



Approved for Release
by the Senate
of the University of Victoria

Meeting of Senate
May 3, 2024

MINUTES

A meeting of the Senate of the University of Victoria was held on May 3, 2024 at 3:30 p.m. via Zoom.

Kevin Hall called the meeting to order and offered a territorial acknowledgement.

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion: (C. Harding/J. Salinas)

That the agenda be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

2. MINUTES

a. April 5, 2024

Motion: (C. Anyaegbunam/L. Kalynchuk)

That the minutes of the open session of the meeting of the Senate held on April 3, 2024 be approved and that the approved minutes be circulated in the usual way.

CARRIED

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was none.

4. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR

a. President's Report

K. Hall spoke about the demonstration that has turned into an encampment on the university quad. He confirmed that the university supports the right to freedom of expression but that these campus activities are expected to stay within the parameters of university policies and laws. K. Hall noted to Senators, as academic leaders, that issues like this are complex and will come with factors that are not always observable or apparent. He continued to affirm that the university remains open to dialogue, as always, and that he has asked for a calm and thoughtful approach to the situation. In addition, K. Hall reported that work is being done to minimize disruption of university operations, which is primarily the reason today's Senate meeting has moved online. He reported that Campus Security was

5. CORRESPONDENCE

a. Office of the Ombudsperson

i. 2023 Annual Report & Recommendations

Angus Shaw, Ombudsperson, introduced himself to members of Senate. He spoke about the purpose of the ombudsperson office and reviewed the recommendations outlined in the annual report.

A member of Senate noted their experience raising accessibility issues with the report and thanked A. Shaw for being receptive. A. Shaw responded to Senators' questions on the recommendations within the report regarding the need for decision-makers to consider the diversity of student issues and the understanding that cases cannot be solved with a one-size-fits-all process.

b. Campus Planning Committee

i. Semi-annual Report to Senate on Campus Development

Elizabeth Croft, Vice-President Academic and Provost and Co-chair of the Campus Planning Committee, introduced the report.

Mike Wilson, Director of Campus Planning, gave members of the Senate an overview of each item in the report and thanked everyone for their patience regarding the numerous disruptions on Ring Road. There were no questions.

6. PROPOSALS AND REPORTS FROM SENATE COMMITTEES

a. Senate Committee on Academic Standards

i. Removal of the minimum C+ requirement in the Political Science Major program

Yasmine Kandil, Chair of the Senate on Academic Standards, introduced the proposal. There were no questions.

Motion: (Y. Kandil/S. Minshall)

That Senate approve the removal of the minimum C+ requirement in the Political Science Major program.

CARRIED

ii. Revisions to the requirements for the Greek and Roman Studies Honours Program and Greek and Latin Language and Literature Honours Program

Y. Kandil introduced the proposal. There were no questions.

Motion: (Y. Kandil/J. Salinas)

That Senate approve the proposed revisions to the Greek and Roman Studies Honours Program, and the Greek and Latin Language and Literature Honours Program effective September 2024.

CARRIED

iii. Recognition of Completion of a Credit Bearing Micro-Certificate

Y. Kandil introduced the proposal. There were no questions.

Motion: (Y. Kandil/J. Clarke)

That Senate approve the proposed process to recognize completion of credit-bearing micro-certificates, and that students who complete a credit micro-certificate be provided with a certificate of completion.

CARRIED

b. Senate Committee on Agenda and Governance

i. Appointments to the 2024/2025 Senate Standing Committees

Phalguni Mukhopadhyaya, Chair of the Senate Committee on Agenda and Governance Nominations Subcommittee, introduced the listing of appointments. There were no questions.

Motion: (P. Mukhopadhyaya/R. Gupta)

That Senate approve the appointment to the 2024/2025 Senate standing committees for the terms indicated in the attached document.

CARRIED

ii. Appointment to the Campus Planning Committee

P. Mukhopadhyaya introduced the appointment. There were no questions.

Motion: (P. Mukhopadhyaya/E. Croft)

That Senate approve the appointment of Chris Bone, Faculty of Social

Motion: (H. Brown/R. Gupta)

That Senate approve, and recommend to the Board of Governors that it also approve, the new and revised awards set out in the attached document:

- Afghan Women in Engineering and Computer Science Entrance Scholarship (New)
- Cecilia Tatti Tutcho Graduate Scholarship in Indigenous Language Revitalization (Revised)
- Chaney Award* (Revised)
- Christopher E. Wilks Memorial Bursary* (Revised)
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Motion: (E. Croft/J. Salem)

That Senate authorize the Chair of the Senate Committee on Curriculum to make small changes and additions that would otherwise unnecessarily delay the submission of items for the academic calendar.

CARRIED

f. Senate Committee on Learning and Teaching

i. 2023/2024 Annual Report

On behalf of the Chair, Travis Martin presented the annual report. There were no questions.

ii. Consultation – Recommendations for Revisions to the Course Experience Survey

T. Martin introduced the proposal, noting that the committee was seeking feedback from Senate members at this time. He outlined the recommended changes to the Course Experience Survey (CES).

A Senate member asked, given the potential of gender and race bias from student comments, if instructors could turn off the qualitative comments themselves rather than this be an action upon

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5.

8. PROPOSALS AND REPORTS FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT ACADEMIC AND PROVOST

a. Office of the Vice-President Academic and Provost Update

E. Croft thanked those who attended the previous night's REACH Awards ceremony, which honoured outstanding Faculty, instructors, partners, and students for their research, teaching, and advocacy work.

She reported that the search for the inaugural Dean of the Faculty of Health was now underway and noted that all Faculty, staff, and students would have opportunities to engage in the process.

Finally, E. Croft announced the annual Let's Talk Teaching conference on Generative AI, hosted by the Division of Learning and Teaching Support and Innovation. The conference is planned for June 7, 2024.

Noting their inability to attend, a Senator asked about the upcoming Town Hall meeting and the level of transparency regarding the budget cuts. E. Croft noted that the Town Hall was in person but also available via Zoom. The discussion would also be recorded for subsequent availability. She added she was happy to receive questions and that updates would continue to be posted on the university's website.

K. Hall congratulated those who received a REACH award, noting that these accomplishments distinguish our university from other institutions.

Another Senate member appreciated the report's level of detail and commitment to examine the issues and lessons learned.

A Senate member expressed concern about how universal design was implemented during the pilot and asked if the decision to provide an extended time was to longer utilize U. A. In response to the many colleagues continue to utilize universal design, noting that each exam needs to be looked at carefully and individually.

c. Elections Update

A. Saab presented the update to members of Senate. There were no questions.

d. Resignations of Senate members

A. Saab notified Senate that two members from the Faculty of Education had recently resigned and that a second call for nominations had been sent to the Faculty for nominations. K. Hall thanked Monica Prendergast and Sandra Hundza for their service on Senate.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:44 p.m.

				Elected from the student societies
Gaudet, Loren			Faculty of Humanities	Elected by the Faculty
Gupta, Rishi			Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science	Elected by the Faculty
Hall, Kevin			President and Vice-Chancellor	Chair of Senate
Hallgrimsdottir, Helga			Deputy Provost	By invitation
Hancock, Rob			Faculty of Social Sciences	Elected by the Faculty
Harder, Lois			Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences	Ex officio
Harding, Catherine			Faulty of Fine Arts	Elected by the Faculty
Harris, Moronke			Student Senator	Elected from the student societies
Hicks, Robin			Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies	Ex officio
Hier, Sean			Faculty of Social Sciences	Elected by the faculty members
Holdaway, Anais			Convocation Senator	Elected by the convocation
Hoorfar, Mina			Dean,	

Dean of Education: Vanessa Andreotti
Dean of Engineering: Mina Hoorfar
Dean of Continuing Studies: JoAnne Clarke
Dean of Fine Arts: Allana Lindgren
Dean of Graduate Studies: Robin Hicks (Vice-Chair)
Dean of Humanities: Annalee Lepp
Acting Dean of HSD: Michael Prince
Dean of Law: Freya Kodar
Dean of Science: Peter Loock
Dean of Social Sciences: Lois Harder
University Librarian: Jonathan Bengtson

MEMBERS ELECTED BY THE FACULTIES

- Section 35 (2) (g)