

Senate Minutes

November 16, 2012
Senate Chamber CE-339

Chair, D. Johnson, called the meeting to order at 1:36 pm and welcomed the new Director of Library Services, Shawn Bethke.

1. Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum

Present:

Eleanor Anderson, Judy Bailey, Robert Bailey, Ed Barre, Keith Brown, Dannie Brown, Godwin D'Cunha, Nicole Dixon, Maureen Finlayson, Barb Glassey, Maile Graham-Laidlaw, Louis Guimond, John Harker, Derrick Hayes, Rany Ibrahim, Adam Jamieson, David Johnson, Mary Keating, Sue Korol, Michelle Lahey, Alana Lawrence, Doug Lionais, Jessie MacDonald, Mary Suzanne MacEachern, Gordon MacInnis, John MacKinnon, Lynn MacLean, Stewart McCann, Joe Parish, James Preen, Sheila Profit, Joanne Pyke, Scott Stewart, Eileen Smith-Piovesan, Shawn Bethke

Regrets:

Jane Connell, Dennis Curry, Margaret Dechman, Patrick Howard, Diane Janes, Dale Keefe, Alexis Manley, David McCorquodale, Scott Moir, Rod Nicholls, Mike Tanchak

Absent:

Hosam Al-Arabi, Carl Mercer

2. Matters to be Considered in Closed Session

It was moved by S. Profit, seconded by R. Ibrahim, to move into Closed Session for the purpose of conducting confidential business. **Motion carried.**

It was moved by S. Stewart, seconded by A. Lawrence, to move back in to open session following a closed session discussion. **Motion Carried.**

3. Matters Forwarded for Information

On behalf of A. Manley, Chair, D. Johnson, presented a memo for the information of Senate which was circulated with the meeting package. The memo detailed changes to the Graduation List after its approval at the October 19th meeting of Senate.

4. Special Presentations/Updates – n\a

5. Report of the President and Vice-President Academic & Professional Studies (Provost)

5.1 Report of the President

President Harker provided a verbal report with the following highlights:

- During a recent visit to the UK, President Harker continued to pursue efforts for CBU to host a 2015 annual meeting of local government organizations from across the Commonwealth.
- He expressed to the Board of Governors at their recent meeting that CBU needs to focus efforts on highlighting our successes in international recruitment.
- Federal Finance Minister, Jim Flaherty attended a ceremony at CBU honouring his aunt, Sister Margaret Harquail, who played a key role in the early days of the university. The garden space between the Verschuren Centre and the Shannon School of Business was officially named Harquail Gardens.
- Honourary degrees were presented to Eveline Dunbar-MacLeod, Wanda Robson and Vishy Karri at Fall Convocation.
- An event was held to honour Cheryl Bartlett as CBU's very first Canada Research Chair.
- Deputy Minister of Justice agreed that the model developed by Rod Nicholls and Tom Urbaniak for the Association for Safer Cape Breton Communities will be promoted as a model for the rest of Nova Scotia.
- Meeting with Government see a continued focus on Innovation and President Harker will continue with efforts to change Government's perception of the value of higher education.

On the question of the announcement released detailing Dr. Andrew Swanson as the Lockheed Martin Distinguished Fellow in Renewable Energy, Verschuren Centre, President Harker responded that Dr. Swanson's role is to assist Dr. McCurdy in program direction responsibilities as well as research during his time with CBU. On a follow up comment, President Harker advised that although at present, the Verschuren Centre does not appear to be as active as it had hoped, there are developments in progress. On the question of Lockheed Martin's responsibility it was detailed they committed to a \$400,000 per year, 5 year term subject to an annual review and that CBU does not have a responsibility to the Lockheed Martin share.

5.2 Vice-President Academic & Professional Studies (Provost)

Robert Bailey, provided a verbal report with the following highlights:

- A personal welcome was offered to Shawn Bethke, the new Director of Library Services.
- The annual Academic Plan continues with the Deans, VP Student Services and Registrar and campus community input, with the hopes to have it ready for presentation in January 2013.

6. Question Period

6.1 Could Senate be given an update on the science lab renovations in the Arseneau-Britten building and the proposed renovations for the Marvin Harvey and Campus Centre buildings?

President Harker addressed the question by advising that at the recent meeting of the Board of Governors, he reminded the Board of a commitment that was approved in 2010 to update the labs, faculty and student spaces for the Arts and Social Sciences. It is with regrets, President Harker,

noted this commitment was not realized due to the emphasis that was put on the completion of the School of Business. He did note that engineers have examined the structure of the buildings and until these structures are secured further interior updates will be put on hold. He explained this project is a priority and the hope is to have this initial work complete by summer 2013.

On the question of proposing a Board resolution to ensure this action is completed, President Harker advised the financial commitment was already approved by the Board of Governors in 2010, therefore a resolution is not necessary. Further to the discussion, G. MacInnis noted a comprehensive capital plan is in development with a top priority being the labs, teaching and faculty spaces. The growing pains to achieve completion will, of course, be the displacement of faculty and students for a period of time to allow work to continue.

7. Approval of Minutes

8.1 It was moved by D. Brown, seconded by S. Profit, the approval of the minutes from the October 19, 2012 meeting. With two noted amendments, **motion carried.** Abstentions: 6

8. Business Arising from the Minutes

9. Report of the Executive Committee

Vice Chair, D. Lionais reported that the Executive committee met on November 2nd to set the agenda for this Senate meeting. Highlights of the meeting and topics of discussion were as follows:

- Vacancies on Senate committees to be addressed by the Nominating Committee.
- The possible revision of the Senate meeting agenda to allow for announcements that would concern Senate. **It was moved,** by D. Lionais, seconded by J. Bailey, to change the agenda structure of Senate to include communications with matters forwarded for information that come in after the Executive meeting be forwarded to the Chair of Senate via the recording secretary. **Motion carried.**

10. Students' Union Report

Students' Union President, M. Lahey, provided a verbal report with the following highlights:

- November 25th will be hosting Take Back the Night which is a campaign that focuses on awareness of violence against women.
- SU President and SU VP Academic attended a Students Nova Scotia meeting at St. FX to discuss internal governance review and are preparing position papers on the Funding Formula, mental health support system and international student trends.
- The Students' Union has been working with Beth Currie at Addictions Services in the creation of a municipal alcohol policy.
- The town hall meeting, in conjunction with TLEC, on classroom efficiencies was well attended and the next town hall meeting will be held on November 27th and the topic will be mental health services.
- Students' Nova Scotia has decided their campaign this year will be to focus on increasing participation of women in student government.

11. Reports of Other Committees

(a) Bylaws – Interim Chair, M. Lahey, referred to the document circulated with the meeting package which detailed the reviews of the Department of Psychology and School of Arts and Social Sciences bylaws. The Committee also requests that upon submission of bylaws that the changes made be clearly identified.

It was moved, by M. Lahey, seconded by J. MacDonald, the approval of the Department of Psychology By-Laws as presented. The discussion around the terms a chair can or should hold it was advised that the Schools\Departments should decide this depending on their members. **Motion carried.**

On a discussion of using the Psychology by-laws as a template it was decided that they could be used as a guide to assist but that the template set out specifically for the creation of bylaws would be a more helpful tool.

It was moved, by M. Lahey, seconded by A. Lawrence, to approve the School of Arts and Social Sciences as presented. On the question of the student representation and quorum it was again noted, these would be situation specific items. **Motion carried.**

(b) Academic – Chair, S. Stewart, referred to the report circulated with the meeting package.

1. Changes to BA Core

It was moved, by S. Stewart, seconded by R. Bailey, that the School of Arts and Social Sciences remove Group 6 from the BA core, add 6 credits to the major and move 6 credits from the electives to the minor. **Motion carried.**

2. COMM 3177: Communication and Film

It was moved, by S. Stewart, seconded by J. MacDonald, to approve COMM 3177: Communication and Film. **Motion carried.**

3. ENGL 4XXX: Postcolonial Theory

It was moved, by S. Stewart, seconded by M. Graham-Laidlaw, to approve ENGL 4XXX: Postcolonial Theory. **Motion carried.**

4. Addition to the CBU Academic Regulations

It was moved, by S. Stewart, seconded by S. Profit, to approve the proposed addition to the CBU Academic Regulations with respect to the scheduling of examinations to include "All students writing examinations are required to show their own CBU ID card". It was noted that a mechanism to collect id will be in place for emergency situations. Various comments were offered in favour of the motion and that this regulation is in line with other post-secondary education institutions. **Motion carried.**

(c) TLEC – on behalf of Chair, P. Howard, E. Smith-Piovesan referred to a report circulated with the meeting package. This report, for informational purposes, details Matthias Bierensteil's duties as Faculty Liaison for Teaching and Learning and his accomplishments in his first term as well as his work in progress.

(d) Nominating – Chair, D. Brown, referred to the Standing Committees of Senate list circulated with the meeting package, noting the following updates received after the list was distributed:

Bylaws and Procedures Committee: Eleanor Anderson (Senator) and Scott Moir (Senator)
Research Committee: Catherine O'Brien (Chair of RAC) and Avis Mysyk (General Member)
Budget Advisory: Edmund Rudiuk (SST)

D. Brown noted representation on the Budget Advisory Committee is required from SASS and SSOB and the Appeals Committee required two faculty members and an alternate faculty member (these representatives are not from Senate).

It was decided that once nominations have been received by the Nominating Committee for the Appeals Committee, these names will be forwarded to the Chair and then circulated for an electronic vote.

(e) Planning & Review – Chair, M. Keating, provided a verbal report advising that the committee hopes to have the templates for the MOAs and MOUs for the next meeting of Senate. Work has begun on the pre-budget report in preparation for the special meeting of Senate in January. Academic Committee policies are being assigned to individual members for review and updated where necessary.

(f) Research - Chair, J. Preen, provided a verbal report detailing the Integrity in Research and Scholarship town hall meeting held on November 2nd was very well attended. Feedback collected at the meeting is now being considered and implemented in the document and once complete the document will be re-circulated and brought back to Senate at its February meeting.

(g) QA - Chair, R. Bailey, advised the committee has met and a Chair has not been determined at this point. At their next meeting, after a Chair is elected, the QA reviews for SSOB and SPS will continue.

12. Board of Governors Report

M. Keating reported the Board met on October 26th highlighting the following from the Public meeting:

- COMFIT (Wind Farm) Update
- Fuel change has been made from coal to pellets & chips
- Promise of lab renovations and campus centre will be delivered
- MPHEC is currently looking at the Music Degree
- Reduction of Government Funding
- Concern in the residence low occupancy rate was noted and how to strategize for optimization
- Investments are tracking well
- Presidential Search Committee recognized the letter submitted by Senate and will take an update of the bylaws under advisement upon the conclusion of the search
- An overview of the CBU Foundation was presented

13. Confidential Business – N/A

14. Adjournment

The next Senate meeting is scheduled for Friday, December 14, 2012
There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:10 pm.



Godwin D'Cunha, Secretary