

Senate Meeting

Thursday, April 04, 2024; 3:00 pm PDT

Via Microsoft Teams

Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Bashir Makhoul (UCW President and Senate Chair)

Stephanie Chu (AVP Teaching, Learning and Scholarship)

Henrique Gea (Registrar)

George Drazenovic, Gelareh Farhadian, Larry Earnhart, Michele Vincenti, and Jill Cummings (Program Chairs)

Mohsen Saeedi, Nam Le, Alexander Sakharov, Penny Farley, Mehdi Akhgari, Rushdi Alsaleh, Noosha Mehdian, Hamed Taherdoost, Manbo He, Jack Smith, Nisa Chand, Abedeh Gholidoust, and Min Kay (Faculty Representatives)

Anna Lee Boulton, Maryam Rostamy (Staff Representatives)

Brenda Mathenia (University Librarian)

Udhaykaran Singh (Student Representatives)

Adrian Mitescu (Director Institutional Accountability & Senate Secretary)

Saleiha Sharif (Senate Coordinator)

Guests:

Christine Chan (Director, Student Affairs & Services)

Amy Hua (Director, Academic Planning and Budgeting)

Cassie Savoie (Director, Academic Operations and Support Services)

Harpreet Ahluwalia (Director, Curriculum & Quality Assurance)

Cherie Chang (Manager of Advising Services)

Jamie Molz (Communication Manager)

Susanna Chow (Director, Institutional Risk & Compliance)

Annette O'Hara (Ombudsperson)

Komil Mamajanov (Vice President Strategic Development)

Stewart Fast (Director, Office of Research & Scholarship)



Absent:

Salvador Trevino (Faculty Representatives)

Nneka Ofodum, Arya Patel, Janette Adriana (Student Representatives)

Mamtha Nagaraja (Alumni Representative)



1. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgment

Bashir Makhoul

We acknowledge that the territories on which UCW and its campuses are situated are the traditional, ancestral and unceded territories of the x̱m̱əθḵw̱əy̱əm (Musqueam), Sḵw̱x̱w̱ú7mesh (Squamish) and Seḻiḻw̱iṯuḻh (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 3:00 pm PST.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Bashir Makhoul

Motion: To approve the agenda with minor changes that involve removing item 5.a.iii.h.a.i.b. “HSTM 101 – Hospitality and Tourism” under *Consent Agenda*, as presented.

Moved: Michele Vincenti **Seconded:** Manbo He

Motion carried unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes

Bashir Makhoul

a. Minutes from the previous Senate meeting on March 07, 2024

Motion: To approve Minutes from the Senate meeting on March 07, 2024 with minor changes that involve removing the name of Maryam Rostamy under "Regrets", as presented.

Moved: Noosha Mehdian **Seconded:** Maryam Rostamy

Motion carried unanimously.

4. President’s Communication

Bashir Makhoul

Bashir Makhoul warmly welcomed Dr. Mazi Shirvani, who recently joined UCW as the interim Vice President Academic. He noted Dr. Mazi's extensive experience in academia and expressed confidence that his expertise would greatly benefit UCW. He also expressed appreciation for all the work that Dr. Maureen Mancuso, the outgoing Vice President Academic, has completed during her tenure at University Canada West. Further, he extended appreciation to all those involved in the preparation of the MBA review, recognizing their dedication and efforts.

5. Consent Agenda

Bashir Makhoul

Motion: To approve the consent agenda as a package, as presented.

Moved: Alexander Sakharov **Seconded:** Mohsen Saeedi

Motion carried unanimously.

6. Question period

[None]

7. Proposals from Standing Committees

a. University Curriculum Committee

i. Program Learning Outcome : Change – BABC

Noosha Mehdian

Noosha Mehdian shared that during the cyclical program review, a recommendation was made to revise the program learning outcomes to focus on assessing fundamental issues using communication theories. Consequently, based on feedback from external reviewers, the Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) have been updated. One of the PLOs has been reformulated to emphasize understanding "important" cultural contexts instead of "simple" ones. Additionally, writing skills have been incorporated as one of the program's learning outcomes.

Motion: *To approve the changes in Program Learning Outcomes of BABC, as presented.*

Moved: *Anna Lee Boulton* **Seconded:** *Mohsen Saeedi*

Motion carried unanimously.

8. Other Business

a. Senate Evaluation/Follow up from Senate Retreat

Adrian Mitescu

Adrian Mitescu briefed the members of the Senate regarding outcomes of the Senate Retreat. He highlighted that a consultant facilitated a series of exercises aimed at enhancing the effectiveness of the Senate. Following these exercises, a mini session was conducted where members of the Senate have worked to determine the topics of interest that will require further investigation. As part of the retreat package, a brief memo and evaluation instrument were distributed to assess the Senate's functioning. The questions within the instrument were sourced from consultant Bonnie Patterson, and special appreciation was extended to Dr. Hamed Taherdoost for offering expertise in providing feedback on the instrument. Adrian also expressed gratitude to Dr. Stewart Fast, Director of the Office of Research and Scholarship, for coordinating the survey administration. Consequently, all Senate voting members and guests with speaking rights are encouraged to complete the survey, as it will aid in evaluating the Senate's strategic position and identifying areas for improvement.

9. In- Camera Discussion

Bashir Makhoul

Motion: To move proceedings of the Senate in camera

Moved: *Michele Vincenti* **Seconded:** *Stephanie Chu*

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion: To move the proceedings of the Senate out of camera

Moved: *Alexander Sakharov* **Seconded:** *Manbo He*

Motion carried unanimously.

10. Adjournment

Bashir Makhoul

The meeting adjourned at 3:55 pm.