

Senate Minutes

March 20, 2015
Senate Chamber CE-339

Vice-Chair, T. Urbaniak, called the meeting to order at 1:36 pm.

1. Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum

Present:

Judy Bailey, Ed Barre, Allen Britten, Danny Brown, Keith Brown, Geoff Carre, George Chen, Godwin D'Cunha, Margaret Dechman, Odette Griscti, Louis Guimond, Derrick Hayes, Mike Henick, Rany Ibrahim, Jane Lewis, Gordon MacInnis, Bernie MacLennan, Erna MacLeod, Elaine MacNeil, Pat Maher, Scott Moir, Mary Jane Morrison, Arlene Mullan, Sheila Profit, Wei Shang, Mark Silverberg, Laura Syms, Tom Urbaniak, David Wheeler,

Regrets:

Hosam Al Arabi, Tanya Brann-Barrett, Debbie Brennick, Kenzie Cameron, Brandon Ellis, Sarah Hines, Dale Keefe, Doug Lionais, Brittany MacAulay, Ron McCarron, David McCorquodale, Arja Vainio-Mattila, Shawn Bethke, Norm Smith, Eileen Smith-Piovesan

Absent:

Stephen Augustine, Ed Davis, Barb Glassey, Cyril MacDonald, Martin Moy, Andrew Petrie, David Rae, Ammar Tayeb, Tuma Young

2. Consent Agenda

It was moved by D. Hayes, seconded by J. Bailey to accept and approve the following items submitted by the Academic Committee, Bylaws Committee, and Research Committee as presented:

2.1 Academic Committee

1. ENGI 2XXA Surveying
2. PETR 3XXA Petroleum Economics and Project Management
3. ENGI 4XXA Geographical Information Systems and Mapping
4. GEOL 3XXA Petroleum Geology
5. PETR 4XXA Health Safety and Environmental Issues in the Petroleum
6. PETR 4XXB Advanced Reservoir Engineering
7. PETR 4XXC Sub-surface Production Operations
8. PETR 4XXE Advanced Drilling and Well Completion
9. PHIL 2XXX Philosophy, Ethics and Sport
10. ENGL 3XXX Victorian Drama
11. ENGL 3XXX Romantic Drama
12. BUSS 2XXX BBA Internship I
13. BUSS 3XXX BBA Internship II
14. Change to last date to register
15. SASC 2XXX BA/BACS CO-OP Work Term I

16. SASC 3XXX BA/BACS CO-OP Work Term II
17. Department of Chemistry Revised Bylaws
18. Revised President's Award for Excellence in Research

It was noted that names of items 15 and 16 have been changed to SASC, replacing CO-OP.

2.2 Bylaws Committee

1. Approve the Department of Chemistry By-laws as submitted.

2.3 Research Committee

Based on a discussion and approval (5-0-0 vote) of research committee of Senate at their 13/02/15 meeting it is recommended that Senate approve the following recommendations:

1. That the wording in yellow highlight above in the call for nominations for the President's Award for Excellence in Research be adopted by Senate.
2. That there be a language change of item 2 in the current RP guidelines and procedures document as per below:
 - a. "CBU RP Grants are intended for CBU faculty who are members of the CBUFA or NSGEU. All other CBU employees can apply for RP funding through collaboration with a CBUFA/NSGEU faculty member who is designated as the principal investigator for the research project."
 - b. "A CBU faculty member, with union affiliation as above, employed via a contract of 12 months or less is eligible only if the proposed research is to take place within the time frame described in the employment contract."

Motion carried.

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

4. Matters Forwarded for Information – N/A

5. Special Presentations/Updates

5.1 Deferred Maintenance - Donnie MacIsaac

Mr. MacIsaac, in a PowerPoint presentation, detailed the current status of deferred maintenance at CBU. Deferred maintenance was described as an identifiable backlog of major maintenance projects unfunded in capital or operating budgets and deferred to a future budget cycle. The causes and problems of deferred maintenance were described and the importance of developing a multi-year operational and financial plan to address maintenance was noted as a priority.

G. MacInnis replied that currently there is no capital funding program in Nova Scotia and the sector is left to adjust for deferred maintenance through other sources and that any future funding opportunities from the Province for these types of issues most likely will not be realized as they are not seen as a priority. On a question of fundraising on or around significant anniversaries of a buildings construction date from previous contributors, President Wheeler replied this could be an avenue to implemented in future fundraising campaigns.

5.2 Tanya Brann-Barrett – Annual Research Report

Due to unavoidable circumstances T. Brann-Barrett was unable to attend. The executive committee will decide on a date to reschedule this presentation.

6. Report of the President and Vice-President Academic & Research (Provost)

6.1 Report of the President

President Wheeler gave a verbal report with the following highlights:

- Many thanks were extended to Mr. Mac Isaac for his presentation and his team in facilities.
- Congratulations were extended to those responsible for and participating in Research week.
- The announcement of Kevin McKague being awarded a \$1 million grant to address maternal and child health issues in South Sudan.
- Policies were presented to the Board of Governors during the March 6th meeting and direction has been given from the BOG to complete a consultation process with the student and faculty unions and bring back in a finished form.
- Zero tuition policy statement was intended to initiate a long term conversation for future.
- Multicultural events have been a great success with a wonderful gala scheduled for Saturday.
- Discussions continue between the Province and university sector and to date no suggestions have been identified as to what the funding envelope may or may not contain.
- Wind Farm project has been finalized and will proceed in the coming months.
- Employee engagement survey has almost reached 50% engagement. Senators were reminded of how very important their input is and were strongly encouraged to complete the survey before the deadline.
- The budget process continues and as predicted this will be one of CBU's more difficult years and efforts are being made to implement a multi-year planning process.

On the question if the early retirement program of the 2008 exercise will be included in this multi-year planning process, President Wheeler and Mr. MacInnis replied that many options are being explored and in these early stages it would be irresponsible to commit to any strategy at this time.

On a question of a community discussion on the budget process outside the Budget Advisory Committee and ULT group, President Wheeler replied that a community discussion after the Board of Governors' consideration of the budget would be welcomed along with any feedback on what the Board approves.

6.2 Report of the Vice-President Academic & Research (Provost) –

D. Keefe was out of town on university business and will report during the next meeting of Senate.

7. Question Period – N/A

8. Approval of Minutes

7.1 It was moved by S. Moir, seconded by B. MacLennan, the approval of the minutes from the February 27, 2015 meeting. **Motion carried.**

9. Business Arising from the Minutes – N/A

10. Report of the Executive Committee

The Vice Chair reported that the Executive Committee met on March 6th to set the agenda for this Senate meeting. The committee set aside April 2nd for a luncheon with the new Students Union executive. Follow up on suggestions from the Senate retreat continue with a request for the suggested changes to committee terms of reference from each committee Chair. Given the current workloads of the P&R and QA it has was agreed that these committees will not be combined. The committee pondered posing a question on zero tuition but thought it would be better to bring the topic up and ask that Senators ponder the possibility and find a way to come back to the topic during a future meeting of Senate.

11. Students' Union Report

No report.

The executive committee will discuss with the Students Union the importance of their participation in the Senate meetings as well as on the various Senate committees as this is the second consecutive meeting with no report from the Students Union.

12. Reports of Other Committees

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

Items for Information:

- Course Change COMS3101
- Course Change COMS2101
- Course Change SPHK 3107
- Course Change SPHK 2104

Recommendations:

1. Philosophy in core of BSc

It was moved by A. Mullan, seconded by L. Syms to approve Philosophy in core of BSc. G. Chen felt this motion need to be returned to Academic Committee for further discussion and clarification. Further discussion revealed the presented proposal is an attempt to make the degree structure more easily understood. A. Britten also gave a detailed overview of the proposal to alleviate concerns and questions from Senators.

Motion carried. Favor: 15 Opposed: 5 Abstention: 5

2. Bachelor of Engineering Technology (BET) Petroleum and Advanced Petroleum

It was moved by A. Mullan, seconded by B. MacLennan to approve the Bachelor of Engineering Technology (BET) Petroleum and Advanced Petroleum as presented. **Motion**

carried.

3. Program Change Presentations to include a section indicating that other departments / schools were informed of changes and their comments.

It was moved by A. Mullan, seconded by S. Moir to approve the addition of section indicating that other departments / schools were informed of changes and their comments to the Program Change presentation. It was noted in reply to the rationale for this change that a recently approved change met with some concerns to the process. In order to avoid this for future program changes, it is being suggested that this consultation be noted in the process. A friendly amendment was suggested to include an embedded timeframe in the process. It was then further noted that without a submission most Senators were uncomfortable voting in favour or against the proposed changes. **It was moved by** K. Brown, seconded by P. Maher that this item was referred back to Academic Committee to bring a written recommendation back to Senate with a definitive timeframe for feedback established and the responsibilities for the process. **Motion carried.**

(b) Planning & Review – Chair, G. Carre, referred to the document circulated with the meeting package.

It was moved by G. Carre, seconded by M. Silverberg to accept the first recommendation of the pre-budget report: That a random sample of admitted students at all entry points would be assessed on skills required for university success. The assessment tools to be used are to be determined by a committee of faculty with appropriate expertise. On the question of whom or how the results would be used, G. Carre replied that specifics have not been identified at this point. Concerns were also raised on how this action would be perceived by the students and if this could be incorporated in the current review of Student Service to be included in their processes. **It was moved by** J. Bailey, seconded by G. MacInnis, that this recommendation be referred to the Student success committee to develop a plan of action.

Motion carried Opposed: 1

It was moved by G. Carre, seconded by K. Brown to accept the second recommendation of the pre-budget report: That administrative staff be tasked with identifying best practices from other post-secondary institutions and develop a plan for informing faculty and staff.

Motion carried.

It was moved by G. Carre, seconded by S. Profit, to accept the third recommendation of the pre-budget report: That institutional support be provided for faculty and programs to facilitate timely development and approval of academic program changes and/or new programs. It was noted that these supports currently exist in the Teaching & Learning Co-ordinator, within the President's Council on Teaching & Learning along with informal support among faculty. A majority felt the issue was a lack of communication and accessibility of the information and instruction on the process. **Motion defeated.** Yeas: 10 Opposed 13 Abstention: 0

(c) QA – Nothing to report

(d) TLEC – Chair, P. Maher referred to the report circulated with the meeting package. Due to the confidential nature of the report it was moved by S. Moir, seconded by D. Brown to move in to a closed session to approve the recipient(s) of the CBU Instructional Leadership Award.

With no further confidential business, **it was moved by** A. Britten, seconded by S. Moir to move out of closed session. **Motion carried**

(e) Nominating - Nothing to report.

13. Board of Governors' Report

S. Moir reported that the Board of Governors meet on February 27th where many of the items brought up today were discussed and/or presented. Stacey Black also gave an updated presentation on the marketing strategy. The October bilateral agreement with the Province was circulated to members as a precursor of what can be expected from the Province with respect to the university sector.

14. Confidential Business – N/A

15. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:51 pm.



Sheila Profit, Secretary