

**SENATE ACADEMIC BUILDING NEEDS COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES**

Tuesday 19 October 2021 2-3:30 p.m. via Zoom

Attendees

Senators

Laia Shpeller (Chair)
Anisha Sandhu (Vice-Chair)
Adlai Fisher
Andre Ivanov
Alex Scott

Ex Officio

Pam Ratner

Regrets

Ben Fischer
Charles Menzies
Jaclyn Stewart
Kate Ross
Richard Topping
Austin Uzama

Staff

Michael Jud

Call to Order

The meeting of the Senate Academic Building Needs Committee (the "Committee") was called to order at 2:09 p.m. on 19 October 2021 by Laia Shpeller, Chair.

Agenda

THAT THE Senate Academic Building Needs Committee adopt the 19 October 2021 agenda as presented.

Moved: A. Scott
Seconded: A. Sandhu
Carried

Meeting Minutes

P. Ratner noted that her name was incorrectly omitted from the Regrets section of the draft minutes. M. Jud apologized for the error and undertook to correct it.

THAT THE Senate Academic Building Needs Committee approve the meeting minutes of September 21, 2021 as amended.

Moved: A. Scott
Seconded: A. Sandhu
Carried

**Committee
Roundtable:
Topics/Areas of
focus for 2021-
2022**

An excerpt from the Committee's meeting minutes of December 15, 2020 was circulated in advance. The excerpt contained a record of the Committee's 2020-21 roundtable discussion.

L. Shpeller noted that she had been in discussion with A. Sandhu prior to the meeting to map out potential area of focus for the Committee's work in 2021-22. These discussions yielded three broad areas of focus for the Committee to consider:

1. Preparing for hybrid. The university has undergone major adjustments in the realm of teaching and learning as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting shift toward hybrid learning. What lessons were learned over this period, and how can these lessons be applied to the university's academic buildings?

2. Spaces for collaboration. The basic question to be answered is: what exists and what is missing?
3. Accessible learning. Basic accessibility of the university's academic buildings continues to be an issue. The aim is therefore to understand the complex range of accessibility challenges experienced by students and to examine how the design of academic buildings either improves or diminishes accessibility for various groups.

Committee members expressed unanimous support for this agenda and contributed specific ideas for how it may be pursued. It was generally agreed that more work can be done to define the role of the Committee and identify where its efforts can be most impactful. L. Shpeller undertook to consult on this point with the Chairs of the Senate Teaching and Learning and Library Committees, as well as appropriate members of the university administration. Efforts will also be made to consult with both campus groups and local outside organizations with interest and expertise in the topics listed above. An update on this work will be provided by the Chair at the Committee's next meeting.

Next Meeting	The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Tuesday November 16, 2021 at 2:00pm – 3:30pm.
Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at 3:03 pm.