



## Senate Meeting

Thursday, September 05, 2024; 3:00 pm PDT

Via Microsoft Teams

## Meeting Minutes

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### Attendees:

*Bashir Makhoul* (UCW President and Senate Chair)

*Mazi Shirvani* (Vice President Academic)

*Stephanie Chu* (AVP Teaching, Learning and Scholarship)

*Henrique Gea* (Registrar)

*Brenda Mathenia* (University Librarian)

*George Drazenovic, Larry Earnhart, and Michele Vincenti* (Program Chairs)

*Alexander Sakharov, Salvador Trevino, Manbo He, Noosha Mehdian, Hamed Taherdoost, Nisa Chand, Min Kay and Jack Smith* (Faculty Representatives)

*Anna Lee Boulton, Maryam Rostamy* (Staff Representatives)

*Nneka Ofodum* (Student Representatives)

*Adrian Mitescu* (Director Institutional Accountability & Senate Secretary)

*Saleiha Sharif* (Senate Coordinator)

### Regrets:

*Gelareh Farhadian* (Program Chairs)

*Penny Farley* (Faculty Representative)

### Guests:

*Amy Hua* (Director, Academic Planning and Budgeting)

*Cassie Savoie* (Director, Academic Operations and Support Services)

*Harpreet Ahluwalia* (Director, Curriculum & Quality Assurance)

*Bradley Fehr* (Associate Director, Communications)

*Susanna Chow* (Director, Institutional Risk & Compliance)

*Stewart Fast* (Director, Office of Research & Scholarship)

*Lisa Collins* (Vice President, Student Experience)





*Annette O'Hara (UCW Ombudsperson)*

*Jamie Molz (Communication Manager)*

*Pooja Lekhi (Faculty Members)*

**Absent:**

*Jill Cummings (Program Chairs)*

*Mohsen Saeedi, Mehdi Akhgari, Abedeh Gholidoust (Faculty Representative)*

*Mamtha Nagaraja (Alumni Representative)*



## 1. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgment

Bashir Makhoul

*We acknowledge that the territories on which UCW and its campuses are situated are the traditional, ancestral and unceded territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) and Selílwitlh (Tseil-Waututh) Nations. We thank them for having cared for this land since time immemorial, honour their graciousness to the students who seek knowledge here, and iterate our dedication to valuing the ongoing contributions of Indigenous peoples and communities.*

The meeting was called to order at 3:03 pm PST.

## 2. Approval of the Agenda

Bashir Makhoul

**Motion:** To approve the agenda with an amendment to remove an item 5.a.iii.h.a.i.a. ENGL 105 – Contemporary Literature: Drama and Narrative, as presented.

**Moved:** Hamed Taherdoost **Seconded:** Michele Vincenti

**Motion carried unanimously.**

## 3. Approval of Minutes

Bashir Makhoul

### a. Minutes from the previous Senate meeting on June 06, 2024

**Motion:** To approve Minutes from the Senate meeting on July 04, 2024, as presented.

**Moved:** Mazi Shirvani **Seconded:** Anna Lee Boulton

**Motion carried unanimously.**

## 4. President's Communication

Bashir Makhoul

Bashir Makhoul briefed the members about several key updates. He mentioned that the university received a 5-year consent for its designation, while the Bachelor of Commerce and Bachelor of Arts and Business Communication programs were granted 3-year consents. The Associate of the Arts program received a 2-year consent, and the MBA program was given a 1-year consent with conditions requiring a response plan before lifting admission restrictions for Spring 2025. Positive trends were observed in faculty recruitment and student enrollments. He further highlighted that there are significant achievements include ongoing partnerships with various institutions, participation in the 2024 Indigenous Partnership Success Showcase, and a Platinum award for the Indigenous History Series. Additionally, the MOU with City University, Ajman and Dubai, and the renaming of the East Building to Sheldon Levy's Building were highlighted.

## 5. Consent Agenda

Bashir Makhoul

**Motion:** To approve the consent agenda as a package, as presented.

**Moved:** Brenda Mathenia **Seconded:** Nneka Ofodum

**Motion carried unanimously.**

## 6. Question period

## 7. Proposals from Standing Committees

### a. Academic Planning and Priorities

#### i. New Partnership Agreements

Amy Hua

##### a) Ludong University & UCW Dual Degree Programs

Amy Hua presented the proposal for a partnership with Loudon University for Senate approval, highlighting its strategic benefits, including diversifying student enrollment and enhancing UCW's reputation in China. The agreement focuses on transferring four courses from Ludong University to the MBA program at UCW. Mazi Shirvani from the APP Committee confirmed the thorough review of the articulation agreement, clarifying that the dual degree designation is merely a formality.

**Motion:** *To approve the New Partnership Agreement with Ludong University & UCW Dual Degree Programs, as presented.*

**Moved:** *Michele Vincenti* **Seconded:** *Mazi Shirvani*

**Motion carried unanimously.**

##### b) Study Abroad Training Base Program Proposal (Articulation)

Amy Hua introduced the CSCSE Study Abroad Training-Based Program, which allows Chinese students to study abroad during their third and fourth years. This program aims to attract more students to UCW by partnering with over 40 reputable institutions in China. The program is designed to align with UCW's curriculum, with a 2+2 arrangement where students complete their first two years in China and then join UCW. The proposal was discussed, including details on credit transfers and program alignment. Mazi Shirvani emphasized that the framework would guide individual agreements with institutions.

**Motion:** *To approve the New Partnership Agreement with Articulation Agreement of Study Abroad Training Base Program Proposal, as presented.*

**Moved:** *Nneka Ofodum* **Seconded:** *Anna Lee Boulton*

**Motion carried unanimously.**

### b. University Curriculum

#### i. Graduate Curriculum Working Committee

##### a) New Course Development

##### i. MGMT 654 – Advanced Project Management Leadership

Michele Vincenti

Michele Vincenti introduced a new course created to align with existing specializations. This course, aimed at providing skills in AI and STEM project management, has been approved by other committees and is now being presented for final approval. Alexander Sakharov provided a summary of the approval process, which involves the Graduate Working Curriculum Committee, University Curriculum Committee, and finally the Senate. Alexander noted that the course had previously been discussed, with concerns about overlap between departmental courses addressed and resolved.

**Motion:** *To approve the new course MGMT 654 – Advanced Project Management Leadership, as presented.*

**Moved:** *Alexander Sakharov* **Seconded:** *Manbo He*  
**Motion carried unanimously.**

## 8. Other Business

### a. Results of the inaugural UCW Senate consultation

Adrian Mitescu

Adrian Mitescu presented the report from the internal survey conducted for the UCW Senate. He acknowledged the participants' feedback and expressed gratitude for their contributions. The survey results were analyzed, with comments provided on the UCW Senate's performance and areas for improvement. He updated attendees on the incorporation of the internal survey report into the Senate Bylaws. The report, reviewed by both the Governance and Policies Committee and the Ad Hoc Committee, has led to the integration of recommended changes into the Senate bylaws.

### b. Notice of Motion to update the Senate Bylaws

Manbo He

Manbo He presented the proposed amendments to the Senate bylaws. The ad-hoc committee, led by Dr. Mazi Shirvani with support from Adrian Mitescu, reviewed and summarized the necessary changes. The amendments are detailed in a table and accompanying documentation was already shared as Senate package with the members. Adrian also recognized the contributions of additional ad-hoc committee members; Maryam Rostamy and Susanna Chow.

## 9. In-camera Discussion

**Motion:** To move proceedings of the Senate in camera

**Moved:** *Mazi Shirvani* **Seconded:** *Jack Smith*

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion:** To move the proceedings of the Senate out of camera

**Moved:** *Mazi Shirvani* **Seconded:** *Brenda Mathenia*

**Motion carried unanimously.**

## 10. Adjournment

Bashir Makhoul

**Motion:** *To adjourn the meeting.*

**Moved:** *Brenda Mathenia* **Seconded:** *Mazi Shirvani*

*The meeting adjourned at 3:55 pm.*