



**SENATE**  
**Minutes of Regular Meeting**  
**Monday, March 30, 2026**  
**4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m**  
**MS Teams Online**

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**Present:**

**Voting Members**

Aimee Begalka  
Alia Somji  
Allyson Rozell  
Andhra Goundrey  
Brett Favaro  
Catherine Schwichtenberg, Vice-Chair  
Celia Brinkerhoff  
Diane Purvey, chair  
Diane Van der Gucht  
Gurnoor Kaur  
Jenna Smith  
Landon Kleis  
Laura Del Rio Torres  
Laura McDonald  
Leland Dieno

Lindsay Norris  
Melissa Cuthill  
Michael Cober  
Mike Larsen  
Raymond Chou  
Richard Popoff  
Sharmen Lee  
Sheena Dela Torre  
Shelley Boyd  
Tara Lyons  
Todd Mundle  
Ulrich Paschen  
Winston Sayson  
Zena Mitchell

**Non-Voting Members**

David Burns  
Nadia Henwood

**Administrative Resources**

Michelle Molnar  
Sonia Orlu

**Guests and Presenters**

**Ex-Officio**

Kwuntiltunaat (Kim Baird), Chancellor

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**Not Present:**

**Voting Members**

Harkomalpreet Gill  
Mike Mann

**Non-Voting Members**

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**1. Call to Order and Territorial Acknowledgement**

The Vice-Chair of Senate, Catherine Schwichtenberg, called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

**Todd Mundle moved the agenda be approved as circulated.**

**The motion carried.**

**3. Approval of Minutes, March 2, 2026**

Amendment: The attendance record was corrected to reflect that Richard Popoff was present at the March 2, 2026 Senate meeting.

**Winston Sayson moved the minutes be approved as amended.**

**The motion carried.**

#### **4. Chair's Report**

##### **4.1. Acting President and Provost's Report to Senate**

Acting President Diane Purvey presented her written report highlighting the impact of federal policy shifts on international student enrolment, resulting layoffs, KPU's plans for long-term stability, and the intention to share KPU's submission to the Avison review.

#### **5. Approval of Graduates**

Registrar Nadia Henwood presented the list of graduates for approval.

**Brett Favaro moved that Senate approve the March 30, 2026 list of graduates, as confirmed by the University Registrar.**

**The motion carried.**

#### **6. Senate Standing Committee on Curriculum**

Catherine Schwichtenberg, Chair of the SSCC, presented her written report.

##### **6.1. Course Outlines**

Amendment: Allyson Rozell noted that CRIM 1208 was removed as its quantitative designation request had been withdrawn.

**Laura Del Rio Torres moved that Senate approve the attached list of new, revised, and discontinued course submissions, as amended.**

**The motion carried.**

##### **6.2. Program Revision: Certificate in Education Assistant**

Catherine Schwichtenberg reported that the revisions were the outcome of a Quality Assurance process, including curriculum mapping, creation of a new course (EDAS 1240), and alignment of course learning outcomes to program learning outcomes.

**Shelley Boyd moved that Senate approves the changes to the Certificate in Education Assistant program, effective September 1, 2026.**

**The motion carried.**

##### **6.3. Program Revision: Bachelor of Arts, Major in Geography**

Catherine Schwichtenberg outlined that the revisions were undertaken through a Quality Assurance process, with goals of improving flexibility, thematic coherence, course sequencing, and alignment of program learning outcomes.

**Richard Popoff moved that Senate approves the changes to the Bachelor of Arts, Major in Geography program, effective September 1, 2026.**

**The motion carried.**

#### **6.4. Program Revision: Associate of Arts in Geography**

Catherine Schwichtenberg described the revisions as complementary to those in the Bachelor's degree, aimed at improving student mobility and coherence within the Geography curriculum.

**Richard Popoff moved that Senate approves the changes to the Associate of Arts in Geography program, effective September 1, 2026.**

**The motion carried.**

#### **6.5. Program Revision: Minor in Geography**

Catherine Schwichtenberg noted that revisions reflected careful curriculum mapping and the removal or addition of courses to support student access and relevance.

**Mike Larsen moved that Senate approve the changes to the Minor in Geography program, effective September 1, 2026.**

**The motion carried.**

#### **6.6. English Proficiency Requirement – Amendment**

Catherine Schwichtenberg explained the establishment of a new Access Applicant category intended to reduce barriers for applicants with intellectual, developmental, and/or learning disabilities. Applications would be evaluated by an Access Admissions Committee using Universal Design for Learning (UDL) principles.

It was clarified that eligibility would be program-specific and approved by Deans, and that existing Access and Community Studies processes would remain unchanged.

**Catherine Schwichtenberg moved that Senate approves the revisions to the University's English Proficiency Requirements, effective September 1, 2026.**

**The motion carried.**

### **7. Senate Executive Committee**

The Senate Executive Committee approved this agenda on March 20, 2026.

#### **7.1. 2026-2027 Meeting Dates**

Catherine Schwichtenberg presented the meeting schedule, outlining the planning principles used, including academic cycles, examination periods, and coordination across committees and the Board of Governors. Senators were advised that calendar invitations would be circulated and should be accepted provisionally.

### **8. Senate Governance and Nominating Committee**

Sharmen Lee, Chair of the SGNC, reported on ongoing committee work on bylaws, senate committee structure, and governance improvements.

#### **8.1. Nominations, March 2026**

**Sharmen Lee moved that Senate appoint the nominees listed for approval in the *March 2026 Nominations to Senate Standing Committees.***

The motion carried.

## 8.2. Nominations to the Reappointment Search Advisory Committee –Associate Dean, Faculty of Arts

**Sharmen Lee moved that Senate appoint the following members to the Reappointment Search Advisory Committee for Associate Dean, Faculty of Arts:**

### **Student (One):**

- **Joe Reimer**

### **Regular faculty members (up to six)**

- **Shereen Hassan (CRIM)**
- **Heather Cyr (ENGL)**
- **Ali Yusuf (CRIM)**
- **Gordon Cobb (MUSI)**
- **Stef Ashton (CRIM)**
- **Nicole Beaulieu (LANC)**

The motion carried.

## 9. Senate Standing Committee on Academic Planning and Priorities

Catherine Schwichtenberg, Chair of SSCAPP, presented her written report.

### 9.1. Accuplacer as an English Placement Test

Catherine Schwichtenberg referenced the pilot results and supporting statistical analysis included in the agenda package, noting that Accuplacer was found to be an effective English placement tool.

**Tara Lyons moved that Senate approve Accuplacer as an English Language Placement Test, effective September 1, 2026.**

The motion carried.

### 9.2. CLB Score Pilot Extension

Catherine Schwichtenberg noted that the extension was proposed to allow for further data collection and assessment.

**Aimee Begalka moved that Senate approve a two-year extension to the current one-year pilot allowing the use of Canadian Language Benchmark (CLB) scores as an approved English prerequisite for admission to the Pathway to Undergraduate Studies and for placement into English Language Studies courses, as outlined in the table below, effective September 1, 2026.**

The motion carried.

## 10. Senate Standing Committee on Policy

Catherine Schwichtenberg reported, on behalf of SSCP Chair Aimee Begalka, that several policies are currently under development and that updates will be provided at future meetings.

## 11. Senate Standing Committee on Program Review

Catherine Schwichtenberg, on behalf of SSCPR Chair Fergal Callaghan, presented the written report.

## **12. Senate Standing Committee on Teaching and Learning**

Mike Larsen, Chair of SSCTL, presented his written report.

## **13. Office of the Registrar**

### **13.1. Notice of Election of the Vice-Chair of Senate**

Nadia Henwood, Registrar and Secretary of Senate, provided notice that the Vice-Chair election would take place at the April 27, 2026 Senate meeting.

### **13.2. Spring 2026 Election Report**

Registrar Nadia Henwood reported on the results of the Spring 2026 Senate elections, including newly seated faculty, student representatives, and Board of Governors appointees, and noted that some vacancies remain.

## **14. Items for Discussion**

Acting President Diane Purvey acknowledged Aimee Begalka's final Senate meeting, recognized her service and contributions to the University, and extended best wishes on her retirement.

## **15. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.