

Senate Minutes

February 12, 2010
Senate Chamber

Chair, P. MacIntyre called the meeting to order at 1:35 pm.

1. Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum

Present: Stephanie Bagnell, Robert Bailey, Matthias Bierenstiel, Mary Tanya Brann-Barrett, Allen Britten, Keith Brown, Philip Campbell, Robert Campbell, Geoff Carre, Cathy Chisholm, Anita Delazzer, Godwin D'Cunha, Sherry Finney, Allan Fraser, Louis Guimond, Tracey Harris, Princely Ifinedo, David Johnson, Harvey Johnstone, Ed LeBlanc, Geoff Lee-Dadswell, Jane Lewis, Peter MacIntyre, Gordon MacInnis, Mike MacKenzie, Bernie MacLennan, Kristen MacNeil, Brett MacPherson, Alexis Manley, Lindsay Marshall, Jill McPherson, Patricia Morrison, Willena Nemeth, Rod Nicholls, Gary Nicklason, Catherine O'Brien, Todd Pettigrew, Sarah Pyke, Chester Pyne, Mark Silverberg, Lesley Sudworth, Claudette Taylor, Tom Urbaniak, Wendy Wadden

Regrets: President John Harker, Diane Janes, Ricky McCarthy, Eileen Smith-Piovesan, Tuma Young

Absent: Randolph Bowers, John MacKinnon,

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

3. Matters Forwarded for Information – N/A

4. Special Presentations – there were no special presentations at this meeting.

5. Report of Vice-President, Academic & Research

Dr. Bailey reported on the following:

He attended the opening ceremonies for Family Violence Prevention Week (February 14–20, 2010) held on campus. He accepted on behalf of CBU the Heartfelt Appreciation award which was given in recognition of the support CBU has given to the Cape Breton Inter-Agency on Family Violence over the past number of years.

Dean, Shannon School of Business - The search for Dean, Shannon School of Business has been cancelled. John MacKinnon has agreed to withdraw his resignation and will continue as Dean.

CSEE - A detailed study was undertaken by the architects to determine whether or not C Wing would be demolished and a new building constructed; or to renovate C Wing. A decision was made to demolish the Grand Lake Road portion of C Wing in March and construction is expected to be complete by April 2011. The other half of C Wing will be renovated to act as a reception area for the CSEE

Teaching reductions - Applicants will be contacted by February 15 regarding their application for teaching reductions due to major research planned for 2010-2011. Dr. Bailey will table a report

to Senate at the next meeting regarding the distribution of those teaching reductions.

Dr. Bailey responded to questions regarding classroom space in the CSEE indicating that one room will have a capacity for 150 people and there will be a variety of smaller breakout style rooms for smaller group work, but not necessarily as dedicated classroom space. He hopes to have the design plans available at the next meeting of Senate. He addressed questions regarding consultations on the actual building design details and student consultation regarding those designs, commenting that due to time constraints, there was no opportunity to engage in the kind of community consultation regarding design details and features as he would have liked. He noted that at the various town hall meetings and other meetings, a general sense of how the CSEE would look was discussed and a lot of input received.

Vice President MacInnis responded to a question regarding the mandate of the O'Neill Study currently underway on post-secondary education in Nova Scotia. He commented that the mandate of this study has not been made clear at this point. He noted that Mr. O'Neill has had consultations with most of the universities and that he will be filing an interim report with the Premier within the month.

6. Question Period

- 6.1 A question was submitted seeking clarification on the International Center for English Academic Preparation (ICEAP) at CBU.

Vice President Manley referred to the document, *International Center for English Academic Preparation – Questions & Answers*. The document, which was distributed electronically to all Senate members prior to the meeting, addressed the concerns raised.

- 6.2 Update on the Dean of Research position

Dr. Bailey advised the search for this position has been delayed as he has been involved in extensive consultations with members of the CBU community regarding the position and has been examining a variety of models for the research office – models that will strengthen research in all of its diversity and all of the disciplines and inter-disciplines at CBU. He expressed an interest in receiving input from Senators regarding this matter.

In response to a question regarding the Research Committee's involvement in the consultations, Dr. Bailey commented that the Committee has not been involved.

7. Approval of Minutes

- 7.1 **December 18, 2009 – It was moved** by D. Johnstone, seconded by P. Morrison, approval of the minutes of December 18, 2009.
Motion carried. Abstentions: 3

8. Business Arising from the Minutes

- 8.1 Clarification was sought on whether Senate has the authority to approve a change to the academic term.
The Chair advised that the Executive Committee referred this question to the Bylaws & Procedures committee for review and comment. The Chair noted there is a relevant

section in the Board of Governors Bylaws that ascribes to the Vice President Student Services to prepare the lecture and examination timetables. It is also noted in the Board Bylaws, section 10.1 Powers of Senate, item (q) states that Senate shall 'approve annually the listing to be showed in the academic calendar of events'. The Chair interpreted these statements to mean that the parameters were set by the Senate academic committee and the details of the specific time table was within the purview of the Vice President Student Services and Registrar.

8.2 What is the effective date for the new Fall Semester?

The Chair noted that there are Collective Agreement complications which must be addressed. The start date for the academic term for the CBU Faculty Association is defined by the Collective Agreement with the Board of Governors. Therefore, there has to be a Memorandum of Understanding between CBU and CBUFA if that date were to change.

Motion:

It was moved by T. Pettigrew, seconded by M. Bierenstiel that contingent on the necessary agreements between CBU and CBUFA, Senate requests the Vice President Student Services and Registrar begin the new fall semester structure in the Fall, 2011.

Motion carried.

9. Report of the Executive Committee

A. Fraser, Vice-Chair reported that the Executive Committee met on January 29 and discussion took place on the following:

Discussion focused on the issue of whether Senate had the authority to approve a change to the academic term.

Discussion also took place regarding the proposal from the Research Committee which will be coming forward at today's meeting.

10. Reports of Other Committees:

- (a) Academic – Chair, T. Pettigrew, noted there was no formal report for this meeting. He noted there are 8 items to be brought before Senate at its next meeting.
- (b) Bylaws and Procedures – Chair, T. Urbaniak, referred to the report circulated with the agenda package. He noted that the Committee is also working on a statement to be included in the document *Senate Meetings – Rules and Procedures* regarding the communication of decisions made at Senate and on developing a glossary that would aid in the framing of recommendations to be presented to Senate.

Motion:

It was moved by T. Urbaniak, seconded by M. Bierenstiel, that Senate endorse the *Guidelines for Departments in the Development of By-laws* as outlined in the attached

document.

Motion carried.

Dr. Urbaniak noted that Senate is the final approval body for department bylaws.

- (c) Nominating – Chair, C. Taylor, noted there was no report for this meeting.
- (d) Planning & Priorities – Chair, C. Pyne, referred to the report circulated with the agenda package. He advised that the Budget Advisory Committee hasn't met yet.

Vice President MacInnis responded to the question of when the budget will be going before the Board of Governors. He indicated that the budget will be presented at the April Board of Governors meeting. He noted that there is one significant issue that has delayed the commencement of the budget discussions and that is the status of the nursing funding - revenue from the Department of Health. It is expected that those discussions will conclude in the very near future and the budget process will commence immediately thereafter.

- (e) Quality Assurance – Chair, W. Wadden, noted there was no report for this meeting.
- (f) Research - Chair, G. Carre, referred to the report circulated with the agenda package.

1. Point of Information

Item 1 was presented for information only as the Research Committee had already approved the following statement: *Persons pursuing research involving humans are expected to submit their research to the CBU Research Ethics Committee.* A suggestion was made to amend, for clarification purposes, the statement as presented by inserting the word 'proposal' after the words 'submit their research'. The statement would then read: 'Persons pursuing research involving humans are expected to submit their research **proposal** to the CBU Research Ethics Committee'.

The chair will take this suggestion back to the Research Committee for comment.

2: Research Ethics Committee name change.

Motion:

It was moved by G. Carre, seconded by S. Finney that Senate approve the name of the 'Research Ethics Committee' be reverted to 'Research Ethics Board'.

Motion carried.

3: Strategic Research Recommendations – document attached (pages 19-37 of the Senate package).

Motion:

It was moved by G. Carre, seconded by G. D'Cunha, that Senate endorse the document entitled '*Improving Our Research Culture: Strategic Research Objectives and Recommendations*'.

G. Carre gave an overview of the document. He noted the three broad objectives of this document are to:

1. create an atmosphere where quality research is encouraged and supported (e.g. finding ways to free up time and provide more support);
2. facilitate collaboration (e.g. support for development of multi-disciplinary research themes); and
3. offer students more opportunities to engage in research (e.g. offering enhanced studies program).

G. Carre, on behalf of the Committee, requested that the following statements be recorded into the minutes:

What does the committee mean when we ask you to endorse this document?

By endorsing this document, then Senate has acknowledged that research is of vital importance to the integrity of the University and that the objectives put forth provide a sound framework for the committee as it endeavours to bring detailed tactical initiatives forward for Senate consideration and approval.

What does the endorsement not mean?

Endorsement does not mean that Senate has agreed to implementing each or any item that is listed as possibilities.

An in-depth discussion took place regarding the clarification of the term 'endorse', what is to be included in the motion, and whether there should be one motion or two motions put forth.

The Committee Chair suggested the motion should be amended to read:

The Research Committee recommends that Senate endorse the document entitled '*Improving Our Research Culture: Strategic Research Objectives and Recommendations*' in so doing by endorsing this document then Senate has acknowledged that Research is of vital importance to the integrity of the University and that the objectives put forth provide a sound framework for the committee as it endeavours to bring detail tactical initiatives forward for Senate consideration and approval. The endorsement does not mean that Senate has agreed to implementing each or any item that is listed as possibilities.

After much discussion, P. MacIntyre, Chair, reminded Senators that only the original, brief motion is on the floor. The suggested amendment to the motion discussed above has not been moved or seconded, therefore cannot be voted on at this point.

Motion to amend:

It was moved by T. Pettigrew, seconded by G. Lee-Dadswell, to amend the original motion to include the first part of the clarification suggested by the Chair of the Research

Committee.

The amended motion would read:

The Research Committee recommends that Senate endorse the document entitled '*Improving Our Research Culture: Strategic Research Objectives and Recommendations*' in so doing by endorsing this document then Senate has acknowledged that Research is of vital importance to the integrity of the University and that the objectives put forth provide a sound framework for the committee as it endeavours to bring detailed tactical initiatives forward for Senate consideration and approval.

Discussion: Discussions then focused on the merits of including or not including the latter part of the amendment as suggested by the Chair of the Research Committee – 'The endorsement does not mean that Senate has agreed to implementing each or any item that is listed as possibilities'. Discussions also reverted back to debating the issue of endorsing the document.

Call for the question on the motion to amend.

Motion defeated. Ayes: 7 Nays: 23 Abstentions: 5

Discussion then ensued on the original motion. Some of the issues identified include perceived biases regarding collaborative research and student research as they relate to some arts and humanities disciplines and science disciplines, the amount of work that has gone into the development of the document, the detail of the specificity of the document, and workload issues which fall under the Collective Agreement.

A motion was introduced to postpone the vote until the next Senate meeting so that the Research Committee could give some thought about how to untangle all of this without losing the work that has been done.

Motion to Postpone:

It was moved by T. Urbaniak, seconded by G. MacInnis to postpone the vote on the original motion until the next Senate meeting.

Motion Defeated. Ayes - 4 Nays - 25 Abstentions - 4

Discussions continued on the original motion. It was noted that it is the intent of the Research Committee to create a framework from which it can operate as the Research Committee of Senate, and a voice in the governance of CBU particularly in academic related matters, and the committee it is trying to create a framework from which it can bring forward recommendations for initiatives that can increase or improve the research culture at CBU.

A friendly amendment was introduced to delete items 1 to 7 in 4.1.3 in the document. This was viewed as not being a friendly amendment, therefore no action was taken.

Motion to Amend:

It was moved by R. Bailey, seconded by W. Wadden to change the words 'endorse the

document' to 'receive for information' in the original recommendation made by the Research Committee.

Discussion on this motion: Discussions took place regarding the clarification and ramifications of what is meant by 'receiving the document'.

Call for the question:

Motion carried. Ayes: 23 Nays: 8 Abstentions: 6

Call for the question on the amended main motion which states 'that Senate receive for information the document entitled *'Improving Our Research Culture: Strategic Research Objectives and Recommendations'*.

Motion carried. Ayes: 24 Nays: 5 Abstentions: 7

- (g) Teaching & Learning – Patricia Morrison, on behalf of the Chair, commented that there is no formal report at this time.

11. Additional Business

11.1 Students Union report:

Lesley Sudworth, Vice-President, Academic referred to the report circulated with the agenda package. In addition to the report, she gave an update on the Students' Union election results, which are unofficial at this time, noting that the team of Allison Haley and Adam Jamieson were elected President and Vice President respectively. The election results are expected to be ratified at tomorrow's meeting.

The Chair, on behalf of Senate members, offered congratulations to all the election winners and thanked all the candidates who stood for election. He also offered congratulations to the outgoing Students' Union Executive who has done an impressive amount of work this past year.

12. Confidential Business – N/A

13. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:58 pm.



Tracey Harris, Secretary