

Senate Minutes

April 5, 2013
Senate Chamber CE-339

Chair, D. Johnson, called the meeting to order at 1:38 pm and welcomed the new Students' Union elect representatives, Matt Latimer, SU President, Brennan Boudreau, SU VP Academic and Patricia McCann, SU Director of Communications. D. Johnson also offered thanks to the current Students' Union Senate representatives for their dedication to Senate.

Dr. David Gerbasi of the Canadian Coast Guard College was also in attendance on behalf of Louis Guimond to offer insight to changes being presented for approval to Bachelor of Technologies Nautical Sciences.

1. Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum

Present:

Hosam Al-Arabi, Robert Bailey, Judy Bailey, Ed Barre, Dannie Brown, Robert Campbell, George Chen, Jane Connell, Dennis Curry, Godwin D'Cunha, Margaret Dechman, Nicole Dixon, Barb Glassey, Maile Graham-Laidlaw, Derrick Hayes, Rany Ibrahim, Adam Jamieson, David Johnson, Mary Keating, Dale Keefe, Michelle Lahey, Alana Lawrence, Doug Lionais, Gordon MacInnis, John MacKinnon, Stewart McCann, David McCorquodale, Scott Moir, Rod Nicholls, Joe Parish, James Preen, Sheila Profit, Joanne Pyke, Scott Stewart, Mike Tanchak, Shawn Bethke

Regrets:

Keith Brown, Marueen Finlayson, Louis Guimond, Patrick Howard, Diane Janes, Jessie MacDonald, Mary Suzanne MacEachern, Alexis Manley, Eileen Smith-Piovesan

Absent:

Eleanor Anderson, Stephen Augustine, Carl Mercer

2. Matters to be Considered in Closed Session – N/A

3. Matters Forwarded for Information – N/A

4. Special Presentations/Updates – N/A

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

5.1 Report of the President – N/A

5.2 Vice-President Academic & Professional Studies (Provost)

Robert Bailey provided a verbal report with the following highlights:

- Academic Plan 2013-2014 will be reviewed by President Wheeler during the next week. Once his comments are received it will be released to the CBU Community with a tentative presentation date to the CBU community of April 19th.
- In a message sent to the CBU community from President Wheeler dated April 4th, he discussed his intentions for Academic programs and Dr. Bailey sees the Academic Plan as a lead in to these discussions.
- Searches for Deans of SSOB and SASS have been posted. Search committees will be finalized next week with Dr. Bailey as Chair of both committees. These committees will be larger than those involved in past searches and the searches will be confidential. Progress of the search will be reported to Senate monthly. The terms of current Deans may expire prior to a recommendation on candidates being presented to the President, and in this case interim Deans will be appointed.
- Referring to the Research Groups, Institutes and Centres document circulated with the meeting package, Dr. Bailey advised this is presented for information.

Concerns were expressed with the search for Deans becoming confidential. In the recent past, many Senators expressed issue with the Presidential Search and its transparency due to its confidential nature. S. Stewart expressed his opposition to confidential searches for any position. Dr. Bailey replied that the main reason for this confidential search is to attract more candidates, with lessons learned from the Presidential Search taken in to consideration for the process.

R. Nicholls offered comments on the memo circulated by new President, Dr. Wheeler. He gave his views on changes to past administrative structures and reiterated President Wheeler's proposed structure as noted in the memo. A question was posed to President Wheeler through R. Bailey with respect to Unama'ki College Principal, Steven Augustine's role within this structure. In reply, R. Bailey advised he would convey the comments and question to President Wheeler.

On the questions of the consultation process for the Research Groups, Institutes and Centres policy, D. Keefe replied that current centres, the Research Committee, and the Planning and Review Committee were consulted. A concern was offered with the structure of the document and areas seen to be vague. In response to the examples given, R. Bailey advised that any feedback on the policy is welcome.

In response to suggested date for the open meeting of Senate to present the Academic Plan, it was decided that the meeting will be held on April 19th from 2:30 pm to 4:00 pm in the Multi Purpose Room. R. Bailey advised the Academic Plan will be ready for release on April 12th and will be posted on the website.

6. Question Period – N/A

7. Approval of Minutes

7.1 It was moved by M. Lahey, seconded by R. Ibrahim, the approval of the minutes from the February 8, 2013 meeting. With minor noted amendments to be made, **motion carried.**

Abstentions: 6

8. Business Arising from the Minutes

In response to a concern noted in the minutes with regards to the renovations, S. Stewart requested an update on the status of the renovations and if a plan to renovate the Multi Purpose room has been added to the list of renovations. Mr. MacInnis replied that consideration was given to the expansion of the MPR but that it has been put on hold and is not part of any immediate plans. Campus Centre renovations will begin once weather permits, most likely by mid-May. On the question of required moves to carry out renovations, R. Nicholls requested that advance communication be given to those that will be affected by the moves.

With regard to course proposals being presented as 6 credit courses rather than the preferred 3 credit it was suggested that 6 credits should include additional rational detailing the reason the proponent feels it necessary.

9. Report of the Executive Committee

Vice Chair, D. Lionais reported that the Executive Committee met on March 8th. Highlights of the meeting and topics of discussion were as follows:

- Agenda was set for this meeting of Senate.
- The Bylaws Committee will be tasked with reviewing the process for communication and updates to submissions changed by Senate.
- The committee felt an issue could have been raised with the Research Groups, Institutes and Centres document being presented for information and not for approval.

On the topic of potential issues or questions the Executive Committee feels might or should be discussed at a Senate meeting, it was suggested the committee pose a question for Question Period to address their concerns.

10. Students' Union Report

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

- On behalf of the current Students' Union they wished a welcome to President Wheeler.
- Incoming executive members were welcomed and the period of transition continues.
- MedLink conference concluded last week and feedback received is quite positive.
- Therapeutic Paws of Canada will be returning to the SU Boardroom during exams.
- SU President and SUVP Academic have been meeting with Dr. John Gainer to gain recommendations on services that could be expanded on for students.
- Living Wall Sessions are now featured on Caper Radio.
- In partnership with Addiction Services, SU President and SUVP Academic were asked to speak on their alcohol policy at the Crossroads Conference hosted by Dalhousie.

- A second dress sale will held with all proceeds going towards the CBU Women's Centre.
- Thanks were offered to Senate from the Students' Union for making their term on Senate a positive experience.

11. Reports of Other Committees

- (a) **Planning & Review** – Chair, J. Parish, provided a verbal report detailing the status of the memorandum of agreement, memorandum of understanding and memorandum of understanding process templates. The pre-budget report is in completion stages in preparation for its presentation at the special meeting of Senate. The document will be ready for circulation on April 12th.
- (b) **Bylaws** – Chair, J. Connell, provided a verbal report detailing the status of School and Department bylaws currently in the review process and that many of these bylaws will be presented to Senate at the next meeting. As a follow up to the last meeting of Senate, Deans were tasked with meeting to discuss the proposed Graduate Committee and its terms of reference. A report on this meeting will be presented at the next meeting of Senate. Michelle Lahey was thanked for her work on the Bylaws committee and filling in as Chair in J. Connell's absence.
- (c) **Nominating** – Chair, D. Brown provided a verbal report noting John MacKinnon as Chair of the Appeals Committee. As follow up to the last meeting of Senate, the committee met to discuss the impact of the proposed Graduate Committee on membership requirements.
- (d) **Academic** – Chair, S. Stewart, referred to the documents circulated with the meeting package. S. Stewart noted a change in order of the committee report to accommodate the schedule of Dr. Gerbasi.

10. Approve changes to the bachelor of Technology Nautical Science

Motion: It was moved by D. McCorquodale, seconded by G. Chen that the report be endorsed and changes to the Bachelor of Technology Nautical Sciences be approved as presented.

D. McCorquodale, accompanied by Dr. David Gerbasi, gave an overview of the proposed changes and explained that the revamped rules and regulations implemented by IMO are in keeping with the requirements of a four year degree and are not in excess of 25% change.

Motion carried.

1. **BIOL 2XXXA: Principles of Ecology**
2. **BIOL 2XXXB: Environmental Issues**
3. **BIOL 4XXX: Advanced Human Physiology**
4. **BIOL 34XX: History of Life**

Motion: It was moved by S. Stewart, seconded by D. Curry, to approve BIOL 2XXXA: Principles of Ecology, BIOL 2XXXB: Environmental Issues, BIOL 4XXX: Advanced Human Physiology, and BIOL 34XX: History of Life as presented. **Motion carried.**

5. Approve change in BIOL core requirements.

Motion: It was moved by S. Stewart, seconded by D. Curry to approve the changes in the Biology core requirements as presented. The proposal was described as an enhancement to the core requirements consistent with comparable requirements of other universities. A friendly amendment was accepted to change the credits at a 3000 level or higher to 9 credits from 6 credits in order to remain within MPHEC requirements. **Motion carried.**

6. HIST 2XXX: Canadian Military History

Motion: It was moved by S. Stewart, seconded by S. Moir, to approve HIST 2XXX: Canadian Military History as presented. **Motion carried.**

7. Approve SPHK 2XXX: Sport Skills and Leadership

8. Approve SPHK 3XXX: Prevention and Care of Athletic Injuries

Motion: It was moved by S. Stewart seconded by R. Nicholls to approve SPHK 2XXX: Sport Skills and Leadership and SPHK 3XXX: Prevention and Care of Athletic Injuries as presented.

On the question of the \$50 fee detailed in the financial plan, this was explained this is intended as a lab fee. **Motion carried.**

9. Approve change in the due date of take home exams in the examination period.

Motion: It was moved by S. Stewart, seconded by R. Bailey to approve the change in the due date of take home exams as presented. It was detailed that take home examinations cannot be assigned or distributed any later than the last day of classes in term and the due date cannot be earlier than the sixth day of exams. **Motion carried.**

- (e) **Research** – Chair, J. Preen referred to the Integrity in Research and Scholarship policy circulated with the meeting package. In response to three suggestions put forth at the last meeting of Senate, J. Preen detailed the changes made in the document to address the suggestions. **It was moved** by J. Preen, seconded by D. Keefe, to accept the revised policy as presented. **Motion carried. Abst: 1**
- (f) **Quality Assurance** – Chair, M. Keating, provided a verbal report noting that CBU representatives attended the MPHEC forum. This was an information gathering forum for MPHEC to gather input on the process from a wide range of groups. A draft document will be developed to address concerns and any changes to the policy.

On the question of the status of the current School reviews, M. Keating advised there is no official completion date for those that are ongoing.

- (g) **TLEC** – On behalf of Chair, P. Howard, D. Johnson gave a verbal report. The committee reports that the Atlantic Association of Universities nominations from CBU are Joanne Pyke (SSOB), for the Distinguished Teachers' Award and Dr. Stephanie Inglis (Unama'ki College) for the Anne Marie MacKinnon's Instructional Leadership Award. Congratulations were extended to Joanne Pyke who has been named to the Teaching and Learning Faculty Liaison Officer position for a

two year term. Many thanks were offered to Matthias Bierenstiel for his leadership and commitment to the position during his term.

12. Board of Governors Report

M. Keating reported that the Board of Governors met on February 22nd noting the following highlights from the meeting:

- A discussion on a review of the Presidential Search will be addressed by the Board Bylaws Committee
- The Treasurer's Report detailed positive tuition revenues but highlighted they were due largely in part to International enrolment
- Bi-lateral discussions have begun with government with an April meeting scheduled for follow up
- Budget planning is in completion stages
- Residence occupancy rates and de-registration were discussed
- The Wind Farm initiative continues with the Board agreeing to guarantee a loan for the CBU Foundation to continue with the process.
- Capital Projects were detailed in a visual presentation detailing the various projects.

Concerns and questions on the guarantee to the CBU Foundation and the risk it could put on CBU were posed. Mr. MacInnis replied that a consideration for the Board was the spread on the interest rate is approximately 250 basis points and debt servicing as the major expense, this creates a significant swing in profitability. To ensure continuity and no disconnect between CBU and the Foundation Board occurs, CBU has put forth two nominations to the Governor in Council as possible appointments to the Foundation Board.

13. Confidential Business – N/A

14. Adjournment

The next regular meeting of Senate is scheduled for Friday, May 3, 2013.
The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 pm.


Godwin D'Cunha, Secretary