

Present: C. Lawrence (Speaker); J. Morrison (Chair); T. Smith (Secretary); R. Dewey (Recording Secretary); L. Alyea; J. Corey; M. Dennis; J. Ginter; A. Hollenberg; K. Lints; A. Longmore; P. Ogg; S. Pirie; J. Urowitz

Absent with Regrets: M. Spence-Ariemma

Guests: J. Hinchliffe; R. Sandhu

## 1.0 Call to Order

Quorum was confirmed and the Speaker called the meeting to order at 4:02pm.

## 2.0 Approvals

### 2.1 Emergency Academic Senate Agenda – September 24, 2020

The agenda was amended to remove the approval of the Senate Executive Minutes from March 12, 2020.

Agenda was amended to have the Draft Terms of Reference come to EAS as an Information item rather than an Approval item.

Moved by J. Urowitz; seconded by J. Ginter:

THAT the Emergency Academic Senate approve the September 24, 2020 meeting agenda as amended.

**Carried.**

### 2.2 Senate Minutes- February 27, 2020

Moved by J. Corey; seconded by P. Ogg:

THAT the Emergency Academic Senate approve the February 27, 2020 Senate meeting minutes as written.

**Carried.**

## 3.0 Speakers Remarks

The Speaker welcomed everyone to the first Emergency Academic Senate meeting and gave members the opportunity to provide a brief introduction.

The Speaker then explained that the purpose behind the EAS is to have academic governance ongoing throughout the 2020-21 academic year with a group that includes representatives from the Senate Standing Committees and the Local Academic Councils. Updates from these committees and councils will be used to generate the EAS workplan.

#### 4.0 Chair's Report

- Sheridan's Pandemic Response
  - There was a monumental shift to remote learning due to the pandemic that included moving everything on-line, including over 3000 courses, counselling, advising, IT, and all student supports.
  - Sheridan developed purpose-built programming to provide support to all students, staff and faculty
    - Start Well, Transition Well, Learn Well and Teach Well are programs developed to provide training, assistance and support for all students (both new and returning), staff and faculty during this shift to remote learning.
  - Sheridan has invested in strategic technology to support this transition to remote delivery, and staff has been realigned to focus on Fall Term preparations.
- Black Lives Matter
  - Equity, Diversity and Inclusion is a priority across Sheridan's processes, including academic, strategic, GEH and Master Planning.
  - Systemic change will impact all aspects of the Sheridan community.
  - Every Sheridan employee will receive unconscious bias, anti-oppression and anti-racism training, and a scholarship program will be launched to promote the recruitment and enrolment of Black and Indigenous applicants.
  - Sheridan must continue to consider how actions may have negatively impacted learners and colleagues from diverse backgrounds.
- Senate
  - Senate's existing Terms of Reference are not in compliance with legislation, directives, and regulations.
  - The Board has a fiduciary duty to investigate this further and a Governance Review will be included on the October work plan, led by Sheridan's Board Chair, John E. Fleming.
  - Discussion and questions ensued, led by R. Sandhu.

#### 5.0 New Business

##### 5.1 Draft Terms of Reference and Procedures

R. Sandhu presented the Emergency Academic Senate Terms of Reference and Procedures for information and feedback.

The Emergency Academic Senate was given the mandate to facilitate faculty consultation and contemplate academic matters for the 2020-2021 academic year. All Senate Standing Committees would remain on hiatus and only matters of urgency would be reviewed or approved by EAS.

Discussion ensued.

##### 5.2 Updates from Local Academic Councils and Standing Committee's

- FAAD LAC- J. Urowitz
  - LAC has been conducting reviews of curriculum items within FAAD.
  - No pressing matters to bring forward currently.

- FAHCS LAC- J. Corey
  - Terms of Reference were being reviewed in early 2020 meetings by an ad hoc committee but has since been placed on hold until regular Senate resumes.
  - Kinesiology Graduate Certificate review occurred in early 2020 and feedback was provided by the LAC. The revised document moved to APPCR in April and is scheduled for Senate review in October.
  - No pressing matters to bring forward currently.
  
- FAST LAC - S. Pirie
  - Discussing curriculum changes in order to keep up with current technology.
  - Terms of Reference are being reviewed to ensure all voices from each program are voting members.
  - Degrees and Graduate Certificates are being developed.
  
- FHASS LAC - M. Dennis
  - There are several courses being reviewed and developed, along with curriculum development.
  - Some updates to program maps and elective curriculum are taking place.
  - New Graduate Certificate in Applied Creativity and Innovation is in Phase 1.
  - No pressing matters to bring forward currently.
  
- PSB LAC - L. Alyea
  - Level 2 and level 3 curriculum changes within Faculty are currently taking place.
  - Advancing the Academic Plan by reviewing online learning, Post-graduate Certificates and Micro-credentials.
  - Working on Faculty support through enhancing online skills and tools and there are regular meetings and training sessions.
  - There is a PQAB visit for the BBA program review in the last week of October.
  - No pressing matters to bring forward currently.
  
- Academic Policy Committee - P. Ogg
  - There are five policies up for renewal this year, some of which are outstanding from last year due to the pandemic.
  - The Accommodation Policy is new and needs to be approved.
  - The Use and Welfare of Animals Policy is up for renewal but needs a communication strategy due to the current online environment.
  - The Teaching and Technology Policy is up for renewal in November and needs a possible amendment due to Sheridan not having a minimal online presence currently.
  
- Program Quality Assurance Committee - A. Hollenberg
  - There are eight different Certificates and Degree proposals that were supposed to come through Committee this academic year, four of which are pressing and need to come for review by the January meeting due to strict Ministry deadlines.
  - Phase 1 and 2 Degree proposals would be brought to Senate for approval after a peer review. Questions surrounding how to move forward with this process without Committee.
  - How we can ensure quality while we engage in processes that don't undermine Sheridan's capacity to be responsive and nimble?

- Teaching and Learning Committee – K. Lints
  - Committee was reviewing the Terms of Reference in early 2020 and was paying close attention to the mandate and membership compilation.
  - Focused on themes and topics guided by the Strategic Plan including EDI, co-curricular connections, academic integrity, and mental health and wellness
  - No pressing matters to bring forward currently.
  
- Scholarship, Research and Creative Activities Committee – J. Ginter
  - The Student SRCA Awards were on hold but looking at ways to go ahead with these this year.
  - Revising the Terms of Reference and updating the Committee membership, including electing a vice-chair, have been put on hold.
  - There was a joint Committee with the Teaching and Learning Committee that focused on the supports and frameworks around curriculum-based research and problem solving. This Committee will resume since shifting research to online.
  - The Committee received feedback to shape and revise the SRCA Growth Grants, more details will come forward.
  - Sheridan creates 2020 was in the planning stages and will be going ahead in a virtual capacity.
  - The research data management plan may come forward to EAS for feedback and discussion.

#### 6.0 Question Period

C. Lawrence, J. Morrison and R. Sandhu facilitated questions regarding the Senate elections in the current online environment, as well as on the current Enrollment update.

Discussion ensued.

#### 7.0 Adjournment

Moved by J. Ginter:

THAT the September 24, 2020 meeting of the Sheridan Emergency Academic Senate adjourn at 5:17pm.

***Carried.***