



OPEN SENATE MEETING

MINUTES

Date:	Monday, November 3, 2025
Time:	4:00pm - 6:00pm (ET)
Locations:	Thunder Bay Campus: Senate Chambers (UC 1001) Orillia Campus: OA3041 Zoom

In attendance		
Dr. Gillian Balfour, Vice-Chair	Dr. Hosam El-Ocla	Dr. Linda Rodenburg
Dr. Jason Lisi, Secretary	Dr. Les Fleischer	Dr. Tobold Rollo
Marcie Morrison, Recording Secretary	Dr. Christine Gottardo	Dr. Langis Roy
Dr. Olakunle Akingbola	Dr. Douglas Hayes	Dr. Pauline Sameshima
Dr. Asad Aman	Dr. Douglas Ivison	Dr. Chris Sanders
Dr. Dzhamal Amishev	Dr. Sarah Jacoba	Dr. Kathy Sanderson
Denise Baxter	Sara Janes	Gisella Scalese
Dr. Ruth Beatty	Dr. Kristen Jones-Bonofiglio	Dr. Chander Shahi
Dr. Betsy Birmingham	Dr. Muhannad Khalid	Sana Sharif
Dr. Mariette Brennan	Dr. Rupert Klein	Dr. Sultan Siddiqui
Dr. Kristin Burnett	Dr. Rhonda Koster	Dr. Kathryn Sinden
Dr. Michael Campbell	Dr. Janusz Koziński	Dr. Subramanian Sivaramakrishnan
Paul Capon	Dr. Sreekumari Kurissery	Dr. Karl Skogstad
Dr. Aris Carastathis	Colin Kutchyera	Mark Smith
Dr. Carlos Christoffersen	Dr. Brigitte Leblon	Dr. Michael Stevenson
Dr. Evgeny Chugunov	Dr. Isabelle Lemée	Dr. Mirella Stroink

Dr. Andrew Conly	Dr. Jianye Liu	Dr. Ali Tarokh
Dr. Adam Cornwell	Dr. Meredith Lovell-Johnston	Andrea Tarsitano
Dr. Gautam Das	Dr. Debra Mackinnon	Dr. Wilson Wang
Dr. Hubert de Guise	Dr. Karen McQueen	Dr. Rachel Warburton
Dr. Kristin Dennis	Dr. Wayne Melville	Dr. Elaine Wiersma
Dr. Amanda Diochon	Dr. Leigh Potvin	Dr. Wing Him Yeung
Dr. Rhonda Dubec	Dr. Todd Randall	Yaphet Yosief
Dr. Daniel Dylan	Dr. Michael Rennie	
Regrets		
Dr. Gillian Siddall, <i>Chair</i>	Dr. Lori Chambers	Dr. Jennifer Jarman
Dr. Matthew Boyd	Dr. Andrew Dean	Dr. Aamir Taiyeb
Official Observers (In attendance)		
Michael den Haan	Dr. Heather Murchison	Rosanna Scaffeo
Alexandra Korinowsky	Kathy Pozihun	Dr. Cynthia Wesley-Esquimaux

In the absence of the Chair, Dr. Gillian Balfour, Senate Vice-Chair, presided over the meeting.

Item	Presenter(s)
The meeting was called to order at 4:04pm.	
<p>Traditional Land Acknowledgement</p> <p>The Chair opened the meeting by acknowledging the Indigenous territories of Thunder Bay and Orillia.</p>	

<p>In Memoriam - Dr. Ulf Runesson</p> <p>Dr. Gillian Balfour spoke in memory of Dr. Runesson, a respected colleague, faculty member, and former Dean of the Faculty of Natural Resources Management.</p>		
1.	<p>Approval of Agenda</p> <p>MOVED (T. Randall) that the agenda be approved. CARRIED</p>	<p>Dr. Gillian Balfour</p>
2.	<p>Consent Agenda</p> <p>Supporting documentation for the items in the Consent Agenda was circulated in advance of the meeting.</p> <p>MOVED (G. Das) that the Consent Agenda be approved, as amended, with the following items moved to the regular agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2C-1 - Previous Senate Minutes ● 2C-2e(i) - Senate Research Committee Report Annual Report ● 2C-2f - Senate Teaching and Learning Committee Report ● 2C-2h - Faculty of Graduate Studies Council Report - November 2025 <p>CARRIED</p>	<p>Dr. Gillian Balfour</p>
	<p>2C-1. Previous Senate Minutes</p> <p>Approval of September 29, 2025 OPEN Minutes - Item moved to regular agenda.</p>	

	2C-2.	<p>Senate Standing Committee Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Senate Academic Committee (SAC) Report b. Senate Budget Committee (SBC) Report c. Senate Nominations Committee (SNC) Report d. Senate Organization Committee (SOC) Report e. Senate Research Committee (SRC) Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Senate Research Committee Annual Report to Senate 2024-25 - Item moved to regular agenda. f. Senate Teaching and Learning Committee (STLC) Report - Item moved to regular agenda. g. Senate Undergraduate Studies Committee (SUSC) Report h. Faculty of Graduate Studies Council (FGSC) Reports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. FSGC report to Senate - September 2025 ii. FSGC report to Senate - November 2025 - Item moved to regular agenda. 	
	2C-3.	<p>Adjunct Professor Recommendations</p> <p>MOVED that the attached Adjunct Professor recommendations be approved. CARRIED</p>	
	2C-4.	<p>Informational Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Late Additions to the List of Graduands b. Calendar Change Deadlines Reminder c. Adjunct Professor Renewals 	
	<p>Item Moved to Regular Agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Previous Senate Minutes <p>Approval of September 29, 2025 OPEN Minutes</p> <p>BY CONSENSUS, the minutes of the September 29, 2025 Open Senate meeting were approved, with the following amendment:</p>		<p>Dr. Gillian Balfour</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• add to the list of members “In attendance” Dr. Michael Rennie	
3.	<p>Distinguished Instructor Awards</p> <p>Dr. Balfour spoke to the accomplishments of the following Distinguished Instructor Award recipient, who was honoured during the meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Sam Salem, Department of Civil Engineering	Dr. Gillian Balfour
4.	<p>Calendar Change Reviews</p> <p>The November 2025 Calendar Changes Referral Memo was circulated in advance of the meeting.</p> <p>MOVED (C. Sanders) that the appropriate committees continue reviewing the proposed Academic Calendar changes. CARRIED</p>	Dr. Chris Sanders
5.	Items for Discussion from Committee Reports	

	<p>5.1 Senate Budget Committee</p> <p>Whereas on April 22, 2025 Senate passed a motion that Senate receive the proposal for a Department of Veterinary Science to be housed within the Faculty of Science and Environmental Studies and that it be referred to the appropriate Senate Committees: Senate Academic Committee, Senate Undergraduate Studies Committee, and Senate Budget Committee; and</p> <p>Whereas Senate Academic Committee, Senate Undergraduate Studies Committee, and Senate Budget Committee have completed their review of the Department of Veterinary Science proposal and raised no concerns; and</p> <p>Whereas on September 29, 2025 the Senate Budget Committee passed a motion to recommend that Senate approve the Department of Veterinary Science memo as amended;</p> <p>MOVED (I. Lemée) that the Senate approve the amended proposal for the Department of Veterinary Science as presented. An overview of the amendments to the Department of Veterinary Science memo was presented. The Administration responded to questions related to the budget, potential financial implications, and concerns regarding office space.</p> <p>CARRIED</p>	<p>Dr. Isabelle Lemée</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Calendar Change Approvals</p>	

	<p>6.1 Approval of Undergraduate Calendar Changes</p> <p>MOVED (S. Siddiqui) that the following Undergraduate Academic Calendar changes be approved:</p> <p>Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2025-HBS-8794 - HBK Co-operative Option Less Significant Program Change <p>Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2025-SOC-8832 - Crosslisted Course Addition ● 2025-SOC-8833 - Course–New–UG–INTD ● 2025-SOC-8837 - Minor Modification ● 2025-SOC-8838 - Specialization in Cultural Studies ● 2025-SOC-8883 - Discontinue Course ● 2025-SOC-8885 - ORPT Housekeeping ● 2025-SOC-8897 - Course-Modification- UG-Gender and Women's Studies- Housekeeping change for SOCI-operated course (SOCI 4033) ● 2025-SOC-8942 - Course-Modification- UG-Gender and Women's Studies-Minor change to clarify course category (Core, Group 1 & 2) for WOME 2012, 3132, 3603 & 4012 <p>Faculty of Science and Environmental Studies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2025-SCI-8822-B-A - New BIOL UG course - Biology 3255 Introduction to pharmacology <p>CARRIED</p>	<p>Dr. Sultan Siddiqui</p>
	<p>Items Moved to Regular Agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Senate Research Committee (SRC) Annual Report 2024-2025: <p>The SRC Annual Report was circulated in advance of the meeting.</p> <p>The Administration responded to questions regarding the 2019–2026 Research Plan and research MOU processes.</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Senate Teaching and Learning Committee (STLC) Report: The STLC Report was circulated in advance of the meeting. The STLC Chair responded to a concern raised about quorum challenges at recent STLC meetings, outlining steps being taken to address the issue. The Senate Chair noted that this may be something for the committee to consider as part of the current Terms of Reference review. Faculty of Graduate Studies Council (FGSC) Report - November 2025: The November FGSC Report was circulated in advance of the meeting. The FGSC Chair addressed questions and concerns regarding changing the nomenclature for Graduate Diploma (Types I, II, and III) programs and the introduction of 1-year Master's to deal with the college competition. Discussion on the topic ensued. 	
7.	<p>Election Results - For Information</p> <p>It was reported that the Lakehead University Faculty Association (LUFA) appointed Dr. Muhammad Khalid as LUFA member of Senate for the term commencing November 3, 2025 to June 30, 2026.</p>	Jason Lisi
8.	Informational Items	
	<p>8.1 Board of Governors Report</p> <p>The Board of Governors report for the October 2, 2025 Annual Board of Governors Meeting was circulated in advance of the meeting.</p> <p>In response to a Senator's question, the Vice-Chair of the Board of Governors and the Administration offered clarification on the scope of the Board's oversight of the University's budget.</p>	Mark Smith

		Discussion on the topic ensued.	
	8.2	<p>Council of Ontario Universities (COU) Academic Colleagues Report</p> <p>The Council of Ontario Universities Academic Colleagues Report was circulated in advance of the meeting.</p> <p>In response to a Senator’s inquiry, Dr. Salem and the Administration provided an overview of COU’s collaborative advocacy initiatives, highlighting efforts by northern institutions to advocate collectively and the organization’s ongoing work with the government to ensure appropriate representation.</p> <p>Additionally, there was discussion regarding the potential impact of Bill 33, the Supporting Children and Students Act 2025, on Indigenous access programs at Lakehead University.</p>	Dr. Sam Salem
	8.3	<p>President and Vice-Chancellor Report</p> <p>The President’s report was circulated in advance of the meeting.</p>	Dr. Gillian Balfour
	8.4	<p>Provost and Vice-President (Academic) Report</p> <p>The Provost’s report was circulated in advance of the meeting.</p> <p>The Provost and Vice-President, Academic, responded to a question from a Senator regarding the focus and purpose of the Academic Leaders Council.</p> <p>In response to a concern raised, it was noted that discussions with LUFA regarding office space on campus are currently underway.</p>	Dr. Gillian Balfour
9.	In Camera Session		Dr. Gillian Balfour

	<p>MOVED (T. Randall) that the Senate adjourns to an in camera session for a report from the Chair of the Senate Honorary Degrees Committee (SHDC) and that only Senators and those specifically invited by the Chair shall be present. CARRIED</p> <p>An in camera session was called to order at 5:46pm. Only Senators, the Chair of the SHDC, the Senate Secretary and Recording Secretary were invited to be present.</p> <p>The Senate returned to the open meeting at 5:52pm.</p>	
	<p>9.1 Business Arising from the In Camera Meeting</p> <p>There was no business arising from the in camera session.</p>	<p>Dr. Jason Lisi</p>
<p>10.</p>	<p>Other Business</p> <p>There was no other business.</p>	
<p>The meeting adjourned at 5:52pm.</p>		

 Dr. Gillian Balfour, Vice-Chair

 Dr. Jason Lisi, Secretary of Senate