

Senate Minutes

September 21, 2018
Senate Chamber CE-339

The Chair, M. Mkandawire, called the meeting to order at 1:35.

He began with the acknowledgement that Cape Breton University is located in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People. This territory is covered by the "Treaties of Peace and Friendship" which Mi'kmaq and Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet) people first signed with the British Crown in 1726. The treaties did not deal with surrender of lands and resources but in fact recognized Mi'kmaq and Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet) title and established the rules for what was to be an ongoing relationship between nations.

1. Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum

Present:

Nagy Abdou, Stephen Augustine, Pat Bates, Tanya Brann-Barrett, Parteek Brar, Geoff Carre, Sheila Christie, David Dingwall, Mary Beth Doucette, Bhreagh Gillis, Odette Griscti, Jasmine Hoover, Pierre Jean, David Johnson, George Karaphillis, Mary Keating, Alison Keough, Angela Keylor, Ronald Labelle, Jane Lewis, Brendan MacDonald, Judy MacInnis, Richard MacKinnon, Emily MacLennan, Bernie MacLennan, Stewart McCann, Martin Mkandawire, Amera Mohamed, Mary Jane Morrison, Martin Moy, Joe Parish, Andy Parnaby, Rick Pierrynowski, Joanne Pyke, Chester Pyne, Vicky Salazar, Ann Sylliboy, Claudette Taylor, Audrey Walsh, Richard Watuwa, Terry MacDonald

Regrets:

Ankaer Ainiwear, Patrick Delamirande, Brooklyn Galbraith, Stephanie Inglis, Carolin Kreber, Katie Unsworth, Tom Urbaniak, John Mayich

Following the roll call and declaration of quorum, the Chair welcomed new and returning Senators to the first meeting of Senate for 2018-19.

2. Consent Agenda – N/A

3. Confidential Business – N/A

4. Matters to be Considered in Closed Session

It was moved by MJ Morrison, seconded by B. Gillis, to move into Closed Session for the purpose of conducting confidential business. **Motion carried.**

Following a discussion in Closed Session, **it was moved by** C. Pyne, seconded by T. Brann-Barrett, to move back in to Open Session. **Motion carried.**

5. Matters Forwarded for Information – N/A

6. Special Presentations – N/A

7. Report of the President & Vice President, Academic & Provost

7.1 Report of the President

President Dingwall reported that he attended AAU meetings in Halifax where much of the conversations centered on mental health, enrolments, and services for students. He also noted that the inaugural President's Leadership Dinner was held with the installation of the Capers Hall of Fame. Conversations continue to formalize confirmation from the Province with respect to the Art Gallery and Beaton Institute.

7.2 Report of the Vice President, Academic & Provost

Vice President MacKinnon reported that during the summer months he has been very active in the strategic planning process, various other meetings and groups he has been working with, and he acknowledge Dr. Andy Parnaby as the new Dean of the School of Arts and Social Science.

In response to updated from the Compute Canada meeting, R. MacKinnon reported the organization has been restructuring and he will provide any future updates he receives as they work through this change.

8. Question Period – N/A

9. Approval of Minutes

9.1 It was moved by M. Keating, seconded by P. Bates, the approval of the minutes from the June 8, 2018 meeting of Senate. **Motion carried.** Abstentions: 15

10. Business Arising from the Minutes

On the question of the implementation of the Student Lab Evaluation, C. Taylor noted that although the form has been developed in a printable form it is unlikely an online version will be available for this term.

V. Salazar drew attention to the incomplete membership list and outstanding appointments, to which the Chair noted these vacancies are being addressed.

11. Report of the Executive Committee

D. Johnson reported that the Executive Committee met on September 7th to set the agenda for this meeting. The Committee also discussed Senate's action item from the grand meetings held on August 22nd and 23rd and the timelines for the draft Strategic Plan.

11.1 Strategic Plan

11.1.1 Volunteer Advantage Experience – Ad Hoc Committee

R. MacKinnon reminded Senators of President Dingwall's call to action during the grand meeting that Senate form a Volunteer Advantage Experience Committee to move this concept forward. He noted that the Executive Committee developed the composition of the committee as one member from each School, one student, 1 member from Career Services, one Senator, and one Dean. **It was moved** by R. MacKinnon, seconded by C. Taylor, to form the Volunteer Advantage Experience – Ad Hoc Committee with the membership as suggested. It was suggested that the School membership be sent out to the Schools and the Students' Union to allow participation outside Senate, and that representative be submitted within one week. Further discussion also set a deadline of November for an initial report from the Committee to be received by Senate. **Motion carried as amended.**

B. MacLennan nominated Mary Jane Morrison, the nomination was seconded by J. Lewis, and with no further nomination MJ Morrison was appointed by acclamation as Senate's representative on the Volunteer Advantage Experience Committee.

11.1.2 Final Feedback

Referring to the documents circulated in advance of the meeting, V. Salazar gave an overview of the strategic planning process since it began on May 14th up until the Grand Meetings held on August 22nd and 23rd. She noted that the Steering Committee and Working Committee organized a diverse range of consultations, engaged the internal and external communities to participate in these consultations, and gather the feedback and input to formulate what will be CBU's Strategic Plan for the next five years. **It was moved** by V. Salazar, seconded by M. Keating, that Senate endorse the 2024 Cape Breton University Strategic Plan, including the Strategic Direction and the Vision, Mission, and Values.

G. Carre commended both committees on the extensive commitment they have put in the development of the plan, he did however note disappointment that environmental sustainability is not included in the document. V. Salazar responded that environmental sustainability did not arise from many consultations. She noted that priorities in the plan are not narrow or completely specific in that if a need were to arise to pursue other areas, there is flexibility to do so.

President Dingwall noted that on May 14th, the strategic planning process began an intense, open, transparent, and collaborative course to develop a five-year strategic plan for Cape Breton University. Today, the result of this process is before Senate for their consideration. He expressed sincere thanks to his co-Chair, Vicky Salazar for her dedication and integrity to this process. Along with V. Salazar, the Steering Committee, Rod Nicholls, Andy Parnaby, Derrick Hayes, Geoff Carre, Erna MacLeod, Mary Keating, Mary Jane Morrison, Bernie MacLennan, Audrey Walsh, Tom Urbaniak, Calvin Howley, Bill Bailey, Darren MacKinnon, Parteek Brar (Gunny), Nagy Abdou, Ann Denny, and Michael Sandalis, were also thanked for their time and substantial contributions. He noted that following should Senate endorse the motion, the plan will then be brought to the Board of Governors' for their consideration. He then thanked everyone for their participation and support.

Motion carried unanimously.

12. Students' Union Report

SU President P. Brar thanked CBU for their continued support for better public transit for student in the signing of an MOU with CBRM. The Capers Helping Capers fundraising campaign has raised \$10,000 over the summer months and they are confident they will surpass their \$15,000 target. As most are aware, he spoke of the housing issues at the beginning of the year but with the assistance of a new off-campus coordinator, all students have obtained housing. He reported that the Week of Welcome events were very well-attended. Several conversations and meetings with Government have been held to discuss retention of international students and other student issues. The Union will be holding by-elections in the coming weeks and Senate was asked to encourage students to become involved.

Congratulations were expressed the extraordinary level of engagement from the Students' Union. On the question of public transportation, Cape Breton Transit has added an overload bus run rather than the half hour services, as this proves to be a more practical and Sunday service has also been implemented. President Dingwall noted that with the signed MOU and purchase of a bus wrapped in the CBU likeness, he feels the services will improve further.

A further discussion on the housing issues, P. Brar noted that they are working with the new housing coordinator to ensure international students have information on the rental lease process and rights, before they arrive in Canada. President Dingwall added that the off-campus housing coordinator and call to the community for housing CBU now has a approximately 190 bed available for rent. He also added that CBU has to better its process of providing this information early.

13. Reports of Other Committees of Senate

- i) **QA** – J. Gerrie reported that Committee met on July 23rd to discuss the BACS External Review. He also noted that the ORGS external report has not yet been received.
- ii) **Planning and Review** - G. Carre reported that the Committee has been meeting regularly to prepare the Pre-Budget Report which will be presented to Senate in November. Committees were encouraged to submit any budget priorities to him as soon as possible.
- iii) **Research** – E. Barre referred to the report circulated in advance of the meeting. **It was moved** by V. Salazar, seconded by S. Christie, to accept the modifications to the RISE grant as presented. T. Rawlings, RAC Committee Chair, noted the most changes as formatting to increase readability, clarification of terms and applicant categories. A suggestion was accepted to insure wording related to researchers who are not currently active be reflective of the wording in the current CBU/CBUFA Collective Agreement. **Motion carried.**
- iv) **Bylaws** – C. Pyne reported that the Committee met and he was elected Chair.
- v) **TLEC** – C. Taylor reported the Committee met on September 5th and she was elected Chair. They briefly discussed the Lab Evaluation form and the anticipated agenda for the coming year.
- vi) **Academic** – M. Keating referred to the report circulated with the meeting material drawing attention to the Notice of Motion for the October meeting. This motion will suggest changes to the Attendance Policy. She noted that the Committee will work with the Bylaws committee to frame the wording to add the Senior Planning Officer as a non-voting member to the Academic Committee.

14. Board of Governors' Report

P. Bates reported that the Board of Governors' last met in June. The activities of Senate were reported during this meeting along with detailed financial and investment presentations.

15. Adjournment

Prior to adjournment the Chair noted that prior to the start of the meeting Sheila Christie and Bernie MacLennan were selected as Senate's representatives to the Board of Governors'. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 3:09 pm.



David Johnson, Secretary