

**Agenda for the Faculty Senate Meeting**  
**February 23, 2021**  
**WebEx, 11:30 AM–1:30 PM**

- I. Convening of the meeting – Denis Blackmore, President
- II. Approval of minutes of 2/9/21 meeting\*
- III. Report of the Faculty Senate President ( $\cong$  10 min.)
  - a. Presidential search
  - b. Institute faculty meetings
- IV. Resolution Based on COVID-19 Research Impact Survey: Jay Meegoda ( $\cong$  15 min.)
- V. Proposal for Data Science Department in YWCC: Dean Craig Gotsman ( $\cong$  35 min.)
- VI. CGE Report: Sotirios Zivaris ( $\cong$  15 min.)
- VII. CUE Report: David Horntrop ( $\cong$  15 min.)
- VIII. Three-Hour Lecture Course Blocks in HCAD: Gabrielle Esperdy ( $\cong$  15 min.)
- IX. Proposal for Selecting Presidential Search Committee: Amithaba Bose ( $\cong$  15 min.)
- X. New Business

\* If available

**Minutes for the Faculty Senate Meeting**  
**February 23, 2021**  
**WeBex, 11:30AM-1:30PM**

1. Convening of the meeting-Denis Blackmore, President  
The meeting started at 11:32AM
2. Voting Members Present: R. Goodman, R. Rojas-Cessa, Y. Perl, A. Gerbessiotis, A. Kosovichev, S. Adamovich, L. Rodriguez-Friere, H. Grebel, D. Bunker, A. Rosato, R. Sodhi, I. Gatley, U. Roshan, M.Schwartz, E. Thomas, G. Esperdy, P. Armenante, A. Borgaonkar, N. Steffen, D. Horntrop, D. Blackmore, M. Vinnikov, E. Jung Lee, E. Farinas, Q. Jones, M. Bandelt, A. Utrera
3. Non-Voting Members Present: K. Belfield, A. Dhawan, B. Baltzis, A. Hoang, J. Yuan, K. Riismandel, O. Tukel, L. Hamilton, J. Bedient, M. Stanko, F. Deek, C. Gotsman, M. Knight, B. Kolarevic, M. Kam
4. Guests Present: Cristian Borcea (Computer Science), Marybeth Boger (Dean of Students), Jay Meegoda (Civil & Environmental Engineering), Laurent Simon (Undergraduate Studies), Amitabha Bose (Mathematical Sciences), Sotirios Ziavras (Graduate Studies)
5. Approval of the 2/9/21 meeting minutes  
Motion to approve the minutes by A. Borgaonkar and seconded by A. Gerbessiotis. The minutes were approved unanimously.
6. Report of the Faculty Senate President  
Presidential Search: Chair of BOT Robert Cohen wants nominations by March 15 with 3 nominations from each school and supporting documentation on why they want to be on the Search Committee. Institute Faculty Meetings: Next Institute Faculty Meeting will be a faculty led meeting. Will send out a call for all faculty to submit their agenda items.
7. Resolution Based on COVID-19 Research Impact Survey: Jay Meegoda  
Jay Meegoda presented his recommendations based on the survey on COVID-19 impact on research and provided background information and the development of recommendations. CRSCAA reviewed other peer institutions' best practices on policies related to COVID-19, consulted with the chair of the P&T committee, and solicited feedback from the Provost's office.  
Recommendation 1: Promoting work-life balance and helping faculty overcoming COVID-19 challenges. Motion to endorse by D. Blackmore and seconded by A. Borgaonkar. Motion was approved unanimously.  
Recommendation 2: P&T Candidate summary of COVID-19 impacts. Motion to endorse by D. Blackmore and seconded by A. Borgaonkar. Motion was approved with 0 no's and 2 abstentions.

Recommendation 3: Chair of the relevant P&T Committee summary of COVID-19 impacts on candidate. Motion to endorse was moved and seconded. Motion was approved with 0 no's and 2 abstentions.

Recommendation 4: P&T Committee consideration of COVID-19 impacts Motion to endorse by D. Blackmore and seconded by A. Rosato. Motion was approved unanimously.

Recommendation 5: Startup extensions based on COVID-19 impacts Motion to endorse was moved and seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.

8. Proposal for Data Science Department in YWCC: Dean Craig Gotsman  
Dean Craig Gotsman gave an update on the progress of the Data Science Department. Motion to approve the proposal by Q. Jones and seconded by A. Gerbessiotis. Discussion followed. Motion was approved unanimously.
  
9. CGE Report: Sotirios Ziavras  
**PhD in Computer Science**: Motion to approve by S. Ziavras and seconded by A. Rosato. Motion was approved unanimously.  
**PhD in Urban Systems**: Motion to approve by S. Ziavras and seconded by D. Blackmore. Motion was approved unanimously.  
**MBA in Management of Technology**: Motion to approve by S. Ziavras and seconded by D. Blackmore. Motion was approved unanimously.  
**Joint PhD Program in BME with Rutgers Biomedical & Health Sciences**: Motion to approve by S. Ziavras and seconded by D. Blackmore. Motion was approved unanimously.  
**Change in the language of the course repetition policy-CGE approved item**: Motion to approve by S. Ziavras and seconded by D. Blackmore. Motion was approved unanimously.
  
10. CUE Report: David Horntrop  
**Minor in Forensic Science**: Motion to approve by D. Horntrop and seconded by D. Blackmore. Motion was approved unanimously.  
**BA in LTC, Accelerated LTC/JD program, Double Major in Chemistry/LTC**: Motion to approve by D. Horntrop and seconded by D. Blackmore. Motion was approved unanimously.  
**BA in LTC (Patent Law concentration)**: Motion to approve by D. Horntrop and seconded by D. Blackmore. Motion was approved unanimously.  
**Double majors in Biology/LTC, Physics/LTC (Astronomy), and Physics/LTC (Optical Science and Engineering)**: Motion to approve by D. Horntrop and seconded by D. Blackmore. Motion was approved unanimously.  
**Double majors in Forensic Science/LTC (Forensic Biology, Forensic Chemistry, and Digital Forensics options)**: Motion to approve by D. Horntrop and seconded by D. Blackmore. Motion was approved unanimously.  
**Accelerated History/JD Program**: Motion to approve by D. Horntrop and seconded by D. Blackmore. Motion was approved unanimously.

11. Three-Hour Lecture Course Blocks in HCAD: Gabrielle Esperdy  
Gabrielle Esperdy spoke on the three-hour lecture course blocks in HCAD.  
Q&A with discussion followed.
12. Proposal for Selecting Presidential Search Committee: Amitabha Bose  
Amit Bose presented a proposal for selecting the Presidential Search  
Committee.
13. New Business  
No new business

The meeting adjourned at 1:33PM. Motion to adjourn by Q. Jones and seconded by  
D. Blackmore