

Senate Meeting

Thursday, July 06, 2023; 3:00 pm PDT

Via Microsoft Teams

Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Sheldon Levy (UCW President and Senate Chair)

Maureen Mancuso (Vice-President Academic)

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

Henrique Gea (Registrar)

Michele Vincenti, Larry Earnhart, Jill Cummings (Program Chairs)

Nam Le, Alexander Sakharov, Penny Farley, Jason Walker, Rushdi Alsaleh, Noosha Mehdian, Hamed

Taherdoost, Manbo He, Mohsen Saeedi, Jack Smith (Faculty Representatives)

Anna Lee Boulton, Maryam Rostamy (Staff Representatives)

Catherine Vertesi (UCW Board of Governors Representative)

Shweta Shaw (Student Representative)

Adrian Mitescu (University Librarian and Senate Secretary)

Saleiha Sharif (Senate Coordinator)

Guests:

Christine Chan (Director, Student Affairs & Services)

Cassie Savoie (Director, Academic Operations & Support Services)

Harpreet Ahluwalia (Director, Curriculum & Quality Assurance)

Cherie Chang (Manager, Advising Services)

Heidi Rolfe (Compliance Officer)

Bradley Fehr (Associate Director Communications)

Amit Kohli (Research Ethics Board Chair)

Nicoletta Romano (Manager, Library and Learning Commons)

Marina Candeia (Project Manager, Transfer & Institutional Partnership)

Annette O'Hara (Ombudsperson)

Leanh Tran (Accessibility Manager)



Regrets:

George Drazenovic, Gelareh Farhadian (Program Chairs)

Salvador Trevino, Mehdi Akhgari (Faculty Representatives)

Mamtha Nagaraja (Alumni Representative)

Absent:



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), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) and Selilwitulh (Tseil-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 3:01 pm PST.

2. Approval of the Agenda

S. Levy

Motion: To approve the agenda, as presented with minor amendment by adding 1 additional item under 'Other Business'.

Moved: A.L. Boulton **Seconded:** R. Alsaleh

Motion carried unanimously

3. Approval of Minutes

S. Levy

a) Minutes from the Senate meeting on June 1st, 2023

Motion: To approve Minutes from the Senate meeting on June 01, 2023, as presented.

Moved: A. Sakharov **Seconded:** M. Saeedi

Motion carried unanimously

4. Business arising from the minutes

[none]

5. President's report

S. Levy

Sheldon mentioned that J.Walker is leaving UCW, and he acknowledged his contributions to the Senate as Vice Chair. He further welcomed Annette O' Hara who joined UCW as Ombudsperson. He acknowledged all the work done involved in preparing business plan, strategic plan and applications for renewal of Consent for DQAB. He mentioned that this year is strong enough in terms of student enrollment which registrar will brief the members in his report. Lastly, he mentioned that Senate approved the Honorary degree to Arlene Dickinson in the coming convocation. She accepted the degree, but she sent her apologies due to some family emergency she had. Therefore, it is postponed to next convocation.

6. Vice President Academic's report

M. Mancuso

M. Mancuso welcomed the new hires Marina Candeia, as Project Manager - Transfer & Institutional Partnership and Stewart Fast, as the Director of the Office of Research and Scholarships. She further mentioned that work continues in reviewing candidates for the position of the Associate Vice President Student Affairs and continuing faculty positions. She expressed gratitude to all those faculty members

who are involved in this process. Secondly, she mentioned that two of Applications for Renewal of Consent was completed whereas MBA and AA are in process and will be presented in the next Senate meeting for final approval. Lastly, she gave an update on work completed at West Pender building.

7. Registrar's report

H. Gea

H. Gea gave an overview of the enrollment numbers, and status of registrations. He mentioned that it is for the first-time summer intake is higher than this spring. He also shared the details and location (Queen Elizabeth Theatre) of UCW convocation which will take place on July 20th and 21st. Almost 3,000 students are expected to attend the convocation however, at the time of the report 2,075 students have been registered so far for the convocation. The follow-up questions regarding number of new students and teaching weeks in the Academic calendar was answered by H. Gea.

8. Question period

[None]

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 and updates on certain policies and procedures were presented.

i. 5051 –Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities

C. Chan

C. Chan presented the general background, rationale, consultations, proposed changes, and implementation plan of the existing 5051 – Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities Policy and procedure. She suggested to change the title of the policy from “Supporting Students with Disabilities” to “Academic Accommodations for Students with Accessibility needs”. Further introduced L. Tran, Accessibility Manager who explained the proposed changes in the policy; as added specific definitions, responsibilities of accessibility services and other associated positions. She mentioned that specific responsibilities are added in the document (like include identifying reasonable academic accommodations, reviewing documentation, and collaborating with other departments) as well as changes in the procedure. Extensive communication plan is to create broad awareness and training for students and faculty regarding this policy.

Motion: To approve the updates to the Policy 5051, as presented.

Moved: M. He **Seconded:** L. Earnhart

Motion carried unanimously

ii. 6006 – Copyright

A. Mitescu

A. Mitescu presented this policy in his capacity of University Librarian and mentioned the rationale, proposed changes, and implementation of the existing policy. This policy update is in line with the Copyright Act of Canada and acts as a guiding mechanism for the faculty while uploading materials into the new Learning Management System (LMS). Major updates are done in clarifying the language and responsibility section of the policy, and guidelines in the procedure. Extensive communication plan is to create broad awareness and training for UCW community regarding Consultations have been made from a specialized law firm, LMS integration team, some faculty and also worked with the Compliance Officer this policy.

Motion: To approve the updates to the Policy 6006 - Copyright, as presented.

Moved: *M. He* **Seconded:** *M. Saeedi*

Motion carried unanimously

iii. 9023 – Academic Standing

H. Gea

H. Gea briefed the members about changes made in the exiting policy. The changes that are considered in this policy are centered on giving students more opportunities to continue with their studies before suspension or withdrawals. The purpose of these changes is to increase the retention rates as well as align the policy with the automated processes. The main changes that applied to all programs and even the preparatory courses are in terms of inclusion of the term ‘GPA’ - as a metric to determine academic standing. He briefly described the procedure of academic standing and measures taken in this regard. After being approved from the Senate, this policy will be in implemented from Fall 2023 session.

Motion: To approve the updates to the Policy 9023 – Academic Standing, as presented.

Moved: *M. Saeedi* **Seconded:** *A. Sakharov*

Motion carried unanimously

iv. 5040 – Academic Integrity Appeal Committee (Repeal)

C. Savoie

C. Savoie mentioned that this is the first time using the request to repeal a policy. The rationale for the request to repeal is the redundancy in this policy as that of updates/ revisions approved in Policy 5006 - Academic Integrity. . Communication team will remove this policy from UCW website in July after updating Policy 5006.

Motion: To approve the repeal of Policy 5040 – Academic Integrity Appeal Committee, as presented.

Moved: *R. Alsaleh* **Seconded:** *L. Earnhart*

Motion carried unanimously

- c) **Quality Assurance** S. Chu
There has been no meeting.

- d) **University Curriculum Committee** A. Sakharov
A. Sakharov briefed that in the last meeting committee several courses were presented for the major update but most of them were sent for revision and will be presented in Sep meeting.

i. **Course Updates (Major Changes):**

- a. **MGMT 648 - Professional Project Management** L. Earnhart

L. Earnhart presented the major aspects of this new course MGMT 648. He mentioned ten knowledge areas which are associated with the processes, procedures, tool, and techniques applied in this field. The main rationale of this course is how to apply agile project management methodology in a real complex project. He further mentioned that it is the third of three electives in the sequence of project management elective courses and by adding this in the electives will allow to go ahead and ask for PMI accreditation.

Motion: To approve the new course MGMT 648, as presented.

Moved: M. He **Seconded:** A. Sakharov

Motion carried unanimously

- e) **Research and Scholarly Activities** H. Taherdoost
There has been no meeting.

- f) **Honorary Degrees and Awards Committee** M. Mancuso
There has been no meeting.

10. Other Business

a. **New Partnership Agreement:**

- i. **Saigon Business School, Vietnam** H. Ahluwalia
H. Ahluwalia provided an update on the new partnership agreement with Saigon Business School, Vietnam to the Senate members. She mentioned that this business school is a part of E-quest educational group.

Motion: To approve new partnership agreement with Saigon Business School, Vietnam, as presented.

Moved: M. Saeedi **Seconded:** R. Alsaleh

Motion carried unanimously

- b. **Senate Secretariate Updates** A. Mitescu

A. Mitescu mentioned that Vice-chair of the Senate, Dr. J. Walker will be stepping down as faculty representative therefore we will be looking to appoint a replacement. For the elections of the Vice-Chair Senate, we will follow the same process as did the last time and will do the announcement in the September meeting. Further he mentioned that the Bylaws allowed to appoint the faculty representative from the list of candidates of the last elections Spring 2023, who are in top order. He briefed the members that student representatives are graduated therefore those positions are also vacant and elections will be conducted for Fall 2023. Lastly, he reminded the members about the final date of the Senate Annual Retreat is on Sep 28 around 2 PM onwards and location is “Le Soleil”, a hotel in downtown Vancouver.

11. Adjournment

S. Levy

Motion: To adjourn the meeting

Moved: J. Walker **Seconded:** A. Sakharov

Motion carried unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 4:02 pm.