

656TH MEETING OF SENATE
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15TH 2023, 2:30 P.M.
MCGREER 100 AND BY VIDEOCONFERENCE

MINUTES

Chair: Principal Sébastien Lebel-Grenier

Present: Dr. Hafid Agourram, Reena Atanasiadis, Dr. Darren Bardati, Sonoma Brawley, Martina Berkers, Julien Collin, Bruno Courtemanche, Dr. Julie Desjardins, Dr. Alexandre Drouin, Dr. Kerry Hull, Catherine Lavallée-Welch, Christina Lépine, Élodie Lescure, Sienna Longo, Dr. Jean Manore, Dr. Patrick McBrine, Dr. Matthew Peros, Dr. Jessica Riddell, Hans Rouleau, Dr. John Ruan, Chelsea Sheridan, Dr. Michael Teed, Dr. Jordan Tronsgard, Dr. Marianne Vigneault, Dr. Andrew Webster, Dr. Yanan Wang, Dr. Brad Willms, Cleo Wulder

Regrets: Dr. Dawn Wiseman

Guest: Stine Linden-Andersen

Secretary: Denise Lauzière, LL.B.

Principal Lebel-Grenier called the 656th meeting to order at 2:32 p.m.

656/0.1 TRANSITIONAL RULES

Principal Lebel-Grenier referred Senators to the proposed governance approach for today's meeting that is outlined in the Transitional Rules document.

Principal Lebel-Grenier explained that the changes in faculties and deans that have been instituted as a result of the changes in academic structures cannot fully come into effect until approved by the Board of Governors. He proposed that Senators in good standing agree that any individual renewed, nominated or elected after July 1, 2023 to Senate or its Committees in their capacity as a member of either of the Faculties of Humanities, Social Sciences or Natural Sciences and Mathematics be considered an invited guest and has the right to intervene but does not have the right to vote until the Board approves the changes to Statutes. This applies as well to the Deans of the three newly created Faculties.

This approach is in order to respond to the proposed changes in academic structures made by the

Academic Administration Structures Committee last spring. Given the nature of the changes are statutory, the Board of Governors received a 60-day notice to amend the Statutes at its June 9, 2023 meeting. Thus, the changes are being presented for adoption at the September 22, 2023 Board of Governors meeting.

Should the changes be approved by the Board, the appointment of the members identified above as well as decisions taken since July 1 will be ratified at the October Senate meeting.

In addition, a 60-day notice to amend the Statutes will be presented to the Board at its September 22 meeting to increase the number of Senators from the School of Education from one to two representatives as previously recommended by Senate and omitted from the June modifications.

This modification will be presented for approval at the December 15, 2023 Board meeting. Once approved the second Senator from the School of Education would immediately have standing.

A question was brought up as to whether the newly elected Division of Natural Science Senator would fall into the same category considering his election after July 1st, 2023.

Principal Lebel-Grenier clarified that the individuals affected by these changes are:

1. Dr. Darren Bardati
2. Dr. Kerry Hull
3. Dr. Jean Manore
4. Dr. Patrick McBrine
5. Dr. Matthew Peros
6. Dr. Jessica Riddell
7. Dr. John Ruan
8. Dr. Brad Willms
9. Dr. Marianne Vigneault

Dr. Alexandre Drouin requested clarification regarding the status of the individuals elected by the Faculty Council and inquired if there would be any other changes that could have structural impacts.

Denise Lauzière responded that the individuals elected by the Faculty Council are not affected by the changes.

The Principal reiterated that no other impact is anticipated.

Dr. Alexandre Drouin sought confirmation that there will be two Senators per School and per Faculty.

Principal Lebel-Grenier confirmed that there will be two Senators per School and per Faculty once all of the modifications have been approved by the Board of Governors.

Motion:

THAT Senators in good standing agree that any individual renewed, nominated or elected after July 1, 2023 to Senate or its Committees in their capacity as a member of either of the Faculties of Humanities, Social Sciences or Natural Sciences and Mathematics be considered an invited guest and has the right to intervene but does not have the right to vote until the Board approves the changes to Statutes, which is scheduled to occur at its September 22, 2023 meeting.

THAT Senators in good standing agree that a second Senator from the School of Education be considered an invited guest and have the right to intervene but not have the right to vote until the Board approves the changes to the Statutes, which is scheduled to occur at its December 15, 2023 meeting.

Moved by: Sébastien Lebel-Grenier

Seconded: Julien Collin

Motion carried.

656/1 AGENDA

Moved by: Andrew Webster

Seconded: Alexandre Drouin

The agenda was approved as presented.

656/2 MINUTES

The following correction was brought to the Minutes of the 655th Senate meeting held on June 7th, 2023.

Correction to Item 655/2: the Co-Chair of the EWP Writing Centre Senate Committee is Diana Gagné not Diana Côté.

Moved by: Julien Collin

Seconded: Andrew Webster

The Minutes of the 655th Senate meeting held on June 7th, 2023 were adopted with this modification.

Motion carried.

656/3 COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR

Principal Lebel-Grenier began by expressing his pleasure at chairing this first Senate meeting as Principal of the University. He welcomed new faculty Senators Patrick McBrine and John Ruan as well as student Senators Martina Berkers, Christina Lépine, Élodie Lescure, Sienna Longo, Chelsea Sheridan and Cleo Wulder.

The Principal continued by communicating his vision for Senate as the academic governing body of the University.

Vision: Roles, Responsibilities and Priorities

- Senate's primary objective and Senators' main responsibilities are to provide academic leadership, to foster excellence and to offer exceptional educational opportunities to students. This governing body serves as a forum for information on matters conducted on behalf of the University, where concerns or opportunities can be shared and where open discussions can take place. To foster these discussions, the relevant Senate agenda items should be sent to the Secretary General two weeks prior to the meeting and the supporting documents submitted nine days prior to the Senate meeting. All documents will be uploaded to the Senate portal at the latest by noon on the Monday leading up to the Senate meeting.
- Bishop's University is recognized for its strong sense of community. Nonetheless, the communication of our academic and research excellence should be fundamental components of the University's recognition strategy and culture. With this in mind, it is imperative that Senate provide academic and research leadership and assistance and serve as a place where discussion on important topics can be initiated, for example, on Generative Artificial Intelligence.
- One of the primary responsibilities of the Principal and his team is to represent the University on a political level, promote its interests and secure its growth and development. To achieve this, a steady enrolment of students is necessary. The targeted number of students to ensure long-term viability is 3000. This maximum number of students will allow the University to remain true to its identity, – that of an institution of higher learning on a human scale . Additionally, Bishop's is involved in ongoing discussions on several pressing issues, such as the place of English higher education institutions in Quebec, the proposed changes to immigration rules and the funding of Quebec universities. The important role that Michael Goldbloom played in recent years on these matters and in getting Bishop's recognized as a small regional university, is significant and it is in the University's best interest to pursue this work.
- Communication and recognition play an integral part in the success of the University. With this in mind, a search for an Associate Vice-Principal Recruitment, Marketing and Communications will be launched shortly. This position will lead efforts in presenting a brand that best represents Bishop's and will increase the outreach and visibility of the institution as well as more effectively transmit information to all constituency groups. This new Associate Vice-Principal will report directly to the Principal.
- A new strategic planning exercise will be undertaken to define the University's mission, goals and objectives for the coming years. The process of developing the strategic plan will involve internal and external outreach including surveys sent to different stakeholders before the December break. Benchmarking with other universities will also occur in the same timeframe. The priorities will then be identified during winter 2024 and committees will be formed to establish an action plan. The goal is to present the strategic plan to the Board of Governors at its June 14, 2024 meeting. The adoption of the strategic plan would then occur in September 2024.

- A report on the implementation of the 2019-2024 strategic framework will be presented to the Board of Governors at its meeting on June 14, 2024.

Principal Lebel-Grenier commented that since his arrival on July 1st, 2023 he has learned a lot and met with numerous individuals. He added that throughout the year, meetings will be held with small groups of staff and faculty to discuss and learn more about each other. Principal Lebel-Grenier stated that it is important for him to interact with our community to gain a more comprehensive understanding of Bishop's identity. Additionally, he will also engage with students at various events held on campus throughout the year.

The Principal finished by mentioning that Orientation Week was a wonderful experience. He is looking forward to Homecoming, taking place on September 15-17, 2023. He invited everyone to participate in the events that will take place on campus.

656/4 BUSINESS ARISING

There was no business arising.

656/5 COMMITTEE ITEMS

5.1 ACADEMIC STANDING AND ADMISSIONS POLICY COMMITTEE CHANGE TO COMPOSITION

The Vice-Principal Academic and Research Andrew Webster informed Senators that Dr. Dawn Wiseman, Chair of the Nominating Committee, suggested modifying the wording of the composition of the Academic Standing and Admissions Policy Committee to anticipate and reflect the changes to the academic structures which are being presented to the Board of Governors at its meeting on September 22, 2023. The proposed modifications would be to include in the list of members one overarching category of Deans of each academic unit rather than listing individual deans of each faculty and changing the title of the Director of Enrolment and Retention to AVP Recruitment, Communications and Marketing to reflect the intended change in position.

Hans Rouleau raised the issue of language disparities between the documents of the Nominating Committee and the supporting documents presented to Senate and whether it would be appropriate to address this matter prior to voting.

Denise Lauzière informed Senators that the Nominating Committee's decision was to keep the current wording and apply the changes to the Nominating Committee's documents only after approval by Senate.

Principal Lebel-Grenier proposed that the list of the composition of the Academic Standing and Admissions Policy Committee presented in the Nominations Committee report be modified following Senate's approval of the changes.

An amendment to the Nominating Committee report will be presented to reflect the changes.

Motion:

Subject to the approval by the Board of Governors of proposed amendments to the Statutes regarding the academic structure at its September 22 meeting,

THAT Senate approves the revision to the composition of the Academic Standing and Admissions Policy Committee to reflect the proposed changes made by the Academic Administrative Structures Committee.

Moved by: Andrew Webster
Seconded: Reena Atanasiadis

Motion carried.

5.2 SENATE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Denise Lauzière informed Senators that Dr. Marianne Vigneault will be presenting the report on behalf of Dr. Dawn Wiseman, who sent her regrets.

Dr. Vigneault expressed Dr. Wiseman's gratitude to all members of the Nominating Committee for their efforts in filling the positions for Senate Committees for the 2023-2024 academic year.

As Dr. Vigneault referred Senators to the Nomination Committee report, she reiterated Dr. Wiseman's satisfaction in the current standing of the membership of each of the Committees. The outstanding positions will be filled shortly and presented to Senate in the near future.

Dr. Vigneault thanked Dr. Wiseman for her work on this Committee.

Principal Lebel-Grenier added that the composition of the Academic Standing and Admissions Policy Committee will be in accordance with the new wording voted previously.

Any corrections or edits to the Committees should be sent to Dr. Wiseman.

Motion:

THAT Senate approves the membership of Senate Committees for the 2023-24 academic year as presented on September 15, 2023.

Moved by: Andrew Webster
Seconded: Michael Teed

Motion carried.

5.3 SENATE PROGRAM ACADEMIC REVIEW COMMITTEE (SPARC)

Vice-Principal Academic and Research Andrew Webster noted that the report contains two items: 1) the timeline and status of upcoming and ongoing Departments to be reviewed and 2) proposed external reviewers for Biochemistry and Biological Sciences as well as for Music. He mentioned that the year 2022-23 had been very busy with six SPARC reviews.

Dr. Webster informed Senators of the SPARC reports that should be presented to Senate in the fall 2023 semester are as follows:

1. Art History;
2. Computer Science;
3. Sociology;

4. *Études françaises et québécoises*;
5. Williams School of Business;
6. Classical Studies.

The upcoming two reviews will be done in the fall 2023 semester:

1. Biology and Biochemistry;
2. Music.

Dr. Webster continued by mentioning the Dean's report to Senate for the following programs will be presented in the winter 2024 semester:

1. Economics;
2. Library.

The upcoming three reviews are pending confirmation by the SPARC Committee for the winter 2024 semester:

1. School of Education;
2. Politics & International Studies;
3. Philosophy.

Dr. Webster then presented the external reviewers for the Biology and Biochemistry and the Music programs.

Dr. Webster noted that some SPARC members expressed concern about the heavy weighting of suggested reviewers from Maple League institutions. This will be addressed by SPARC once the committee is fully constituted.

Motion:

THAT Senate approves the proposed reviewers for the Department of Biochemistry and Biological Science and for the Department of Music, noting that the two (2) selected reviewers should not come from the same institution.

Moved by: Andrew Webster
Seconded by: Reena Atanasiadis

Motion carried.

5.4 SENATE COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Reena Atanasiadis presented the work of the Senate Committee on Academic Integrity. Senators were reminded that the Committee was reinstated at the 640th Senate meeting with the mandate to review the academic regulations on academic integrity. The Committee's main role is to review procedures for:

1. Educating;
2. Processing; and
3. Enforcing matters of academic integrity.

The Committee is composed of individuals from different disciplines, undergraduate and graduate students and aims to review the academic integrity regulations of the University as well as benchmark

the regulations against other universities. The three main levels of benchmarking undertaken were through :

1. An internal survey to faculty and librarians
2. A literature review; and
3. A review of the academic regulations of 31 Canadian universities from the *QS World University Ranking*.

The purpose of the survey was to collect data on the nature and frequency of academic dishonesty and to see if there was any difference in the perception of academic dishonesty pre-COVID-19, during COVID-19 and post-COVID-19.

The findings indicated that regulation enforcement needs to be improved, academic dishonesty must be better reported by professors and that stiffer penalties should be implemented.

Reena Atanasiadis emphasized that there was a significant increase of 157% in the incidence of academic misconduct reported during the COVID-19, 2020-2021 year across all divisions, including the library. She noted that this number should be higher as the reporting of academic dishonesty is largely underreported.

The objective of the literature review, undertaken by Anjali Vij and Lindsay Tilton under the supervision of Dr. Sunny Lau, was to establish best practices on academic integrity. The main findings were as follows:

1. Collaboration, support and engagement between all stakeholders play a key role in academic integrity;
2. Academic integrity needs to be an integral part of the University culture;
3. Better definition of academic integrity must be elaborated;
4. Prevention and penalties play an essential role in the prevention of academic dishonesty.

It also indicated that a united front and consistent collaboration and support between faculty and administrative staff, alongside sustained engagement with students, yields significant positive results.

The benchmarking exercise looked at:

- Procedures, and
- Penalties.

The key findings of the benchmarking on procedures are that some areas need improvement, especially prevention, training and education, information accessibility, access to resources, support, and reporting. The role of professors in reporting and tracking misconduct, the notification to Deans, or higher authority, and the chain of authority in the imposition of sanctions when academic misconduct arises also needs to be defined better.

With regards to penalties, the University adheres to the practices observed in other educational institutions. However, the reporting and enforcement of regulations related to academic misconduct is lacking and information on the penalties and consequences associated with different types of academic misconduct should be provided to faculty and students.

Reena Atanasiadis concluded by clarifying the work that will be done by different key University units this year and presented the timeline of the Committee. The final approval of the regulations is expected to be presented to Senate in March or April 2024.

Reena Atanasiadis mentioned that the primary objective is to update the regulations, the website and other documents pertaining to academic integrity.

Julien Collin asked if a guideline on student rights and disciplinary measures on academic misconduct will be developed.

Reena Atanasiadis stated that such a guideline will be developed.

656/6 OTHER BUSINESS

6.1 ACADEMIC REPORT

Dr. Andrew Webster, Vice-Principal Academic and Research, presented a report on the implications of Generative AI, especially ChatGPT, on teaching and learning at the University and its impact on higher education across the world since its inception. ChatGPT is a tool that uses machine learning to generate new content by analyzing and processing vast amounts of data from diverse sources that has quickly impacted every sphere of university.

At present, two distinct approaches are applied by universities to address the issue. The first one involves focusing on tools for academic misconduct, including severe warnings to students, tools for detecting usage of AI, and even preventing the use of these AI tools in assessment and instruction. The second approach is more flexible and relies on providing training, education and information both to students and faculty.

Dr. Webster mentioned that it would be in the best interest of the University to adopt a collaborative approach that allows us to learn from other universities. This approach would facilitate the establishment of a precise directive that aligns with the requirements of the University, while acknowledging that prevailing departmental cultures and individual professors' perspectives on the subject may vary. He encouraged Senators to check the sources he had included in his report.

He continued by stating that the design of assessment tasks may well require rethinking by faculty, as the impact of AI becomes clearer.

The Vice-Principal Academic and Research is asking Senate to create a taskforce on Generative AI to formulate an approach to suit our needs. The objective would be to present the progress of its work to Senate at the December meeting and to implement initial guidelines during the winter semester.

Given the ongoing questions that faculty and students may have about Generative AI, Dr. Webster proposed a standardized statement for Moodle pages for the fall semester and sample statements that faculty could include in course documentation. This approach aims to promote awareness of the impact of these tools on the academic process and facilitate dialogue between professors and students on this matter. This is an adaptive process that will undergo modifications as both faculty and students learn more about the implications of AI on university-level teaching and learning.

Motion 1:

THAT Senate approves the creation of a Task Force on the Use of Generative AI to investigate the challenge presented by Generative AI on teaching and learning at Bishop's University, and to provide principled guidance and actionable recommendations for faculty and students in time for the winter 2024 semester

The Task Force will:

- Draft guidelines and compile resources for faculty that enable them to make informed decisions regarding the use of Generative AI in their teaching approaches, including regarding learning activities and assessment design.
- Draft guidelines and compile resources for students that familiarize them with Generative AI tools to build digital literacy skills and also their ethical and appropriate use for learning.
- Discuss risks to academic integrity that may arise from the use of Generative AI and recommend strategies to mitigate those risks, including possible amendments to the University's Academic Regulations.
- Propose suggested types of training, learning opportunities or additional courses that might be offered to faculty and students, to develop and enhance a deeper understanding of Generative AI's impact on learning and teaching.

The Task Force will be composed of:

- The Vice Principal Academic and Research, or delegate
- One Dean
- Five members of the University's Full-time faculty and librarians
- One member of Contract Faculty
- Two Students.

Following a friendly amendment, librarians were added to the composition of the taskforce proposed in his report.

Dr. Jean Manore inquired if it applies to the use of AI in research.

Dr. Webster stated that this needs to be examined as the University has not engaged yet in the discussion of the use of AI in research. The present focus is on the delivery of teaching and learning. He followed by mentioning that the Senate Research Committee will have to take on the task of reflecting on the matter.

Dr. Julie Desjardins asked if an expert or a specialist on Generative AI could be part of the taskforce to lead the Committee.

Dr. Andrew Webster mentioned that one of the tasks of the Committee will be to reach out to specialists to obtain the insight and expertise needed to develop the best possible guidelines.

Dr. Michael Teed inquired on the appropriateness of creating a standing Committee since the issue will be evolving over time given that a taskforce is usually limited in time.

Dr. Webster agreed with Dr. Teed on the ongoing need for reflection on the impact of AI. Nonetheless, immediate measures are required to establish the framework for the University's position in terms of current teaching activities.

When thinking about oversight of pedagogical and teaching methodologies employed, as well as the institutional approach to academic integrity, this pointed further to the value of the establishment of a permanent Senate Committee on teaching and learning.

Dr. Julie Desjardins questioned the short timeline given for the Task Force to explore the different aspects needed to bring forward solutions and results.

Dr. Webster acknowledged the timeframe but indicated that the task force needed to have initial guidelines completed in time for the December meeting of Senate, so that they can be implemented in time for the start of the Winter 2024 semester.

Moved by: Andrew Webster

Seconded by: Julien Collin

Motion carried.

Motion 2:

THAT Senate approves as an interim measure the following general statement for immediate addition to all course syllabi and Moodle pages, for the fall 2023 semester only.

Student use of Generative AI tools (e.g. ChatGPT)

It is essential to check with your instructor before using Generative AI tools (for example, ChatGPT or other large language models) for any class activities or assessment tasks. Unauthorized use of these tools may be considered a form of academic dishonesty and will be dealt with according to the academic integrity procedures outlined in the Academic Calendar.

Moved by: Andrew Webster

Seconded by: Christina Lépine

Dr. Andrew Webster stated that Senate has the option to designate this motion as either optional or mandatory. Senate is the sole entity authorized to approve the modification to the course syllabus, given that the fall semester has already begun. This motion aims to establish a comprehensive declaration regarding the discussion that must be initiated between a student and their course instructor before the use of Generative AI for any learning activities or assessment tasks.

Julien Collin expressed his apprehensions regarding the emphasis placed on ChatGPT, recognizing that AI has been a topic in academia for a considerable period of time, including but not limited to autocorrections software, rephrasing tools, and other similar applications. It would be clearer if there were a definition of what is prohibited AI, rather than stating which Generative AI is tolerated. He also stated that faculty need to be better trained and equipped to recognize what is AI-generated content

and what constitutes plagiarism or use of AI. He felt that having such a strong position on this topic without addressing what constituted academic dishonesty might lead to issues.

Dr. Webster questioned if it would be more appropriate to use only the first sentence of the motion.

Julien Collin emphasized the importance of allowing faculty to determine their approach to the situation as the University is currently lacking the necessary resources to address the issue.

Dr. Alexandre Drouin stated that he would feel more comfortable if the motion would read that the statement can be used as a standard wording for faculty, rather than forcing faculty to include this statement as it is presented.

Cleo Wulder inquired whether the use of language would be considered to ensure that the dialogue between students and faculty remains a respectful and safe one, considering the power imbalance between the two.

Hans Rouleau inquired whether it would be more appropriate to utilize the phrase "will be considered as academic dishonesty" in lieu of "may be considered as academic dishonesty" as it would have been explicitly stated in the class the student is enrolled in that these tools are not intended for academic purposes.

Reena Atanasiadis stated that as an immediate measure and in anticipation of a comprehensive review of the University procedure, a modification in the terminology from "assistance received by a person" to "assistance received by an entity" would define the nature of the supportive tools, including Generative AI, that students can use in an academic setting.

Dr. Bruno Courtemanche commented that the interpretations of faculty and students may differ, as commonly employed tools, such as Grammarly, employ Generative AI to modify the syntax of written material.

Dr. Kerry Hull added to Mr. Courtemanche's statement by saying that the wording of the second motion is adequate and sufficiently vague to allow professors latitude in the implementation of solutions and discussion with the students.

Dr. Webster mentioned that all comments will be considered concerning the best way forward. It is, however, Senate's duty of good academic governance to find ways to address the present situation. Senate must determine what needs to be done.

Dr. Michael Teed stated that it is a challenging situation as the content taught varies greatly from one professor to another and the principle of academic freedom is an integral part of the equation. He added that the discussion between student and professor is an essential component of the motion as it will bring awareness to the problematic situation created by Generative AI as most students might be misinformed about ChatGPT and other AI tools. For example, students may not know how to properly reference AI-generated sources or understand that content may be inaccurate.

Julien Collin said that the prohibited use of AI, the disciplinary measures related to its use and tools that are allowed to be used must be addressed in order for the motion to be comprehensive.

Dr. Jean Manore suggested that the vote on the motion could take place and someone could introduce a motion that a mandate be added to the AI Task Force or to the Academic Integrity Committee mandate to examine the question.

Dr. Andrew Webster mentioned that he is taking all concerns seriously. As there has been no other comments or concerns raised about making the wording in this motion optional rather than required, the motion should remain that this language would be a required addition for all courses in the current semester.

Vote

For: 28

Against: 2

Motion carried.

Motion 3:

THAT Senate approves as an interim measure the following statements as standard wording that faculty may choose to adopt and add immediately to their course syllabi and Moodle pages, for the fall 2023 semester only.

Use prohibited in course

Students are not permitted to use Generative AI in this course. Under Bishop's University regulations on Academic Integrity, students are forbidden from "Submitting work written in whole or in part as one's own by another individual." This includes work created by Generative AI tools. Use of Generative AI tools in this course will be considered academic dishonesty and will be dealt with according to the academic integrity procedures outlined in the Academic Calendar

Some use permitted in course

Students may use Generative AI in this course in accordance with the guidelines outlined for each learning or assessment task, including the requirement to reference the use of Generative AI following the instructions given in the syllabus. It is the student's responsibility to be clear on these limitations and expectations. Use of Generative AI tools outside of these guidelines, or without the required referencing, will be considered academic dishonesty and will be dealt with according to the academic integrity procedures outlined in the Academic Calendar.

Unrestricted use permitted in course

Students may use Generative AI tools throughout this course in any manner that enhances their learning. No special documentation is required, but all work must be properly referenced including AI-generated sources.

Julien Collin asked if it would be possible for instructors to use other language.

Dr. Andrew Webster replied that the idea was to give professors options on how to frame the use of Generative AI, but not to be restrictive.

Julien Collin continued by stating that, it is his understanding, the motion was to suggest language only. He asked if it is possible to change the introductory wording to "amongst others" before "choose to adopt and add immediately to their course syllabi and Moodle pages, for the fall 2023 semester only" as the wording could lead to misinterpretation.

Dr. Andrew Webster proposed to change the motion to “the following statements as standard wording available to faculty should they choose to adopt and add immediately to their course syllabi and Moodle pages, for the fall 2023 semester only.”

Hans Rouleau suggested adding “may choose to adopt” instead of “should they choose to adopt.”

Dr. Julie Desjardins added that the term “standard” is also problematic in the motion and proposed “suggested”.

Dr. Webster read the motion as proposed with changes: “THAT Senate approves as an interim measure the following statements as suggested wording available to faculty to add to their course syllabi and/or Moodle pages, for the fall 2023 semester only.”

Moved by: Andrew Webster

Seconded by: Alexandre Drouin

Motion carried with modification.

Enrollment Overview, Fall 2023

Dr. Webster presented the most recent enrollment numbers as of August 30, 2023 and indicated that enrollment is going well.

The University received 600 applications for graduate programs, resulting in a total of 394 admission offers and 182 acceptances, which exceeds the targeted number of 90 new students. This variation was driven by an increase in the number of international students enrolled in Education and Computer Science masters programs.

For undergraduate programs, enrollment is also well above the targeted number of 660 new students. For the fall semester, 2871 applications were received, and 2162 offers were made to potential students and 819 students accepted.

6.2 RESEARCH REPORT

Dr. Kerry Hull started by inviting all Senators to attend the Celebration of Research reception, being held on September 21, 2023 to celebrate our faculty and students’ successes. This event will also highlight the recipients of the National/Provincial External Grant Competitions.

Dr. Kerry Hull mentioned that a strategic research plan review will be undertaken this year and that the University community will be solicited.

6.3 SENATE HANDBOOK

Denise Lauzière mentioned to Senators that the updated version of the Senate Handbook reflects the proposed modifications made by the Academic Administrative Structures Committee. The changes will be presented for approval to the Board at its meetings on September 22 and December 15, 2023.

Motion:

Subject to the approval by the Board of Governors of proposed amendments to the Statutes regarding the academic structure at its September 22, 2023 meeting and the approval of the addition of a second Senator from the School of Education at its December 15, 2023 meeting,

THAT Senate approves the 2023-2024 Senate Handbook as is presented.

Moved by: Andrew Webster

Seconded by: Catherine Lavallée-Welch

Motion carried.

6.4 REVIEW OF SENATE COMMITTEES

Dr. Andrew Webster began by affirming that Senate is exercising its duties of academic governance in a rigorous and serious fashion. However, a review of its committees is warranted as there are many committees with specialized mandates that may overlap.

Dr. Webster proposed that a working group be struck to undertake a thorough review of the committees, their mandates and terms of reference and present recommendations to Senate on a possible organization of Senate's Committees.

Motion:

THAT Senate strike a Working Group for the Review of Senate Committees and that the Senate Nominating Committee be asked to seek interested members to participate in this short-term Working Group.

Moved by: Andrew Webster

Seconded by: Michael Teed

Motion carried.

6.5 APPROVAL OF DEGREES, DIPLOMAS AND CERTIFICATES TO BE AWARDED AT THE SEPTEMBER 2023 CONVOCATION

Hans Rouleau presented the names of 97 students who completed their programs and have had their transcripts reviewed by their respective Chairpersons, Deans and the Registrar's Office to ensure that they meet the regulations for graduation as outlined in the Academic Calendar and by the University Senate.

He asked Senate to approve these names for graduation and he recommended that they be conferred their respective degree at the next special Convocation and Installation of the Principal taking place on September 22, 2023.

Undergraduate degrees:

It is moved by Dean Atanasiadis that the University Senate receive the list of candidates for the following undergraduate degrees: Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Business Administration, Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Education, as presented by Mr. Hans Rouleau, Registrar, and that these candidates be awarded their degree(s).

Seconded by: Michael Teed

Motion carried.

Graduate degrees:

It is moved by Dean Desjardins that the University Senate receive the list of candidates for the following graduate degrees: Master of Arts, Master of Education and Master of Science, as presented by Mr. Hans Rouleau, Registrar, and that these candidates be awarded their degree.

Seconded by: Hafid Agourram

Motion carried.

Certificates:

It is moved by Vice-Principal Academic and Research, Dr. Webster, that Senate receive the list of candidates for Certificates, Graduate Certificates, and Micro-programs as presented by Mr. Hans Rouleau, Registrar, and that these candidates be awarded this certificate.

Seconded by: Reena Atanasiadis

Motion carried.

General motion to add or delete candidates after the Senate meeting:

It is moved by SRC Vice-President of Academic Affairs, Christina Lépine, that the Vice-Principal Academic and Research, the Academic Deans, and the Registrar be authorized by the University Senate to add the names of students to the graduating list, subject to satisfactory completion of program requirements, or to delete candidates who do not meet their program requirements by the date of Convocation.

Seconded by: Alexandre Drouin

Motion carried.

ITEM 656/7 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 William School of Business - no recommendations
- 7.2 Faculty of Humanities - no recommendations
- 7.3 Faculty of Social Sciences - no recommendations
- 7.4 Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

Dr. Kerry Hull presented a motion to renew the status of adjunct professor for two members of the Department of Physics and Astronomy. The Adjunct professor status allows one to apply for grants. This is being presented now for both individuals so that when it comes time for either to apply for future grants it will already be completed.

Motion:

THAT Senate approves, on the recommendation of the Divisions of the Arts and the Sciences, the Adjunct Professor Status in the Department of Physics and Astronomy for the following individuals for a period of six years once their current adjunct professor status has expired:

- Dr. Sylvain Turcotte (December 19, 2023—December 18, 2029); and
- Dr. Kelsey Hoffman (May 18, 2024—May 17, 2030).

Moved by: Kerry Hull

Seconded by: Andrew Webster

Motion carried.

7.5 School of Education – no recommendations

Before closing the meeting, Principal Lebel-Grenier invited Vice-Principal Student Affairs, Stine Linden-Andersen to speak to Senate. She informed Senators that, after seven years, she had decided to step down at the end of this academic year and return to teaching.

The Principal thanked her for her years of service and for the work she will do in the upcoming year.

It was proposed that Senate recognize and thank Dr. Stine Linden-Andersen for her efforts to move the University to a more student-centred institution.

Moved by: Sébastien Lebel-Grenier

Seconded by: Andrew Webster

Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.



Sébastien Lebel-Grenier, Chair



Kylie Côté, Acting Interim Secretary General, for:
Denise Lauzière, LL. B. Secretary General (Interim)