

Senate Minutes

February 7, 2014
Senate Chamber CE-339

Chair, D. Lionais, called the meeting to order at 1:37 pm.

1. Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum

Present:

Eleanor Anderson, Robert Bailey, Keith Brown, Dannie Brown, Robert Campbell, Geoffrey Carre, George Chen, Jane Connell, Ed Davis, Godwin D'Cunha, Barb Glassey, Odette Griscti, Derrick Hayes, Rany Ibrahim, George Karaphillis, Mary Keating, Dale Keefe, Jane Lewis, Doug Lionais, Gordon MacInnis, Alexis Manley, Patricia McCann, David McCorquodale, Scott Moir, Martin Moy, Joe Parish, Andy Parnaby, Joanne Pyke, Josh Sechi, Wei Shang, Andrew Skinner, Tom Urbaniak, David Wheeler, Tuma Young, Eileen Smith-Piovesan

Regrets:

Ed Barre, Brennan Boudreau, Debbie Brennick, Nicole Dixon, Maureen Finlayson, Louis Guimond, Matt Latimer, Sheila Profit, Scott Stewart, Mike Tanchak, Shawn Bethke, Julie-Anne Wroblewski

Absent:

Amin Al-Turkistani, Stephen Augustine, Judy Bailey, Dennis Curry, Ben McNutt

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

3. Matters Forwarded for Information – N/A

4. Special Presentations/Updates

4.1 Annual Research Report & Strategic Research Plan

Copies of the 1st Annual Research Report along with supplemental information were circulated during the meeting. In a PowerPoint presentation, D. Keefe, detailed the report as a means of quantifying research at CBU. The following key points were highlighted during the presentation:

- 2012-13 Research H
- ighlights at CBU
- Research Funding
- Training of Highly Qualified Personnel (HQP)
- Industry Engagement
- Knowledge Creation & Mobilization
- Internal to International Research Collaborations
- The Research Environment
- An Overview of the Strategy Research Innovation & Commercialization Plan

Following the presentation D. Keefe offered many thanks to the staff of the Office of Research and

Graduate Studies (ORGS), Becky Chisholm, Gail Jones, Bruno MacInnis and Laura Syms for their work in creating these reports.

On the question of publication incentives, D. Keefe replied that there is a small monetary bonus for publications in those journals that meet specific criteria and are well respected within each discipline.

The comparative data was described as similar institutions to CBU with regard to student body, operating budget and primarily undergraduate institutions.

Nova Scotia Government research funding was described as coming mainly from the NSRIT which provides matching funding for the CFI grants along with various special projects.

On the question of conference presentations in comparison to other universities, D. Keefe replied that this data would be almost impossible to track for others. The CBU data, with the continuation of this yearly report, will be available in the future.

D. Keefe thanked Senate for their time today and welcomed any and all questions, comments and feedback on the report from Senators or their colleagues within their departments.

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

5.1 Report of the President

President Wheeler presented a verbal report with the following highlights:

- The Research report was noted as an exciting avenue to highlight CBU as a vibrant research facility.
- The Collective agreement recently accepted by CBUFA will be recommended to the Board of Governors by their Negotiations Advisory Committee during their February meeting.
- Recent meetings with the Deputy Minister of the Department of Labour and Advanced Education and a speech given by the Premier, appear to show encouraging signs of Government's view on the university sector to Nova Scotia.
- The draft strategy documents continue to develop, with the branding document nearing completion. It is hoped that in near future a declaration of CBUs strategic direction can be made.
- The budget process has begun with various groups to develop an operating budget for 2014/15 which will be presented to the Board of Governors meeting during their April meeting.

On the question of ratification for the strategy under development, President Wheeler replied that once complete and agreed upon, the document will be brought to the Board of Governors for approval. However, constructive opinions are welcomed for an alternative avenue to adopt the document.

In reply to a question on the near complete internal and external community consultations, President Wheeler advised that talks of recruitment was an item he originally did not see as a priority but one that received much discussion. The growth of student numbers has revealed itself to be one of less importance and a focus of maintaining student numbers or how to grow CBU as a whole also garnered much attention.

A suggestion that each Department meet to discuss how the strategy documents relate to them and provide a brief statement to their Dean was welcomed and encouraged.

In reply to comments offered on the allocation of Government funding for the University sector, President Wheeler noted that although the allocation formula may not be seen as fair to all, it is imperative that CBU continue to provide win\win opportunities to the Province that showcase and highlight how truly valuable CBU is to Nova Scotia as an economic and immigration driver.

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

Robert Bailey gave a verbal report with the following highlights:

- Dr. David Rae has been appointed as the next Dean of the Shannon School of Business effective July 1, 2014.
- Dr. Jane Lewis has been appointed as Interim Dean of the School of Professional Studies effective February 3, 2014.
- President's Academy Recognition Dinner will be held on April 4, 2014.
- On February 10th an RFP will be issued for the CBU Academic Innovation Fund.
- Tentatively, the Senate retreat will be held on Friday, March 14 with the composition yet to be confirmed.

6. Question Period - N/A

7. Approval of Minutes

7.1 It was moved by M. Keating, seconded by D. Hayes, the approval of the minutes from the December 13, 2013 meeting. **Motion carried.** Abstentions: 8

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 January 24th to set the agenda for this Senate meeting. Members discussed the proceedings and follow up of the Special Senate meeting.

10. Students' Union Report - No report.

11. Reports of Other Committees

(a) Academic – Newly elected committee Chair, D. Hayes referred to the documents circulated with the meeting package.

1. Approve Academic Calendar 2014-2016

This calendar is an update with the 2016 dates and various revisions 2014/15 dates. A. Manley noted that in the tentative agreement accepted by CBUFA, there is a suspension for 2015/16 of the clause that states the first day of classes in the Fall term must be no later than the first Monday after Labour Day. Due to this suspension, advice and a recommendation from Senate is being sought on what should be the length of the terms at CBU. A suggested range of 59-61 days was offered in light of the many differing variables that can exist from year to year. A further suggestion was offered that until the agreement is ratified the opening date be listed as tentative. Further to this suggestion, the Academic Committee was tasked with presenting a recommendation with a summary of their research to Senate on what the length of each term should be for the next meeting of Senate.

It was moved by A. Manley, seconded by J. Connell to approve the 2014-2016 Academic Calendar with the following friendly amendments: a) add the Opening of Registration for Spring\Summer in first week of March, b) change the 2016 Registration for winter term from the 2nd to the 5th, and c) classes to begin tentatively on the first Monday following Labour Day in the 2015/16 term. **Motion carried.**

2. Approve Changes to the BET and ENVI Programs to grant advanced standing to BSC graduates

D. McCorquodale advised Senate that due to minor changes noted after the submission to Senate this item will be tabled, revised, and brought back to Senate at the next meeting.

3. Approve CHEM 42XX: Nanochemistry

It was moved by D. Hayes, seconded by D. McCorquodale to approve CHEM 42XX: Nanochemistry as presented. On the question of enrolment predictions it was noted the expectation would be five to ten students. **Motion carried.**

4. Approve ENGL 36XX: Eco Texts

5. Approve ENGL 36XX: Nature Writing

It was moved by D. Hayes, seconded by S. Moir to approve ENGL 36XX: Eco Texts and ENGL 36XX: Nature Writing as presented. On the question of enrolment predictions it was noted the expectation could be approximately fifteen students. **Motion carried.**

6. Approve ENGL 26XX: Women Dramatists I

7. Approve ENGL 26XX: Women Dramatists II

It was moved by D. Hayes, seconded by M. Keating to approve ENGL 26XX: Women Dramatists I and ENGL 26XX: Women Dramatists II as presented. **Motion carried.**

8. Approve HIST 3XXX: The Atlantic World

9. Approve HIST 3XXX: Slavery and Freedom

It was moved by D. Hayes, seconded by J. Parish to approve HIST 3XXX: The Atlantic World and HIST 3XXX: Slavery and Freedom as presented. **Motion carried.**

(b) QA - Chair, G. Chen referred to the reported circulated with the meeting package. The committee met on January 24th to review the School of Professional Studies' self-study review document and report of the external reviewer along with the QA report for the Shannon School of Business. It was felt that the SPS external review was not an in depth report and that the current template should be revised to guide external reviewers on a go forward basis. The site visit for the SSOB review is scheduled for March 6th and 7th.

(c) Nominating – Chair, M. Moy referred to the report circulated with the meeting package. Further to the appointment of T. Young at the December 13th meeting of Senate, **it was moved** by M. Moy, seconded by D. McCorquodale to accept the recommendation of T. Young to serve as a member of the By-Laws Committee. **Motion carried.**

On the question of Board of Governors' members serving on Senate committees, it was noted that the bylaws do not state that these members cannot sit on committees and the Nominating committee will keep this in mind for their slate to be presented in June.

(d) TLEC – Chair, J. Pyke reported that a sub-committee was formed to review the On-line Teaching Policy and findings will be presented to Senate upon completion.

(e) Research – D. Keefe noted that the committee has met to review the Strategic Research document and nominations have been received for the President's Award for Excellence in Research with recommendations being prepared for presentation to the President.

On the question of RP Grants that were awarded in the Fall, D. Keefe replied that if the document was not circulated at that time, it will accompany the list to be circulated in the Spring.

President Wheeler questioned the availability of CVs, and it was noted that they are a requirement for the QA review. It was then suggested that a view of the availability of CVs for purposes other than a review might be visited by Senate.

(f) P & R – Chair, G. Carre reported that the committee is currently working on an action plan to review past policies. Priority for any policy review is welcomed by the committee.

(g) Bylaws – Chair, J. Connell, reported that the committee continues its review of departmental

bylaws. For information, it was mentioned that Senators should be aware of a document on SharePoint called '2013-14 Meeting Dates and Submission Deadlines' which lists the cut off dates for submissions to Senate.

12. Board of Governors' Report – N/A

13. Confidential Business – N/A

14. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:37 pm.

Godwin D'Cunha, Secretary