



OPEN SENATE MEETING

MINUTES

Date:	Monday, March 16, 2026
Time:	4:00pm - 6:00pm (ET)
Location:	Thunder Bay Campus: Senate Chambers (UC 1001) Orillia Campus: OA3041 Zoom

In attendance		
Dr. Gillian Siddall, Chair	Dr. Andrew Dean	Dr. Karen McQueen
Dr. Gillian Balfour, Vice-Chair	Dr. Amanda Diochon	Dr. Leigh Potvin
Dr. Jason Lisi, Secretary	Dr. Rhonda Dubec	Dr. Claudio Pousa
Trudy McKinnon, Recording Secretary	Prof. Daniel Dylan	Dr. Todd Randall
Vincent Afogho	Dr. Hosam El-Ocla	Dr. Langis Roy
Dr. Olakunle Akingbola	Dr. Les Fleischer	Dr. Pauline Sameshima
Dr. Dzhamal Amishev	Dr. Kristy Holmes	Dr. Chris Sanders
Dr. David Barnett	Dr. Douglas Ivison	Dr. Kathy Sanderson
Denise Baxter	Dr. Sarah Jacoba	Gisella Scalese
Dr. Betsy Birmingham	Sara Janes	Dr. Chander Shahi
Dr. Glenda Bonifacio	Dr. Jennifer Jarman	Dr. Sultan Siddiqui
Dr. Mariette Brennan	Dr. Kristen Jones-Bonofiglio	Dr. Kathryn Sinden
Dr. Kristin Burnett	Dr. Muhammad Khalid	Dr. Subramanian Sivaramakrishnan
Dr. Michael Campbell	Dr. Rupert Klein	Dr. Karl Skogstad
Paul Capon	Dr. Rhonda Koster	Mark Smith
Dr. Aris Carastathis	Dr. Sreekumari Kurissery	Dr. Michael Stevenson

Dr. Lori Chambers	Colin Kutchyera	Dr. Mirella Stroink
Dr. Carlos Christoffersen	Dr. Brigitte Leblon	Dr. Ali Tarokh
Dr. Evgeny Chugunov	Dr. Isabelle Lemée	Andrea Tarsitano
Dr. Andrew Conly	Dr. Meredith Lovell-Johnston	Dr. Wilson Wang
Dr. Paul Cormier	Dr. Craig MacKinnon	Dr. Rachel Warburton
Dr. Adam Cornwell	Dr. Debra Mackinnon	Dr. Wing Him Yeung
Dr. Gautam Das	Dr. Richard Maundrell	Dr. Kam Yu
Dr. Hubert de Guise	Dr. Brian McLaren	
Regrets		
Dr. Matthew Boyd	Dr. Scott Pound	Dr. Elaine Wiersma
Dr. Wayne Melville	Dr. Linda Rodenburg	
Official Observers		
Dr. Ehsan Atoofian	Kathy Pozihun	Dr. Cynthia Wesley-Esquimaux
Regrets		
Michael den Haan	Rosanna Scaffeo	

The meeting was called to order at 4:02pm.

Traditional Land Acknowledgement

The Chair opened the meeting by acknowledging the Indigenous territories of Thunder Bay and Orillia.

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| 1. | Approval of Agenda |
| | MOVED (I. Lemée) that the agenda be approved. |
| | CARRIED |

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 (K. Skogstad) that the Consent Agenda be approved, with the following items moved to the regular agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2C-2.a. Senate Academic Committee (SAC) Report ● 2C-2.d. Senate Research Committee (SRC) Report ● 2C-2.f. Senate Undergraduate Studies Committee (SUSC) Report <p>CARRIED</p>
	<p>2C-1. Approval of the Previous Senate Minutes</p> <p>MOVED that the February 17, 2026 Open Senate meeting minutes be approved. CARRIED</p>
	<p>2C-2. Senate Standing Committee Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Senate Academic Committee (SAC) Report - Item moved to regular agenda. b. Senate Budget Committee (SBC) Report. c. Senate Organization Committee (SOC) Report d. Senate Research Committee (SRC) Report - Item moved to regular agenda. e. Senate Teaching and Learning Committee (STLC) Report f. Senate Undergraduate Studies Committee (SUSC) Report - Item moved to regular agenda.
	<p>2C-3. Informational Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Late Additions to the List of Graduands b. Calendar Change Deadlines Reminder
	<p>Items Moved to Regular Agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Senate Academic Committee (SBC) Report

	<p>The SAC report was circulated in advance of the meeting.</p> <p>Senators raised concerns regarding the motion to strike a subcommittee to discuss the role of non-academic units in academic programming. The main issue was the use of the word governance in the memo with respect to the role of non-academic units in academic programming. After discussion, and clarification of the intent of the memo, the Chair, SAC was advised to take the concerns of Senate back to the committee for consideration.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senate Research Committee (SRC) Report <p>The SRC report was circulated in advance of the meeting.</p> <p>A Senator commented that a policy should be created for the implementation of the Vice-President, Research and Innovation International Research Partnership Award.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senate Undergraduate Studies Committee (SUSC) Report <p>The SUSC report was circulated in advance of the meeting.</p> <p>A Senator commented on the frequency of committee reports.</p>
3.	<p>Calendar Change Reviews</p> <p>The March 2026 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>
4.	<p>Items for Discussion from Committee Reports</p>
4.1	<p>Senate Organization Committee Recommendation</p> <p>The following resources were circulated in advance of the meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Senate Undergraduate Scholarships and Bursaries Committee Terms of

		<p>Reference (clean version)</p> <p>b. Senate Undergraduate Scholarships and Bursaries Committee Terms of Reference (with mark-ups)</p> <p>MOVED (D. Ivison) that the Senate approves the proposed amendments to the Senate Undergraduate Scholarships and Bursaries Committee Terms of Reference.</p> <p>CARRIED</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Calendar Change Approvals</p>	<p>The Curriculum Change Workflows chart was circulated in advance of the meeting for information.</p>
	<p>5.1</p>	<p>Approval of Undergraduate Calendar Changes</p> <p>MOVED (S. Siddiqui) that the following undergraduate academic calendar changes be approved, as amended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● remove 2025-SOC-9085 <p>Faculty of Business Administration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2025-BUS-8886 - BUSI 4199 ● 2025-BUS-9176 - Courses-Modifications-UG-Faculty of Business Administration-Addition of Lab for BUSI 2017 <p>Faculty of Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2025-EDU-9141 - Remove Cross-Listing from EDUC-3130 <p>Faculty of Engineering</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2025-ENG-9137 - Program-Modifications-UG-Chemical Engineering <p>Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2025-HBS-9114 - Course modification -minor modification- UG - PSYC <p>Faculty of Science and Environmental Studies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2025-SCI-8822-A - New UG BIOL course-Biology 3014 Comparative Biochemistry

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2025-SCI-8930 - Program-Discontinuation-UG-Bioinformatics-HBSc-and-BSc-majors ● 2025-SCI-9060 - Program Update to the Indigenous STEM Access Program ● 2025-SCI-9066 - Program-Minor Modification-UG-Water Science/Water Resource Science- incorporating more options for course selection to meet degree requirements ● 2025-SCI-9115 - Courses-Modifications-UG-Mathematics-Changes to Offering Hours from 3-2 to 3-0 ● 2025-SCI-9153 - Course-Modification-UG-ENST-3435 crosslisted with INDI-3435, and NORT-3435 <p>Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2025-SOC-8821 - New Indigenous Literature Course ● 2025-SOC-8842 - Course New UG ENGL Life Writing ● 2025-SOC-8843 - Minor Modification x3 ● 2025-SOC-9061 - Course restriction change to include Indigenous STEM Access Programs students in ITYP 1191 course ● 2025-SOC-9065 - Course-Discontinuing-UG-Criminology-4015-Criminal-Profiles ● 2025-SOC-9077 - Course-Modification-UG-Criminology-3135-Description ● 2025-SOC-9079 - New_HIST_Undergrad_Course ● 2025-SOC-9082 - Program; Minor modification; UG; Interdisciplinary Studies; Concentration Updates ● 2025-SOC-9098 - Media, Film, and Communications Internships Minor Changes ● 2025-SOC-9099 - Media, Film, and Communications Minor Small Change ● 2025-SOC-9139 - Course-Discontinuing-UG-Indigenous Learning-decrosslisting Education operated course, INDI 3130 ● 2025-SOC-9144 - Course-Modification-UG-Indigenous Learning-Minor course change for IL operated INDI 3435/ENST 3435/NORT 3435 ● 2025-SOC-9145 - Course-Modification-UG-Indigenous Learning-Minor course change for IL operated INDI 3435/ENST 3435/NORT 3435 <p>CARRIED</p>
5.2		Approval of Undergraduate Regulations and Admissions Changes

		<p>MOVED (S. Siddiqui) that the following undergraduate regulations and admissions changes be approved:</p> <p>Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2025-HBS-9057 - Admission Change for Indigenous Nursing Entry Program <p>Faculty of Science and Environmental Studies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2025-SCI-9058 - Admission Requirement change for Indigenous STEM Access Program <p>Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2025-HBS-9050 - Admission Requirement Addition for all Indigenous Access Programs <p>CARRIED</p>
5.3	Approval of Graduate Calendar Changes	<p>MOVED (C. Shahi) that the following graduate academic calendar changes be approved:</p> <p>Faculty of Natural Resources Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2025-NAT-8846 - Creation of a graduate-level course in photo-interpretation and remote sensing ● 2025-NAT-9035 - Creation of the graduate course NRMT 5139 Advanced Forest Harvesting ● 2025-NAT-9036 - Change the course number for one graduate course Forest hydrology and Watershed Management <p>Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2025-SOC-8945 - New 5th (Graduate) Year Course SOCI-5012 <p>CARRIED</p>
6.	Senate Appointments (For Information)	
6.1	Interim University Librarian - Gisella Scalese (for the term Mar 1/26-Aug 31/26)	
7.	Informational Items	

	9.1	<p>President and Vice-Chancellor Report</p> <p>The President's report was circulated in advance of the meeting.</p>
	9.2	<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) gave an overview of her report.</p> <p>Discussion ensued regarding the section of the report entitled PAC-FS Recommendation Implementation. The Provost and Vice-President (Academic) thanked everyone for their comments and will take them back for consideration.</p>
10.	<p>In Camera Session</p> <p>MOVED (K. Burnett) that the Senate adjourn to an in camera session for a report from the Chair of the Senate Honorary Degrees Committee and that only Senators and those specifically invited by the Chair shall be present.</p> <p>CARRIED</p> <p>An in camera session was called to order at 5:37pm. Only Senators, the University Secretary and Recording Secretary were invited to be present.</p> <p>The Senate returned to the open meeting at 5:36pm.</p>	
	10.1	<p>Business Arising from the In Camera Meeting</p> <p>There was no business arising from the In Camera meeting.</p>
11.	<p>Other Business</p> <p>There was no other business.</p>	
<p>The meeting adjourned at 5:37pm.</p>		

Dr. Gillian Siddall, Chair

Dr. Jason Lisi, University Secretary