Senate Meeting
Thursday, April 06, 2023; 3:00 pm PDT
Via Microsoft Teams
Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Sheldon Levy (UCW President and Senate Chair)

Stephanie Chu (Executive Dean/AVP Teaching, Learning and Scholarship)

Henrique Gea (Registrar)

George Drazenovic, Jill Cummings (Program Chairs)

Nam Le, Salvador Trevino, Penny Farley, Alexander Sakharov, Jason Walker, Noosha Mehdian, Hamed

*Taherdoost, Manbo He, Mehdi Akhgari***, *Rushdi Alsaleh* (Faculty Representatives)

Anna Lee Boulton (Staff Representatives)

Catherine Vertesi (UCW Board of Governors Representative)

Saleiha Sharif (Senate Coordinator)

Regrets:

Maureen Mancuso (Vice-President Academic)

Adrian Mitescu (University Librarian and Senate Secretary)

Michele Vincenti, Larry Earnhart (Program Chairs)

Shweta Shaw (Student Representative)

Guests:

Cassie Savoie (Director, Academic Operations & Support Services)

Harpreet Ahluwalia (Director, Curriculum and Quality Assurance)

Bradley Fehr (Associate Director Communications)

Amit Kohli (Research Ethics Board Chair)

Absent:

Gelareh Farhadian (Program Chair)

Mamtha Nagaraja (Alumni Representative)

Manik Gupta, Udayveer Singh (Student Representatives)

1. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgment   S. Levy

*We acknowledge that the territories on which UCW and its campuses are situated are the traditional, ancestral and unceded territories of the **xʷməθkʷəy̓əm** (Musqueam), **Sḵwx̱wú7mesh** (Squamish) and **Sel̓íl̓witulh** (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations. We thank them for having cared for this land since time immemorial, honour their graciousness to the students who seek knowledge here, and iterate our dedication to valuing the ongoing contributions of Indigenous peoples and communities.*

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm PST.

2. Approval of the Agenda   S. Levy

Motion: To approve the agenda as presented.
Moved: *P. Farley* **Seconded:** *A. Sakharov*
Motion carried unanimously

3. Approval of Minutes   S. Levy

a)   Minutes from the Senate meeting on March 02, 2023

Motion: To approve Minutes from the Senate meeting on March 02, 2023, as presented
Moved: *S. Trevino*   **Seconded:** *M. He*
Motion carried unanimously

4. Business arising from the minutes   [none]

5. President's report   S. Levy

Sheldon mentioned that A. Mitescu is away therefore H. Gea will be the Acting Secretary for this meeting. He mentioned that it is really a difficult challenge to deal with the space with the growing number of students in the university and everyone is working hard to deal with this challenge. He updated the members about the enrollment of new students and working constraints of IRCC. He further mentioned the discussions with the government members upon the bridge constructions and its interruptions in the university's activities. The Senate members asked follow-up clarifying questions about the space constraints that was answered by S. Levy.

6. Vice President Academic's report   M. Mancuso

On behalf of M. Mancuso, H. Gea presented the VPA's report. In her report, she mentioned that external reviews of the MBA, BABC, and BComm programs were conducted between March 6th and 14th. Reviewers from post-secondary institutions from across BC and Alberta met with students, staff, faculty, and program leadership as a part of the review process. The reports are being completed (only received the BComm report) and the next step is for the programs to respond. The external review for the AA is

being scheduled and will take place in mid to late April on campus. She also extended her gratitude to those involved in the preparation for the review and to those who gave their time to meet with the reviewers. She emphasized that this process is an important exercise to receive external feedback on how UCW can improve its programs and directly feeds into the upcoming consent renewal process required by DQAB. Lastly, she mentioned that proposal for a Master of Marketing degree program is moving forward to the second stage in the approval process as per information of DQAB.

7. Registrar's report   H. Gea

H. Gea gave an overview of the enrollment numbers, and he was pleased to share that student enrollment for the Spring intake is very strong. However, visa approval rate by IRCC might affect the current number of application acceptance. He further highlighted that UCW is now seeking stronger candidates than before, and recruitment team is also working in some strategies to address the diversity. He further mentioned that report on graduates will be presented in next meeting because final grades are not declared yet. On replying to H. Ahluwalia, he mentioned that UCW will accommodate the students from partner institutions through the same pool.

8. Question period

J. Walker asked about the updates on budget approval on which S. Levy mentioned that it is still under approval process by the finance group, and he is confident to be approved by the Board. S. Trevino gave some suggestions for recruiting students from Latin America on which H. Gea replied that number of Latin Americans is lower in all Canadian institutions in general.

9. Committee Reports
   a) **Academic Planning & Priorities**   M. Mancuso
       There has been no meeting.

   b) **Governance and Policies Committee**   M. He
       M. He mentioned that though the meeting has been conducted but there is nothing special to present to Senate.

   c) **Quality Assurance**   S. Chu
       There has been no meeting. However, S. Chu mentioned that QA meeting will be reviewing the responses to the external reviews in the upcoming meetings.

   d) **University Curriculum Committee**   A. Sakharov

       A. Sakharov provided a report on the terms of reference for the Program Curriculum Working Committees; each for undergraduate and graduate programs and some course updates. He mentioned that three courses have minor update whereas "BUSI651 - Machine Learning Tools and Techniques" have major update which will be presented by Rushdi.

i. BUSI651 - Machine Learning Tools and Techniques   R. Alsaleh

Rushdi presented the major changes in the course description, as the removal of specific tool *AWS Amazon Cloud* from the course. He suggested that it is better to use generalized tools like Amazon, Microsoft, and many other providers. He further mentioned the updates in the optional resources and addition of optional textbook in the course.

Motion: *To* approve the major changes in BUSI651, as presented.
Moved: *A. Sakharov* **Seconded:** *S.Chu*
Motion carried unanimously

e) **Research and Scholarly Activities**   H. Taherdoost
H. Taherdoost provided an update on the progress of the new initiatives to support scholarly activities. He further briefed about the Second GUS Summit and upcoming 2x international conferences.

f) **Honorary Degrees and Awards Committee**   M. Mancuso

S. Trevino briefed that the Committee members worked to generate a list of potential nominees and have also considered a nomination for an Honorary Doctorate which will be considered during the In Camera session. He further mentioned that the committee received an update on the nominations for the Teaching and Learning Awards, which will be considered at the April meeting of the Committee and the May Senate meeting.

10. Other Business

a. **New Partnership Agreement:**
   i. *Bayswater Education Canada Inc.*   H. Ahluwalia
   H. Ahluwalia provided an update on the new partnership agreement with Bayswater Education Canada Inc. to the Senate members.

   Motion: To approve new partnership agreement with Bayswater Education Canada Inc, as presented.
   Moved: *H. Taherdoost* **Seconded:** *S. Chu*
   Motion carried unanimously

S. Levy reminded participants that there is an IN CAMERA SESSION (non-voting members of the Senate will be asked to depart)

11. *In Camera* Session   S. Levy

Motion: To move proceedings of the Senate in camera
Moved: *H. Gea* **Seconded:** *S. Chu*

Motion carried unanimously

Motion: To move the proceedings of the Senate out of camera
Moved: *R. Alsaleh* **Seconded:** *J. Walker*
Motion carried unanimously

12. Adjournment   S. Levy

Motion: To adjourn the meeting
Moved: *P. Farley* **Seconded:** *S. Trevino*
Motion carried unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 3:56 pm.