

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL CUFA COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Monday, April 6, 2020

9:34 AM – 11:44 AM via Zoom Videoconference

PRESENT: Ian Rakita (Chair), Nayrouz Abu Hatoum, Ciprian Alecsandru, Elena Benelli, Aaron Brauer, Greg Butler, June Chaikelson, Patrick Delaney, Mary Di Michele, Charles Draimin, Rasha El Hawari, Pierre Gauthier, Vincent Graziano, Jorgen Hansen, Steve Henle, Cody Hyndman, Wilson Jacob, Meaghan Joy, Ida Karimfazil, Lea Katsanis, Alexandru Lefter, Samuel Li, James McLean, Heike Neumann, Pedro Peres-Neto, Ted Stathopoulos, Pouya Valizddeh; Geneviève Robichaud, Léa Roboam.

ABSENT: Lorrie Blair, George Denès, Gilles Peslherbe, Mahesh Sharma, Natalia Teplova, Raul Valverde

1. Approval of the Agenda

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Karimfazil, Katsanis) it was unanimously resolved that the Agenda be approved.

2. President's Remarks

Ian highlighted the recent matters that CUFA has been discussing with the Administration in view of the COVID-19 situation as follows. The sabbatical deferral deadlines need to respect the Collective Agreement. Third year LTAs to be offered a fourth year. PDA balances in excess of \$2400 to be exceptionally rolled over into the 2020-21 year. CUFA continues to try and resolve the normal service issue for ETA members. Finally Ian reported CAUT has had to defer their Executive Committee Elections until at least the fall as their constitution does not provide for electronic balloting.

3. New Business

- a. **Elections and nominations:** Owing to the current state of affairs and following due discussion, Council moved and seconded (Katsanis, Neumann) the following motion:

WHEREAS the current COVID-19 crisis has created extraordinary circumstances;

WHEREAS the University is closed until further notice;

WHEREAS holding nominations and elections in April will add an additional burden on our already stressed members;

WHEREAS a number of CUFA Councillors are willing to have their term extended by one year;

WHEREAS a number of members of the CUFA Executive are willing to have their term extended by one year;

Be it resolved that the terms for all of the CUFA Councillors and the members of the CUFA Executive be extended exceptionally for one year.

Motion carried unanimously

- b. Feedback from members with respect to the current situation:** The floor was opened to receive feedback that councilors had solicited from their constituents. The concerns that were raised can be categorized as follows:
- Transferring courses online and the related effects such as online testing and assessment, security of online teaching platforms, expenses related to teaching online, members with young children at home;
 - Extensions of deadlines such as PDA, LTA renewals, tenure, DPC elections;
 - The impact on the pension plan due the economic downturn;
 - Back to work protocol when the University is able to re-open;
 - Member support during this period of transition;
 - Office access, which has now been curtailed until at least May 4.

A full elaboration of these concerns will be articulated in a special newsletter and CUFA will bring this to the attention of the Administration.

4. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:44 AM.