

Senate Minutes

**December 13, 2013
Senate Chamber CE-339**

Chair, D. Lionais, called the meeting to order at 1:35 pm.

1. Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum

Present:

Stephen Augustine, Robert Bailey, Judy Bailey, Brennan Boudreau, Debbie Brennick, Keith Brown, Dannie Brown, Robert Campbell, George Chen, Jane Connell, Ed Davis, Godwin D'Cunha, Nicole Dixon, Jane Farnsworth, Maureen Finlayson, Louis Guimond, George Karaphillis, Mary Keating, Dale Keefe, Jane Lewis, Doug Lionais, Alexis Manley, David McCorquodale, Ben McNutt, Andy Parnaby, Josh Sechi, Wei Shang, Scott Stewart, Mike Tanchak, Tom Urbaniak, David Wheeler, Eileen Smith-Piovesan, Shawn Bethke

Regrets:

Amin Al-Turkistani, Eleanor Anderson, Ed Barre, Geoffrey Carre, Dennis Curry, Barb Glassey, Odette Grisciti, Derrick Hayes, Rany Ibrahim, Matt Latimer, Gordon MacInnis, Patricia McCann, Scott Moir, Martin Moy, Joanne Pyke, Andrew Skinner, Julie-Anne Wroblewski

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

President Wheeler circulated his report to the Board of Governors to Senators and welcomed any questions or requests for detail to be sent directly to him via email. The following highlights were then reported verbally:

- Public consultations to gain external views and engagement continue.
- The Board of Governors retreat held on November 19th was well received.
- The six draft strategy documents are available to the internal community via the CBU intranet and the Senate SharePoint site. Any and all feedback is most welcome and encouraged on any of the documents.

On the question of the status of the MA in Tourism, President Wheeler replied this example is of a program that could increase core funding from the Province through a mutually beneficial program. The program is in its infancy and is currently in discussion stages.

With regard to the public consultations and any views received on higher education, President Wheeler replied that many views were expressed. With the continuing change of how higher education learning is delivered, it was noted there could be avenues for these unconventional offerings depending on interest and feasibility.

In reply to the possibility of the Province increasing funding, President Wheeler advised that many scenarios are possible but he does not believe there will be a further cut. The hope is that program innovation will compliment the direction of government which could result in special funding.

5.2 Report of the Vice-President Academic & Professional Studies (Provost)

Robert Bailey gave a verbal report with the following highlights:

- The successful candidate for the Dean of SASS, Dr. Arja Vainio-Mattila, will begin her term on July 1, 2014. Dr. Vainio-Mattila will be joining Interim Dean Keating and the VPA during the winter months to become familiar with her role and responsibilities.
- The search process for the Dean of SSOB has recently concluded with an expected announcement of a successful candidate in early January.
- The process for an interim Dean of the SPS will also most likely conclude in January.
- Many thanks were offered to all those who made donations to the Transition House drive.

S. Augustine introduced Tuma Young as the Senate representative from Unama'ki College.

6. Question Period - N/A

7. Approval of Minutes

7.1 It was moved by E. Davis, seconded by J. Bailey, the approval of the minutes from the November 15, 2013 meeting. **Motion carried.** Abstentions: 2

8. Business Arising from the Minutes – N/A

9. Report of the Executive Committee

Vice Chair, T. Urbaniak, reported that the Executive committee met on November 29th to set the agenda for this Senate meeting. The agenda for the open meeting of Senate scheduled for January 24th was also reviewed and it was decided to add the six strategy documents to foster a dialogue platform.

10. Students' Union Report

On behalf of Students' Union President, M. Latimer, B. Boudreau gave a verbal report with the following highlights:

- Frost week planning has commenced to welcome students back after the holiday break.
- Therapeutic dogs have been well received as a stress reliever during exam time.
- A new tutor coordinator and community outreach coordinator have been hired.
- Printing service options are being explored.
- Choice for legal services are being decided after a tender was issued.
- Josh Sechi was introduced as the newest student Senator and CRO for the Students' Union.
- Projection screens will be replaced by TV screens.
- Election dates have been confirmed for mid January to mid February.

A suggestion that representatives from the international student associations may wish to join a Senate meeting during special presentations to discuss the contributions of these groups to CBU and the broader community. M. Boudreau responded that he would bring this suggestion to the groups for their consideration.

In reply to the question of the CFS lawsuit, B. Boudreau advised it is still ongoing with a pre-trial conference scheduled for April.

11. Reports of Other Committees

(a) Planning and Review - on behalf of Chair, S. Profit, J. Farnsworth referred to the documents circulated with the meeting package. **It was moved** by J. Farnsworth, seconded by R. Bailey to approve the CBU External Academic (Education and/or Research) Agreements Process as presented. **Motion carried.**

(b) QA - Chair, G. Chen referred to the reported circulated with the meeting package. The external reviewers completed their review of the SPS and the committee is awaiting their report. External reviewers a being sought for a January\February review of the SSOB.

R. Bailey passed on many thanks to all those involved in the process and the support services from Marcy MacKinnon and Kim Desveaux.

On the question on the next steps for the process, R. Bailey replied that once the report is received from the external reviews, the committee will meet to review their findings. The committee will then make their suggestions and after the VPA's responses are received and then presented to Senate.

(c) Bylaws – Chair, J. Connell referred to the documents circulated with the meeting package. **It was moved** by J. Connell, seconded by J. Bailey for the approval of the School of Professional Studies by-laws as presented. A friendly amendment was accepted to add 'Recruitment Department' to 2.3.4. A friendly amendment was also accepted to strike 5.2.3.4-*Hear academic appeals relating to program structure, prerequisites and qualifications for graduation from students in the relevant academic programs (Article 5.2.2)*. **Motion carried.**

(d) Nominating – Nothing to report.

(e) Research – Chair, R. Campbell, reported the Research Assistance Committee has met to allocate the RP Grants for the fall with results expected early in the week of December 16th.

(f) TLEC – Nothing to report.

(g) Academic – With nothing report, Chair S. Stewart, reminded Senate that course proposals should be received by February if the intent is to have the course offered in the following year.

12. Board of Governors' Report


J. Bailey reported that the Board of Governors met on December 6th and highlighted the following from the meeting:

- A very informative orientation session was held for new members.
- The Bylaws committee was tasked with reviewing the Presidential Search Process.
- President Wheeler reported on the progress of the public consultation sessions being held through Cape Breton Island.
- Dale Keefe is leading a Strategic Research, Innovation, and Commercialization Plan in hopes to attract more Government funding.
- The BOG is cautiously optimistic for the potential growth for CBU.
- Faculty members were appointed to various Board committee and two board members names were put forth to Government to fill vacancies on the CBU Foundation Board.
- Mr. MacInnis presented the treasurer's report.
- A vote to endorse the tentative Agreement with CUPE Local 3131 was accepted.
- Dr. Andrew Swanson, VCSEE CEO gave a presentation of the growing work of the centre and its future direction.
- The next meeting will be held on February 28, 2014.

13. Confidential Business

14. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:41 pm.


Godwin D'Cunha, Secretary