



Carleton University acknowledges and respects the Algonquin people, traditional custodian of the land on which the Carleton University campus is situated.

**Carleton University Senate
Meeting of September 25, 2015 at 2:00 p.m.
Senate Room, Robertson Hall
MINUTES**

Present: P. Adams, S. Blanchard, M. Bueckert, D. Buss, M. Butler, C. Carruthers, J. Deaville, J. Debanné, A. Diptee, A. Dodge, M. El-Tanany, K. Evans, A. Forth, R. Gess, E. Ghias-Begloo, R. Gorelick, R. Goubran, L. Gravis, A. Grenstone, J. Hayes, R. Hoey, D. Howe, B. Hughes, A. James, K. Karim, H. Khoo, A. Landon-Browne, H. Logan, D. Long, M. Neufang, B. Örmeci, J. Paulson, S. Phinney, A. Plourde, N. Rajapakse, A. Ramirez, I. Riar, P. Ricketts, J. Robson, O. Rowland, D. Russell, R. Runte, R. Sengupta, J. Shaw, A. Loiselle for J. Shepherd, M. St. Cyr, P. Thompson, D. Watt, A. Whitehead, P. Wilson

Regrets: F. Alhattab, C. Bennell, S. Bertram, S. Brouillette, C. Chi, S. Field, T. Garvey, P. Gentile, E. Hemm, F. Hosseinian, O. Javanpour, S. Ji, W. Jones, C. Khordoc, L. Mohammed, D. Preece, Jörg-R. Sack, T. Sherwood, C. Smelser, J. Smith, J. Stoner, M. Sucharov, N. Tait, J. Tomberlin, S. Whitney

Open Session:

1. Welcome and Introduction of New Members

The Chair welcomed all new members of Senate, Donald Russell as the Clerk of Senate, and introduced Julie Caldwell as the Acting-Secretary of Senate for this meeting. The position of Secretary to the Board and Senate has been filled and the new person will start on Monday.

2. Approval of the Agenda

It was **MOVED** (R. Hoey, K. Karim) that Senate approve the agenda as distributed.

It was **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**.

Open Session:

1. Welcome and Introduction of New Members

The Chair made several comments. Carleton has now been awarded, through Excellence Canada, two awards: Silver Level for Excellence, Innovation and Wellness, and Gold Level for Healthy Workplace. The Chair gave special thanks to D. Watt and his team for their work. The Chair stated that today there is a special exhibit opening at the art gallery: Walking with Our Sisters and encouraged senators to attend.

2. Approval of Agenda

It was **MOVED** (R. Goubran, R. Hoey) that Senate approve the agenda as distributed.
It was **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**.

3. Minutes:

a) June 26, 2015

It was **MOVED** (S. Blanchard, B. Ormechi) that Senate approve the minutes, with minor corrections, of the meeting of June 26, 2015.

It was **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**.

4) Senate Administration: (Clerk)

a) Committee Memberships (for approval)

The clerk spoke to the membership list. His office will continue to work on the remaining vacancies. The VP Finance & Administration Search Committee requires two student members, which have been presented.

It was **MOVED** (D. Russell, J. Shaw) that Senate approve all new committee members except those of the Senate Committee on Curriculum, Admissions and Studies Policy (SCCASP).

It was **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**.

5) Ratification of a Member of the Carleton University Committee on Quality Assurance

P. Ricketts proposed that Ian Marsland fill the vacancy on the committee for a member from the Faculty of Engineering and Design.

Senate was informed that Valerie Critchley is a new member of the Committee as the designate of the University Librarian who is an *ex officio* member of the committee.

It was **MOVED** (P. Ricketts, K. Evans) that Ian Marsland be ratified as a member of this committee.

It was **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**.

6) Discussion Period

a) Refugees

Senate invited Professor Daniel McNeil, representing Migration and Diaspora Studies and two students, Sake Klein and David Kenny, representing WUSC Carleton to speak to the issue of refugees.

In introducing the speakers, the Chair noted that population displacement has been an issue for centuries and addressing it requires continuous effort and thoughtful discussion and understanding. We want Carleton University to continue to contribute to these efforts. We

have raised sufficient funds to add an additional student this coming year. In order to have a second student next fall, we need to raise another \$12,500. The funds are being raised through future funder and we are on track to meet this goal.

In response to questions comparing Carleton's current approach to supporting refugees to other institutions the Chair noted that each institution is under different constraints and we are not only supporting refugee students but other different and worthwhile activities including, for example, our initiative in Migration and Diaspora Studies.

Professor Daniel McNeil summarized the efforts of the initiative in Migration and Diaspora Studies:

- Carleton is being positioned as a national/international leader in debates on refugee issues.
- The initiative involves multiple faculties, supports international conferences and offers a graduate fellowship as well as other research support
- Carleton organizes many events focused on issues related to refugees including recent workshops, media presentations, and a symposium on Canada's response to refugee communities from Iran in the early 1990's.
- Carleton offers the first undergraduate program in this area in the form of a specialization within the new BGIInS degree.
- Carleton has created a new digital archive of information related to the issue.
- Carleton is participating in numerous partnerships with other organizations such as the Canadian Immigration Historical Society.

Professor McNeil thanked the Senate for this opportunity and encouraged everyone to continue to propose exciting initiatives.

Zayge Klein and Johnny Whysky, two students who came through the refugee program in 2013 made a presentation on behalf of the WUSC Carleton student committee to Senate. The WUSC student committee helps welcome refugee students coming to study and get settled into Canada after completing their studies. WUSC and Carleton started sponsoring one student per year beginning in 1978. The WUSC committee was very grateful for Carleton's continued support but much more help is needed to spread the message across campus. Events like the display of a Mock Refugee camp in the Atrium help to create awareness.

In discussions following the presentations, Senators were encouraged to participate in and support events related to refugees. The lengthy process for identifying student refugees to bring to Carleton was summarized.

The Chair asked if there is anything that Senate can specifically do to support WUSC Carleton? It was suggested that some Senate members join the WUSC committee and attend meetings as a reference and resource to increase awareness. It was asked how does WUSC find potential students to bring to Canada? It is a long process. WUSC works with the government of Canada to go through the protocol of settlement and academic challenges. Students must have finished high school in their own countries before they are settled. Other offices review portfolios which fit best with Carleton. The Atrium Event with UNICEF provides students an opportunity to see a refugee tent and the space for two families to share. This will take place at the end of November. There is also a symposium coming up and many other activities. All of these activities will be posted on the website: <http://cuwusc.wix.com/>

J. Paulson motion forwarded to Senate Executive the following motion regarding support for refugees and displaced persons:

MOVED: Justin Paulson

SECONDED: Patrizia Gentile, Michael Bueckert

Whereas Canadian universities are responding to the current refugee and displaced persons crisis;

whereas the University of Regina, the University of Alberta and Ryerson University, among others, have each announced various funding initiatives with the aim of facilitating refugees and displaced persons studying in Canada;

whereas these initiatives include significant sponsorship packages that include tuition fees, housing, and other expenses:

Motion: to establish a Committee to Aid Refugees and Displaced Persons, with the goal of responding to current and future crises by helping to bring refugees and displaced persons to study in safety at Carleton University. The committee's mandate will include but is not limited to securing funding from the university and other sources in and around the university community for the provision and/or waiver of full tuition fees, course materials, housing, ancillary fees, and other costs associated with the sponsorship of refugee students. It shall be comprised of representatives from a broad cross-section of the university, including Administration, CUASA, CUPE 2424, CUPE 4600, GSA, CUSA, and the WUSC local committee.

The motion was discussed by Senate Executive and it was determined that the specific requests made in the motion are not within the purview of Senate. However, a Committee has been created with Dr. Pauline Rankin as the convener. Membership on the committee is broad and it

has begun working to address the issues surrounding Carleton's support for refugees and displaced persons.

After consultation J. Paulson withdrew his original motion and the following motion was put to Senate:

Motion: to support the establishment of a Committee to Aid Refugees and Displaced Persons, with the goal of responding to current and future crises by helping to bring refugees and displaced persons to study in safety at Carleton University. The committee's mandate will include but is not limited to securing funding and supporting the educational mission of the program in Migration and Diaspora Studies. It shall be composed of representatives from a broad cross-section of the university.

This motion was amended to include a request that the committee report to Senate. Discussion followed on the role of Senate in addressing these issues. P. Ricketts thanked the WUSC representatives for their time, effort and passion to such an important cause. He informed Senate that Carleton has also just brought our first scholar at risk to campus this year. M. Buekhert stated that the GSA council will be considering a motion to provide further financial support.

The amended motion stated below was **MOVED** (P. Ricketts, M. Buekhert):

Senate support the establishment of a Committee to Aid Refugees and Displaced Persons, with the goal of responding to current and future crises by helping to bring refugees and displaced persons to study in safety at Carleton University. The committee's mandate will include but is not limited to securing funding and supporting the educational mission of the program in Migration and Diaspora Studies. It shall be composed of representatives from a broad cross-section of the university. The Committee will be asked to report to Senate annually and to notify Senate if there is any way that Senate can support the mission of the Committee.

It was **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**.

7) Committee Reports:

a) Senate Academic Program Committee (SAPC)

P. Ricketts stated that the Masters in Journalism programs has been reviewed as part of the regular cycle. This final assessment report is being presented and then will go forward.

It was **MOVED** (P. Ricketts, K. Karim) that Senate approve the final assessment report.

It was **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**.

b) Senate Committee on Curriculum, Admissions and Studies Policy (SCCASP)

D. Russell summarized the proposed calendar change regarding students studying on letters of permission (LOP) and students studying under formal exchange agreements for inclusion in the 2016/17 calendar.

It was **MOVED** (D. Russell, S. Blanchard) that Senate approve the calendar changes.

It was **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**.

D. Russell informed Senate that two editorial changes had been made to the recently updated Academic Integrity Policy: the addition of a mandatory revision date and the correction of a reference in the policy that was incorrectly numbered.

c) Senate Academic Governance Committee (SAGC)

D. Russell stated that there are two changes to consider.

The SAGC is requesting that Senate modify article 6 of the AGU to allow the Clerk of Senate to designate a full time, tenured faculty member to serve as Marshall of Convocation. The circulated to Senate was modified to require the request to be made annually. The sentence to be added at the end of section 6.3 in the AGU is:

"Annually, with the approval of Senate, the Clerk may designate a full-time, tenured faculty member to act as Marshall of Convocation."

It was **MOVED** (D. Russell, H. Logan) that Senate approve this change.

It was **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**.

SAGC recommended that Senate approve changes to the SCCASP terms of reference to update references to several positions and documents, to broaden the number of faculty members eligible to be elected as Chair of SCCASP and to add the Clerk of Senate as a member of SCCASP.

It was **MOVED** (D. Russell, J. Paulson) that Senate approve this change.

It was **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**.

8) Reports for Information and Comment

a) Senate Executive: Minutes of September 15, 2015 (Clerk)

D. Russell stated that the minutes of the most recent Senate executive meeting have not been approved at the time of the Senate meeting, so he provided a verbal summary of the work of Senate Executive.

A set of major modifications to the BA program in Communication and the Introduction of a New Specialization in the BGINS Program has been approved in principle through SSCASP, Academic Program Committee and Senate Executive in order to facilitate recruitment of students to these programs at the Ontario University Fair. Senate Executive dealt with a number of appeals regarding the transition to the increased GPA requirements for recognition of academic achievement at graduation. After discussion, Senate Executive agreed not to consider modifying the original transition policy approved by Senate. The minutes of this meeting will be distributed to Senate once they have been approved.

9) Other Business

a) Motion to grant day of Academic Amnesty, Oct. 19, 2015

It was **MOVED** (M. Bueckert, A. Landon-Brown) that Senate approve a day of Academic Amnesty on Oct.16, 2015.

M. Bueckert summarized the motion and some background on the issue. The goal is to encourage students to vote. Considerable discussion followed on the lateness of the motion and the manner in which it might be communicated. Several senators pointed out the students had other opportunities to vote during the advanced polls held on Oct. 5, 6, 7, and 8 from 10 am to 8 pm at the Galleria, Athletics and Residence Commons and that it was unlikely that students had classes during the entire time the polls would be open on election day. M. Bueckert stated that students were not taking advantage of these opportunities and that the motion would ensure that students would not be penalized for missing class and that no significant evaluations take place on the date of the federal election. It was recognized that voting may be less convenient for students who live in a different riding

P. Ricketts, as the chief academic officer, stated that he is opposed to the motion but agrees with its premise. He stated that approving the motion would create a significant disruption to the university, the students and the faculty with arranging make up classes and accommodating evaluations. He stated that he encourages everyone to help students exercise their democratic right to vote.

Other senators stated that there are many ways to promote and encourage voting.

J. Paulson stated that he is in favour of the motion as students are ultimately responsible for the material covered in their classes. He expressed a concern that some students would not vote because they are working on papers to finish that are due on election day.

S. Blanchard stated that there are various ways to communicate with students and to work with Elections Canada and Vote Savvy, to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to vote. She also suggested taglines on social media and communication of awareness on voting day.

Considerable discussion followed on the impact of accommodating students on election day, the impact of this on the term and the general expectation that professors already accommodate reasonable requests from students. Senate discussed the difference between encouraging accommodation and granting academic amnesty and the way in which the university accommodates other student activities.

Several possible amendments to the motion were discussed. Several senators stated that the proposed amendments to the motion did not address their concerns and that the difficulties senators were having clarifying the implications of passing the motion was evidence that considerable work would be required before the motion could be supported.

The chair asked for a vote on the motion.

Motion **FAILED**.

The Senate nonetheless showed a great deal of sympathy for individual faculty members making individual accommodations as might be necessary.

b) Membership for the Senate Committee on Curriculum, Admission, and Studies Policy
Approval of the membership of SCCASP was delayed until Senate had considered the proposed changes to the terms of reference.

It was **MOVED** (D. Russell, A. Landon-Brown) that Senate approve the committee membership of the Senate Committee on Curriculum, Admission, and Studies Policy (SCCASP).

It was **PASSED**.

It was **MOVED** (F. Woolley, D. Buss) that Senate adjourn at 3:35 p.m.

It was **PASSED**.