4. Other Business

There was no other business.

5. Q&A with Leadership

There were no questions.

6. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned by consensus.

7. Consent Items

a. Items for Approval

- i. Agenda
- ii. Draft Minutes of the January 27, 2025 Senate Meeting
- iii. Substantive Minor, Master of Applied Computing  
**Motion:** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee the Senate approve the change in the calendar description of the Master of Applied Computing program.
- iv. Substantive Minor, MA in Psychology – Community Psychology  
**Motion:** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee the Senate approve the change to the admission requirements of the MA in Psychology – Community Psychology field.
- v. Substantive Minor, MA, PhD in Psychology  
**Motion:** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee the Senate approve the changes to the program requirements of the MA and PhD in Psychology – Community Psychology field.
- vi. Substantive Minor, MSc, PhD in Psychology – Cognitive and Behavioural Neurosciences  
**Motion:** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee the Senate approve the changes to the program requirements and associated course deletions in the MSc and PhD in Psychology programs – Cognitive and Behavioural Neurosciences field.
- vii. Substantive Minor, MA in Psychology – Developmental Psychology  
**Motion:** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee the Senate approve the changes to the program requirements for the MA in Psychology – Developmental Psychology field.
- viii. Substantive Minor, Master of Music Therapy

- Motion:** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee the Senate approve the changes to the course schedule for the Master of Music Therapy program.
- ix. Substantive Minor, Master of Arts in Theology, Master of Arts in Theology/Master of Divinity  
**Motion:** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee the Senate approve the separation of TH664M (1.0 credit) into two half-credit courses for the MA in Theology and MA/MDiv programs.
- x. Substantive Minor, Political Science  
**Motion:** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee the Senate approve changes to the list of courses for the Canadian Requirement.
- xi. Substantive Minor, Political Science  
**Motion:** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee the Senate approve changes to the list of courses for the Area Studies Requirement.
- xii. Substantive Minor, Philosophy  
**Motion:** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee the Senate approve the removal of the maximum number of philosophy credits requirement, to complete the HBA in Philosophy.
- xiii. Substantive Minor, Philosophy  
**Motion:** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee the Senate approve the removal of the maximum number of philosophy credits requirement, to complete the Combined HBA in Philosophy.
- xiv. Substantive Minor, Law and Society  
**Motion:** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee the Senate approve the changes to the requirements of the Politics and Public Policy Specialization and Option.
- xv. Substantive Minor, Social and Environmental Justice  
**Motion:** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee that Senate approve the changes to program requirements for the Social and Environmental Justice Minor.
- xvi. Substantive Minor, Biology  
**Motion:** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee the Senate approve the changes to the BSc and BA Biology with Concentrations.
- xvii. Substantive Minor, Bachelor of Music Therapy  
**Motion:** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee the Senate the changes to the Entrance Pathway for the Bachelor of Music Therapy.
- xviii. Substantive Minor, Honours Bachelor of Music  
**Motion:** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee the Senate approve the changes to the Specializations for the Honours Bachelor of Music program.
- xix. Substantive Minor, Honours Bachelor of Music



**Motion:** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee the Senate approve the changes to the program requirements for the Honours Bachelor of Music.

- xx. Substantive Minor, Faculty of Music and Metalworks Institute

**Motion:** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee the Senate approve the changes to the program requirements for the pathways between the WLU Faculty of Music and Metalworks Institute.

- xxi. Substantive Minor, Faculty of Music and Randolph College for the Performing Arts

**Motion:** that on the recommendation of the Senate Academic Planning Committee the Senate approve the changes to the program requirements for the pathways between the WLU Faculty of Music and the Randolph College for the Performing Arts.

**b. Items for Information**

- i. Reports of the Senior Executives
- ii. Cyclical Program Review Report
- iii. Winter Enrolment Report
- iv. Report from the Senate Governance Committee on Recent Committee Appointments