



SENATE MINUTES

Hybrid Meeting

In-Person location: SBC Waterloo

October 22, 2025

Present: D. MacLatchy (Chair), A. Acharya, J. Blair, T. Brookfield, T. Britz, J. Cairns, P. Cant, M. Cantalini-Williams, L. Chu, A. Clarke, J. Coolman, K. Clarke, V. Collis, A. Davis, D. Dee, S. Doherty, G. Edwards, M. Emery, A. Essaji, G. Foster, D. Gray, A. Hansra, D. Henderson, A. Herman, S. Hu, P. Ironstone, C. Johnston Turner, M. Kelly, L. King, D. Kogutek, S. Lachapelle, A. Lawrence, J. Lavery, K. Lund, P. Mallet, E. Mazaheri, R. McGowan, T. McLaren, R. McLeman, J. Newman, S. Perry, V. Philip, J. Popham, S. Risavy, J. Rusin, C. Shiamptanis, M. Skop, J. Straub, D. Thomas, P. Urquhart, D. Van Nijnatten, M. Woodford, A. Zaidi

Regrets: W. Arshad, S. Chan, J. Crowell, L. Dawe, G. Dilworth, A. Domurath, S. Gillies, L. Keeping, D. Maoz, C. Matheson, K. Murray, N. Patel, B. Wolfe

Absent: M. Barua, C. Anne-Cait, R.J. Damour Mugabonihera, K. Dowler, T. Gibson, L. Habtemichael, I. Hamza, D. Kelly, A.R. Mawlood-Yunis, S. Poynter, M. Wiebe, G. Yun

Secretariat: K. Jack, A. Juhik, A. Kornobis, P. Marfisi, B. Norwich

Open Session

1. Call to Order

- a. Land Acknowledgement
- b. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

There were no conflicts declared.

c. Approval of the Consent Agenda

In response to a question about the reason for the *in camera* session at the September meeting, members heard that it was to align with how the matter has been discussed at the Board of Governors and because it involved discussions related to government relations, and to Laurier's competitive interests. It was agreed that the September minutes will be updated to reflect the reason for the *in camera* session, and that future agendas will identify reasons for going *in camera*.

Motion (P. Urquhart/T. Brookfield): that Senate approve the consent items listed for approval under item 10.a. **Carried.**

2. Business Arising from the Previous Minutes

In response to a question about the Efficiency and Accountability Fund Review, P. Cant and D. MacLatchy noted that the exercise has been helpful in validating activities and discussions already underway at Laurier. There was no other business arising from the minutes.

3. Leadership Update

a. Report of the President

D. MacLatchy spoke to the recent convocation ceremonies and thanked members of the community who participated and made the day special for graduands and their friends and families. She commented on the coming wrap up of the Faculty of Arts' centennial celebrations and offered kudos to the Golden Hawks football team, and the men's and women's rugby and golf teams for their excellent seasons. She updated Senate about some government relations activities and spoke to ongoing advocacy efforts and the recent economic impact report which she invited members to help amplify. She provided a brief update on the two vice-presidential searches underway. There were no questions.

b. Report of the Interim Provost and VP Academic

T. McLaren also offered thanks to all individuals involved with the recent convocation ceremonies. She provided an update on the Brantford Vibrancy initiative and members heard that 53 applications were received and that themes and working groups have been identified. She advised that the fall 2026 recruitment targets are nearly finalized and that the Senate *ad hoc* Academic Structure Committee is actively working on establishing guiding principles and consultation plans. She closed with comments about the productive conversations occurring at the Academic Planning Committee as it reviews academic proposals coming from the Faculties. There were no questions.

Reports and Recommendations from Standing Committees

4. Senate Academic Planning Committee

a. Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies

On behalf of B. Wolfe, M. Fabricio Perez, vice-dean of the Lazaridis School of Business and Economics spoke to the proposed changes and their rationale.

i. Major Modification, Master of Business Administration

Motion (M. Kelly/L. Chu): that the Senate approve the suite of changes for the MBA program, including changes to the admission requirements, program requirements, and the new pathway to degree completion.

Carried.

b. Faculty of Science

A. Clarke spoke to the proposals and in response to a question, offered commentary on the program's quality. Senate heard the three motions together as an omnibus motion.

i. Major Modification, Kinesiology and Physical Education

Motion (A. Clarke/S. Perry): that the Senate approve the major modification of the Honours Bachelor of Kinesiology program structure.

Carried.

ii. Major Modification, Kinesiology and Physical Education

Motion (A. Clarke/S. Perry): that Senate approve the deletion of existing Concentrations in the Honours Bachelor of Kinesiology program.

Carried.

iii. Major Modification, Kinesiology and Physical Education

Motion (A. Clarke/S. Perry): that Senate approve the creation of three new Specializations in the Honours Bachelor of Kinesiology program.

Carried.

c. Lazaridis School of Business and Economics

On behalf of K. Murray, M. Fabricio Perez spoke to the program's declining enrolment which is driving the recommendation; he noted that popular courses will continue to be offered.

i. Major Modification, Business

Motion (K. Chu/M. Kelly): that the Senate approve the deletion of the BBA Concentration in International Business. **Carried.**

5. Senate Governance Committee

a. Senate Engagement Survey Results and Recommendations

G. Foster spoke to committee's recent discussions and the resulting report arising out of the annual survey of Senators undertaken at the end of the last governance year. He noted that the committee sees a continued positive trend in the results generally and he offered some commentary on the identified areas of opportunity and the resulting recommendations to be implemented this year. There were no questions. D. MacLatchy expressed thanks to the committee for its work in ensuring continuous improvement and agreed with the recommendation to include generative discussions at some Senate meetings. On that point, she invited Senators to reach out with feedback and ideas to ensure that meetings meet Senators' needs.

6. Matters from the Consent Section of the Agenda

None.

7. Other Business

There was no other business.

8. Q&A

There were no questions, but a few members offered kudos on the new décor in the Senate and Board chambers.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by consensus.

10. Consent Items

a. Items for Approval

- i. Agenda
- ii. Draft Minutes of the September 29, 2025 Senate Meeting
- iii. Substantive Minor Modification, Faculty of Education
- iv. Substantive Minor, Business
- v. Substantive Minor, Business

b. Items for Information

- i. Reports of the Senior Executives
- ii. Overview of Audited Financial Statements
- iii. Report from the Senate Governance Committee re: Appointments