

# Senate Minutes

**November 9, 2018  
Senate Chamber CE-339**

The Chair, M. Mkandawire, called the meeting to order at 1:33.

He began with the acknowledgement that Cape Breton University is located in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People. This territory is covered by the "Treaties of Peace and Friendship" which Mi'kmaq and Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet) people first signed with the British Crown in 1726. The treaties did not deal with surrender of lands and resources but in fact recognized Mi'kmaq and Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet) title and established the rules for what was to be an ongoing relationship between nations.

## **1. Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum**

### **Present:**

Nagy Abdou, Pat Bates, Tanya Brann-Barrett, Parteek Brar, Geoff Carre, Sheila Christie, Patrick deLamirande, Mary Beth Doucette, David Gerbasi, Bhreagh Gillis, Odette Griscti, Jasmine Hoover, Mary Keating, Alison Keough, Angela Keylor, Carolin Kreber, Ronald Labelle, Brendan MacDonald, Gordon MacInnis, Judy MacInnis, Richard MacKinnon, Bernie MacLennan, Emily MacLennan, Stewart McCann, Martin Mkandawire, Martin Moy, Joe Parish, Andy Parnaby, Joanne Pyke, Chester Pyne, Vicky Salazar, Michael Tanchak, Tom Urbaniak, Audrey Walsh, Richard Watuwa, Terry MacDonald

### **Regrets:**

Stephen Augustine, Catherine Arseneau, David Dingwall, Stephanie Inglis, David Johnson, George Karaphillis, Mary Jane Morrison, Rick Pierrynowski, Ann Sylliboy, Katie Unsworth, John Mayich

### **Absent:**

Ankaer Ainiwear, Jane Lewis, Amera Mohamed, Claudette Taylor,

On behalf of Senate, Dr. David Gerbasi was welcomed as the representative from the Canadian Coast Guard College and Michael Tanchak who is replacing the Chair's seat in the SST membership.

**It was moved** by M. Keating, seconded by C. Kreber, to adopt the agenda as circulated. **Motion carried.**

## **2. Consent Agenda – N/A**

## **3. Matters to be Considered in Closed Session**

**It was moved** by P Delamirande, seconded by C. Pyne, to move into Closed Session for the purpose of conducting confidential business. **Motion carried.**

Following the Closed Session **it was moved** by P. Bates, seconded by B. MacLennan, to move back to Open Session. **Motion carried.**

#### **4. Matters Forwarded for Information**

##### **4.1 Changes to CIC Convocation list after approval**

B. MacDonald referred to the informational memo circulated in advance of the meeting. This memo detailed the changes to the CIC graduation list after Senate's approval and also included the addition of the email votes.

#### **5. Special Presentations/Updates**

##### **5.1 CBU's Enrolment Growth & Impacts**

**It was moved** by P. Brar, seconded by M. Tanchak, to give speaking privileges to Eleanor Anderson for the purposes of providing a presentation. **Motion carried.**

P. Brar and E. Anderson provided Senate with a presentation on the impacts of enrolment growth at CBU and responded to comments and questions as they arose. They provided an enrolment and projections update and detailed the actions CBU has taken to date to address the gaps in services and supports. Following the presentation, both were thanked and a copy of the presentation was passed on to the recording secretary for uploading to the Senate SharePoint.

#### **6. Report of the Vice-President Academic & Provost**

R. MacKinnon referred to the report circulated during the meeting highlighting the many events the VPA office has been involved in since the last meeting of Senate.

A friendly suggestion was submitted that the Chair of Senate request a written summary report from the President and/or Vice President Academic if they are not going to be at Senate. It was further suggested that should questions be submitted for a meeting they will not be attending, a written report addressing the questions should be submitted.

#### **7. Question Period – N/A**

#### **8. Approval of Minutes**

**8.1 It was moved** by M. Keating, seconded by P. Bates, the approval of the minutes from the October 18, 2018 meeting. It was noted that J. Parish, M. Tanchak and M. Doucette attendance was incorrectly recorded. **Motion carried with noted amendments. Abstentions: 4**

#### **9. Business Arising from the Minutes**

M. Mkandawire reported that the Volunteer Advantage Experience Committee, established during the September meeting of Senate, has been fully staffed with MJ Morrison elected as Chair. The Committee has been meeting and are planning to have a report for Senate in January.

## 10. Report of the Executive Committee

T. Urbaniak reported that the Executive Committee met on November 2<sup>nd</sup> to set the agenda for this Senate meeting. The Committee deferred three questions for Question Period until the December meeting, they received MBA-CED and BACS Quality Assurance Review from the Quality Assurance Committee. These reports have been posted to the Senate SharePoint and a motion will be moved during the December meeting for approval. The Committee also requested a report from the Volunteer Advantage Program Committee.

## 11. Students' Union Report

Students' Union President, P. Brar, reported that they continue to work with students who have raised issues like those from the earlier presentation, that they participated in CBU's Open House, that there will be a drop off point for donations of warm outwear for students and their families, and the first fall reading week is very much appreciated and welcomed by the student body. He also expressed thanks to all those who were involved the planning of the very successful Diwali Night.

## 12. Reports of Other Committees

**(a) Academic Committee** – M. Keating referred to the report circulated with the meeting documents which was moved from the Consent Agenda.

### Recommendation:

**It was moved** by M. Keating, seconded by S. Christie, that the two following changes to the academic calendar be approved: the final date to drop a course, without academic penalty, is the end of the 8th week of a 3-credit course, the final date to drop a six-credit course, without penalty, is the end of the second week of classes in January. Following discussion on the term withdrawal, the issuing marks, the dates, a friendly amendment was accepted to remove "of zero" from the third last paragraph so that it reads, "Students who leave a course without formal withdrawal will receive a grade for the course and will be charged full tuition and fees for the full course. **Motion carried as amended.**

**It was moved**, M. Keating, seconded by P. Delamirande, that the proposed language on no formal program and visiting student be added to the calendar. **Motion carried.**

**(b) Planning & Review** – G. Carre referred to the report circulated with the meeting material. He detailed this document as Senate's submission to the Budget Advisory Committee for their consideration of what Senate deems academic priorities for this process.

### Recommendation 1:

**It was moved** by G. Carre, seconded by M. Keating, that CBU provide a cost/benefit analysis of field-trip logistics with a view to operationalising field-trip capability as an addition to our educational options. Following a full discussion on the phrasing of the motion, friendly amendments were accepted so that it reads: "*That CBU provide a cost/benefit analysis of off-campus educational activities, logistics, and relevant policies with a view to operationalising off-campus educational activities as an addition to our educational options.*" **Motion carried as amended.**

Recommendation 2:

**It was moved** by G. Carre, seconded by J. Parish, that the University should initiate a comprehensive review of our learning spaces, and develop a renovation program to upgrade general use classrooms, outside classroom learning spaces, lab spaces, and facilitate the use of outdoor learning spaces. Following a discussion on past reviews on classrooms spaces, G. Carre noted this recommendation is not to repeat any previous work but rather to build upon them. A friendly amendment was accepted to revise the motion so that it reads: "the University should update previous reviews of our learning spaces and develop a renovation program to upgrade general use classrooms, outside classroom learning spaces, lab spaces, and facilitate the use of outdoor learning spaces." **Motion carried as amended.**

Recommendation 3:

**It was moved** by J. Parish, seconded by P. Brar, that Senate encourage the Budgetary Committee to make the necessary investments to pursue sustainable growth of the student body served by:

- a physical plant that contributes to a positive learning environment
- a faculty and support staff that is sufficient to allow the flourishing of learning
- a medical and counselling system that keeps all members of the university healthy and able to access appropriate care
- campus dining facilities prepared to serve the dining needs of all members of the university at times most appropriate to those needs
- a university that, as a whole, provides guidance for on- and off-campus housing and transportation of students by working hand in hand with the larger CBRM community

A suggested amendment to add the issue of capped courses, although valid, was felt to be more than a friendly amendment and not accepted. Following a full discussion and acceptance of several friendly amendments the motions was revised to read: "that Senate encourage the Budgetary Advisory Committee make recommendations for the necessary investments to pursue academic quality and sustainable growth of the student body served by:

- a physical, online, and digital infrastructure that contributes to a positive learning environment
- a faculty and support staff that is sufficient to allow the flourishing of learning
- a wellness strategy and a medical and counselling system that keeps all members of the University healthy and able to access appropriate care
- campus dining facilities prepared to serve the dining needs of all members of the University at times most appropriate to those needs
- a University that, as a whole, provides guidance for on- and off-campus housing and transportation of students by working hand in hand with the larger CBRM community

**Motion carried as amended.**

**(c) Research** – E. Barre noted that in addition to the report circulated with the meeting material, the Committee has received a proposal for the World Tourism Institute and will present it to Senate during the December meeting.

**(d) Bylaws** – No report.

**(e) QA** – No additions to the circulated report. R. MacKinnon responded that QA review for the Library is underway.

**(f) TLEC** – No report.

### **13. Board of Governors' Report**

P. Bates reported that the Board of Governors' met on October 26<sup>th</sup> where the Strategic Plan was unanimously approved. Members were provided with a comprehensive Treasurer's Report, a report from Senate which included updates to the Mature Student admissions, and he also referred Senate, as a point of interest, to a press release from the [Port Hawkesbury Reporter](#) in which the ACOA president discusses labour shortages.

### **14. Adjournment**

There being no further business, it was moved by T. Brann-Barrett to adjourn the meeting at 4:00 pm.



David Johnson, Secretary