

Senate Minutes

March 26, 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, Randolph Bowers, Mary Tanya Brann-Barrett, Allen Britten, Keith Brown, Philip Campbell, Geoff Carre, Godwin D'Cunha, Allan Fraser, Louis Guimond, Tracey Harris, Princely Ifinedo, Diane Janes, David Johnson, Ed LeBlanc, Geoff Lee-Dadswell, Gordon MacInnis, Kristen MacNeil, Brett MacPherson, Alexis Manley, Lindsay Marshall, Ricky McCarthy, Patricia Morrison, Willena Nemeth, Rod Nicholls, Gary Nicklason, Catherine O'Brien, Claudette Taylor, Tom Urbaniak, Wendy Wadden

Regrets: Matthias Bierenstiel, Robert Campbell, Cathy Chisholm, Anita Delazzer, Sherry Finney, Harvey Johnstone, Jane Lewis, Peter MacIntyre, John MacKinnon, Bernie MacLennan, Jill McPherson, Todd Pettigrew, Sarah Pyke, Chester Pyne, Mark Silverberg, Lesley Sudworth,

Absent: Mike MacKenzie, Tuma Young

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 President and of the Vice-President, Academic & Research

President Harker reported on:

He reported on his recent trip to Qingdao, China as a participant with the ECBC sponsored Trade Mission. In his report, 'China and CBU: March 2010', circulated at the Senate meeting, he highlighted various meetings he attended including a meeting with representatives of one of the worlds' leading centers of ocean research – Ocean University, who are very keen on working with CBU in the area of environmental stewardship and have indicated an interest in studying the environment from a variety of standpoints, including sociological/political perspectives.

In June, a group of Chinese owners and managers of coal mines will visit CBU to undertake training in the proper regulatory framework and good practice regarding health and safety in coal mines. They indicated that they would welcome the opportunity to work closely with Cape Breton University's CSEE, particularly in the area of any form of clean energy from coal.

He attended the CIS Men's Basketball Championships in Ottawa.

He attended a meeting involving the members of the Consortium of Nova Scotia University Presidents (CONSUP) and the deputy ministers for the Province of Nova Scotia. President Harker, as Chair of CONSUP, will lead the negotiations between the universities and the Government regarding funding.

The President mentioned that many may recall the "list of 22" planning initiatives that were brought forward a couple of years ago. Since then, a number of changes have been made but

there are several areas that we remain committed to, namely the work of the Task Forces (Recruitment & Retention, Research, Aboriginal, and International) and moving ahead with multidisciplinary masters degrees (one in social justice and the other in heritage studies).

Dr. Robert Bailey reported:

The search for the Dean of Research will commence very shortly. It will involve an internal search and the intention is to hold interviews in late April or early May. The search committee includes: Dr. Bailey as Chair, Edwin MacLellan, Catherine O'Brien, Richard Watuwa, Andrew Reynolds and Allen Britten.

He co-hosted with the new Chief Operating Officer for the CSEE, Dr. Ross McCurdy, a presentation on the Centre for Sustainability in Energy and the Environment.

6. Question Period – N/A

7. Approval of Minutes

7.1 February 12, 2010 – It was moved by A. Manley, seconded by K. Brown, approval of the minutes of February 12, 2010.
Motion carried.

8. Business Arising from the Minutes – N/A

9. Report of the Executive Committee

Dr. R. Bailey reported that the Committee met on March 29 and discussion took place on the following:

- Discussed the agenda items
- Discussed the report from the Academic Committee.

10. Reports of Other Committees:

(a) Academic – Dean Nicholls, on behalf of the Chair, presented the report of the Academic Committee. There are four items for information purposes and eight recommendations coming forward for consideration and approval.

For information purposes:

1. Course name change. ENGL 353: Modern British Novel, now to be called ENGL 353: The Novel from 20th Century Britain and Ireland
2. Course number change: FOLK 117 now to be designated FOLK 217
3. Cancel cross-listing with FOLK 217 (was cross-listed with HERT 117)
4. Shelving of various MATH courses:
Permanently remove the following courses from the Academic Calendar:
 - a) MATH 153, Experience in Mathematics I. Interested students may take MATH 135.
 - b) MATH 288, Comparative Programming Languages.
 - c) MATH 298, Introduction to Numerical Methods

- d) MATH 500, An Overview of Modern Mathematics
- e) MATH 010, Introductory Mathematics

Shelve and temporarily remove the following courses from the Academic Calendar:

- a) MATH 095, Pre-calculus Review
- b) MATH 211, Computer Applications
- c) MATH 281, Assembly Language Programming
- d) MATH 283, Object Oriented Programming
- e) MATH 293, Data and File Structure 1
- f) MATH 294, Data and File Structure II
- g) MATH 321, Physical Application of Mathematics

1. BIOL 3XX: Quantitative Biological Research

Motion:

It was moved by R. Nicholls, seconded by A. Britten that Senate approve BIOL 3XX: Quantitative Biological Research.

Motion carried.

2. PHIL 1XXX: Greek Philosophy: An Introduction

Motion:

It was moved by R. Nicholls, seconded by P. Ifinedo, that Senate approve PHIL 1XX: Greek Philosophy.

Motion carried.

3. PHIL 3XXX: Feminist Philosophical Theory

Motion:

It was moved by R. Nicholls, seconded by G. Carre, that Senate approve PHIL 3XXX: Feminist Philosophical Theory.

It was noted that the Evaluation Scheme was submitted with the original proposal but inadvertently left off the document in the package. The Scheme submitted included: first essay assignment - 40%; second essay assignment - 40%; and, final exam – 20%.

Motion carried.

4. Requirement for computer proficiency in Biology

Motion:

It was moved by R. Nicholls, seconded by A. Manley that Senate approve the following wording to clarify the requirement of computer proficiency in Biology

"students who have met the minimum requirements of Biology credits towards their three year degree in B.Sc. Biology, have satisfied their computer proficiency requirements".

Motion carried.

A. Britten responded to the question as to whether that statement also covers the Biology credits for a four year degree, indicating that it did.

5. Requirements for Second Major in B.Sc. Programs

Motion:

It was moved by R. Nicholls, seconded by G. D'Cunha that Senate approve the modification of the requirements for a second major in all B.Sc. programs. Specifically, to keep the minimum requirements of 36 credits; but stipulate that at least 9 credits must be above the 200-level, and of these 9, at least 3 must be at the 400 level.

On the question regarding when this requirement would come into effect and what would be the effect on students currently doing a double major, it was noted that students who

are already registered in the program can opt to be governed by the existing regulation or the new regulations.

Motion carried.

6. Executive Committee of School of Science and Technology

Motion:

It was moved by R. Nichols, seconded by R. Bailey, that Senate refer the proposal from the School of Science and Technology to form an Executive Committee for SS&T to the Bylaws & Procedures Committee for discussion and recommendation.

A lengthy discussion followed regarding the matter. R. Nicholls, reporting on behalf of Academic Committee, felt that their committee was not the appropriate committee to address this issue.

Concerns relating to the duties of the degree, diploma and certificate committees, the lack of authority of the degree, diploma & certificate committees, the role of the Schools in this process, and the removal of the degree committees without looking at their duties and responsibilities and replacing it with something else were discussed. It was also noted that it was the intention of the Bylaws & Procedures Committee to bring forward a recommendation but there was a request for more consultation, in particular to give Academic Committee a chance to review the matter in more detail. The Bylaws & Procedures committee will take into consideration the comments made when formulating their recommendation.

Motion carried.

7. Changes to the plagiarism policy in the academic calendar

Motion:

It was moved by R. Nichols, seconded by T. Urbaniak, that Senate approve to change the wording of the plagiarism policy in the calendar to read:

"Access to this information will be restricted to persons occupying confidential positions in the CBU Dean's offices and the Office of the Registrar".

Motion carried.

8. Academic Decision Matrix and Course Change Form

Motion:

It was moved by R. Nicholls, seconded by W. Wadden that Senate approve the Academic Decision Matrix and Course Change Form and to amend the Decision Matrix to indicate 'that the removal of a course from a calendar will go to the degree committee for information purposes'.

Motion carried.

- (b) Bylaws and Procedures – the Chair, T. Urbaniak, referred to the report circulated with the agenda package.

(c)

Motion:

It was moved by T. Urbaniak, seconded by R. Bailey that the following be approved by Senate:

"Be it resolved that Section 22 of Senate meetings Rules and Procedures be amended by adding the following subsection:

(vi) The Secretary shall ensure that decisions of Senate requiring implementation by persons who are not members of Senate are communicated within a reasonable time to those persons and/or to the University community. The Secretary shall ensure that there

is an up-to-date compendium of all in-effect Senate Policy decisions.

Motion carried.

- (c) Nominating – The Chair, C. Taylor, noted there was no report for this meeting.
- (d) Planning & Priorities – The Chair, C. Pyne, was unable to attend today's meeting. However, he has advised that there is no report for this meeting.

Dr. Bailey responded to the question whether the Planning & Priorities committee has been involved in discussions with the Budget Advisory committee regarding the upcoming university budget indicating that P & P and the Budget Advisory committee has met.

- (e) Quality Assurance – The Chair, W. Wadden, noted there was no report for this meeting.
- (f) Research - The Chair, G. Carre, noted there was no report for this meeting.
- (g) Teaching & Learning – The Chair, M. Bierenstiel, was not at today's meeting. P. Morrison, on behalf of the committee, presented a verbal report. She indicated there will be three items coming before Senate at the next meeting; 1) the Syllabus Policy, 2) the Lectures Policy, and 3) a report on the course evaluation student feedback.

11. Additional Business

11.1 Board of Governors report

T. Urbaniak reported that the Board met on March 12. Highlights include:

The cash flow position of the University remains healthy. Tuition revenues for spring and summer have recorded strong results.

26 students have been de-registered due to non-payment of fees.

An allocation of \$667,000 has been made to enable a major upgrade to the library for 2010-2011.

The Board of Governors' authorized the borrowing of \$4,959,000 from the Nova Scotia Strategic Opportunities Fund for the Centre for Sustainability in Energy and the Environment. Such a loan will bear interest at a rate of 1.5% per year and be repayable five years from the date of the initial drawdown.

The Investment Committee submitted a report on investments in the CBU Endowment Fund. A detailed analysis will be discussed by the Board at its' next meeting.

11.2 Students' Union report

R. McCarthy, President, Students' Union gave a verbal report. Highlights included:

A contingent of students travelled, by bus, to Ottawa to attend the Canadian Interuniversity Sports (CIS) Men's Basketball Championships.

The in-coming Students' Union Executive is now complete. Phillip Campbell is the Vice-President Finance & Operations and Jennifer Howarth is the Vice-President, Student Life.

As announced at the last Senate meeting, Allison Haley is the President-elect and Adam Jamieson is the Vice-President, Academic-elect.

This past week was "Student Appreciation Week". Highlights of the week included: a Society Appreciation Night - a night dedicated to those students who take the extra initiative to get involved with student life. The winners of the five major awards were: the Cultural Society Award – Gaelic and Celtic Society; Society Event of the Year – Entrepreneurship Week (Business Society); Departmental Society of the Year – Nursing Society; New Society of the Year – Education; Charitable Society – Save the Children Society. The award winners will receive a \$500 credit on their account.

A "Text in to Win" competition was held. Students would text the word "Capers" to 36969 and would be entered into a draw for a chance to win a \$2,500 gift certificate from Maritime Travel.

The Shinerama campaign raised \$11,000 this year. CBU Students' Union received the national award for the most improved campaign of 2009.

12. Confidential Business – N/A

13. Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 3:35 pm.


Tracey Harris, Secretary