

# Senate Minutes

**March 23, 2012  
Senate Chamber**

Chair, P. MacIntyre, called the meeting to order at 1:38 pm.

## **1. Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum**

### **Present:**

Al Alilovic, Robert Bailey, Bill Bailey, Ed Barre, Dannie Brown, Billy Crowley, Patrick Delamirande, Jane Farnsworth, Allan Fraser, Louis Guimond, John Harker, Rany Ibrahim, Adam Jamieson, Diane Janes, David Johnson, Mary Keating, Dale Keefe, Brittany Kerr, Sue Korol, Mary Suzanne MacEachern, Peter MacIntyre, John MacKinnon, Craig MacMullin, Alexis Manley, Carl Mercer, David McCorquodale, Stephen McIsaac, Bernard Mulo Farenkia, Patricia Morrison, Rod Nicholls, Joe Parish, James Preen, Sheila Profit, Tim Rawlings, Ron Rooth, Justin Roper, Jason Stevens, Mike Tanchak, Robert Campbell

### **Regrets:**

Keith Brown, Jane Connell, Maureen Finlayson, Breigh Gillis, Patrick Howard, Karen Kennedy, Gordon MacInnis, Ron McCarron, Eileen Smith-Piovesan

### **Absent:**

Lucy MacDonald

Chair, P. MacIntyre, declared quorum.

Chair, P. MacIntyre, acknowledged the outgoing Students' Union members for their contributions to Senate over the past year: Billy Crowley, Brittany Kerr, Justin Roper, Bhreigh Gillis, Adam Jamieson, Lucy MacDonald, Mary Suzanne MacEachern and Stephen McIsaac.

## **2. Matters to be considered in Closed Session – N/A**

## **3. Matters Forwarded for Information – N/A**

## **4. Special Presentations\Updates – N/A**

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

### **5.1 Report of the President**

President Harker gave a verbal report with the following highlights:

- A meeting with the new CEO of the Human Rights Commission, who was visiting Cape Breton for the first time, resulted in a proposed formal meeting of the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission in Cape Breton, probably at CBU, within the next year

- Shortly after the last Senate meeting, Nova Scotia's Minister of Energy, Charlie Parker, visited CBU to announce provincial financial support for the CBU wind farm. The hope is that within a year, a trio of wind turbines will be located on the opposite side of Grand Lake Road, and will contribute to the drive to achieve an energy self-sufficient campus
- CBU received a \$240,000 grant from government's Innovation Fund to convert campus lighting to LED. President Harker feels this proposal was approved because it was able to tie-in cost savings, economic activity and the interest of the students
- Congratulations were extended to Chair, Peter MacIntyre, on the CFI approval of his project, Language Studies Laboratories. D. Keefe advised these results have not been formally announced by CBU due to an embargo from CFI
- Richard Keshen has been appointed Professor Emeritus of Cape Breton University

### **5.2 Vice-President Academic & Professional Studies (Provost)**

Robert Bailey gave a verbal report with the following highlights:

- On March 2<sup>nd</sup> the Special Meeting of Senate took place where the 2012-13 Academic Plan and the P&R committee's pre-budget report were discussed. The meeting was well-received and constructive, and it was agreed this should become an annual event
- The Board of Governors held a retreat on March 16<sup>th</sup> at CBU. In their discussions, they reviewed the Mission, Vision, Values Statement recently endorsed by Senate. Any changes or revisions approved by the Board at their next meeting will be brought back to Senate for contemplation
- The on-line course evaluations will open on Tuesday, March 27<sup>th</sup> and close on April 9<sup>th</sup>. Changes in procedure have allowed the use of paper forms; to this point, upwards of 3000 forms have been requested. Dr. Bailey will report back to TLEC and Senate with response rate results from both the paper and on-line evaluations

As a point of interest, M. Keating, advised of a pilot project group that has chosen the on-line evaluations solely. These pilots will give a comparison of uptake before and after the on-line evaluation. Recently, a university participating in the on-line evaluations for some time, has allowed everyone to opt back in to the paper evaluations due to lower online participation rates.

## **6. Question Period**

- 6.1** Now that a search is beginning for the next President of CBU, the executive committee of Senate is requesting an update to Senate on the selection process. Who will serve on the search committee and how are they selected? What is the scope of the search, is the focus local, national or international? Have criteria been established to guide the selection process, is there an opportunity for Senate to contribute to the process?

In reply to the question, President Harker referred to a memo circulated with the meeting package. The memo from Mr. Roland Thornhill, Chair of the Presidential Search committee, detailed the members of the committee, that they will engage an Executive Search Firm and that nominations from the CBU community will be accepted up to a date yet to be determined. President Harker advised that the search committee members were selected by the nominating committee of the Board of Governors in accordance with the By-laws and that his participation and perspective in this process will occur only if requested by the Search Committee. A comment was made that in the future the formula for the make-up of the committee might consider the presence of a senior administration member. President Harker replied that the committee has the freedom to request input and advice from any member of this group.

## **7. Approval of Minutes**

**7.1 It was moved** by D. Janes, seconded by B. Crowley, the approval of the minutes from the February 10, 2012 meeting. Three minor corrections were noted and with these corrections being made the **motion carried**. Abstentions: 3

**7.2 It was moved** by D. Janes, seconded by R. Bailey, the approval of the minutes from the Special Meeting of Senate on March 2, 2012. **Motion carried**. Abstentions: 9

## **8. Business Arising from the Minutes – N/A**

## **9. Report of the Executive Committee**

D. Johnson reported the Executive committee met on March 9<sup>th</sup> to set the agenda for this Senate meeting. Highlights of the meeting included:

- Executive was pleased with the Special Meeting of Senate and will plan for this to be an annual event
- The question for Question Period was discussed and posed for the agenda
- Discussion about enhancement of Library representation on Senate and ways and means of achieving this effectively
- Discussion about underrepresented groups from the University community on Senate

## **10. Students' Union Report**

B. Crowley gave a verbal report with the following highlights:

- Voter turn-out during the recent election reached an all-time high seeing Michelle Lahey elected as SU President and Alana Lawrence as SU Vice President Academic
- The referendum to see if students were interested in adding dental coverage to their current health plan resulted in an 86% positive reply. The dental plan will be offered through Gallivan & Associates at a cost of \$105/student
- The Pit has been productive and student life active
- As a credit to their lobbying and advocacy efforts, the SU met with Graham Steele, Stephen MacNeil and Marilyn Moore, with a scheduled meeting to take place next week with Jamie Baillie. Mr. Crowley was discouraged with replies he has received from all sides regarding the lack of student involvement in the MOU discussions. He felt that between the Government and the University, each side blamed the other. Mr. Crowley detailed 'asks' that ANSSA has put forth to Government and noted that no acknowledgment or reply was received in turn
- Mr. Crowley thanked all the students for being involved with Senate

## **11. Reports of Other Committees**

**a) QA - Chair, P. Delamirande**, referred to a report circulated with the Senate package. The Bachelor of Health Sciences Review with comments from the VPA was circulated for informational purposes as follow-up to a previous request of the committee. Due to a printing error the VPA response to 5c was omitted; it should have read 'agreed'.

A draft copy of the proposed new Quality Assurance Policy was also circulated with the meeting package. Chair, P. Delamirande explained that the main change from the old policy to the new policy was a shift from a degree review to a school review with other minor changes also noted. **It was moved** by P. DeLamirande, seconded by R. Bailey, to adopt the new QA policy as presented. R. Bailey noted that constructive suggestions received from M. Keating led to a discussion that significantly improved the draft originally planned for submission to Senate. On the question of the size of the self-study, it was noted that this would be determined by the Review Committee. It was further noted that electronic copies could be used to avoid a large document. On the question of sanctions for non-compliance, P. Delamirande advised this would fall to the Review Committee and VPA. It was further noted that program accreditation could be affected if a school were to refuse to take part in a QA review. On the question of the committee composition, P. Delamirande advised that the Chair is appointed by the school and s/he is responsible for the composition of the committee; it is also up to the school to determine how many students they wish to have on the committee. The VPA, with consultation, is responsible for the review schedule. Currently the schools of Business and Professional Studies are undergoing reviews. Dr. Bailey will table a draft schedule for discussion at the next Senate meeting. **Motion carried.**

**b) P&R** – Chair, M. Keating, referred to the pre-budget report circulated with the meeting package which was discussed during the Special Meeting of Senate. The bylaws dictate this now come before Senate for endorsement and if approved will be presented to the Board of Governors. **It was moved** by M. Keating, seconded by S. Profit, that Senate endorse the pre-budget report as presented. **Motion carried.**

The committee is currently working on the MOU, affiliation, articulation and cooperation agreement templates to get a sense of what each involves.

**c) Nominating** – Chair, A. Fraser, requested a formal date for the conclusion of a Senator's term. After reviewing the bylaws it was noted this date is August 31<sup>st</sup>. The deans were reminded that an election of new Senators for each of the schools is necessary. Present Senators will be contacted with regard to committee work for the coming year. The committee also suggested Senate consider Senators sit on the same committee for the length of their term. A. Fraser's comments were echoed that a longer term on committees would increase committee productivity.

**d) Research** – Chair, J. Preen, reported verbally that the committee met to discuss the candidates for the Research Award and will be forwarding this information to President Harker for his consideration and decision. At a meeting of the Research Assistance Committee, the RP discussion was held and the hope is to have a decision by next Friday (March 30<sup>th</sup>) after the budget is clarified.

**e) TLEC** – on behalf of the Chair, P. Morrison reported verbally that a new sub-committee has been formed to restructure the TLEC website. The Teaching Space and On-line Learning Policy sub-committees intend to complete their work soon and bring it to Senate.

**f) Academic** – Chair, D. Janes referred to the report circulated with the meeting package.

#### **Items for Information:**

- 1) Course Change - EDUC 5993 Counseling Practicum II: Field Work
- 2) Course Name Changes – FOLK 2408; FOLK 3203; PHIL 3151/POLS 3151

On the question of the course name change creating a new course number, A. Manley explained that

If a course name change is very different from the original, then a new course number is warranted to avoid confusion. The content of the course does not change.

### **Recommendations:**

#### **1) Nursing 3xxx Introductory Statistics for Nursing and Health Professionals**

**Motion:** It was moved by D. Janes, seconded by S. Profit, to approve Nursing 3XXX Introductory Statistics for Nursing and Health Professionals with the noted correction to the prerequisites being all second year nursing courses. On the topic of discipline specific statistical courses, R. Bailey replied these stats courses are relevant and justified. It was noted that the exclusions listed appeared to be incomplete. **It was moved** by R. Bailey, seconded by D. Keefe, to table this course until the next meeting to add the proper exclusion list. A suggestion was made that a small working group be developed to analyze the stats courses to ensure that all are necessary and to examine the possibility of combining any that may be alike. In reply to this suggestion, A. Manley replied that various disciplines formulate their statistics course based on specific requirements. **Motion carried.**

#### **2) Nursing 3xxx Nursing Research Methods**

**Motion:** It was moved by D. Janes, seconded by S. Profit, to approve Nursing 3XXX Nursing Research Methods. It was noted that the updated page of the New Course Proposal was not provided for the Senate package and the prerequisites on the course were incorrect. The correction to the prerequisites would be all second year nursing courses and Nursing 3XXX Introductory Statistics for Nursing and Health Professionals. **It was moved** by D. Janes, seconded by R. Bailey, to table this course along with the previous course until next Senate meeting when all cover sheets can be updated and presented accurately. **Motion carried.**

#### **3) Education 5xxa Educational Technology for the Practicing Teacher**

#### **4) Education 5xxb Research Methods for Education**

**Motion:** It was moved by D. Janes, seconded by P. Delamirande, to approve Education 5XXA Educational Technology for the Practicing Teacher and Education 5XXB Research Methods for Education. It was noted that the A and B are only temporary until such time that the courses are assigned numbers. **Motion carried.**

#### **5) First Year English**

- i. **1XXX Reading and Writing about Industry and the Economy**
- ii. **1XXX Introduction to Literature: Literary Prose**
- iii. **1XXX Reading and Writing about Media and Culture**
- iv. **1XXX Introduction to Literature: Poetry and Drama**
- v. **1XXX Reading and Writing about Science**

**Motion:** It was moved by M. Keating, seconded by D. Janes, to approve the five first year English courses. On the question of the citation styles all being MLA, M. Keating replied that it was because students were being prepared for English courses. With respect to any of the current courses being offered via distance and any impact this change would have on them, it was explained that new courses following this model will be (re)developed and offered in September. It was also noted that the 1100 series would also be among the exclusions and is implied in the motion. **Motion carried.**

**6) ENGL 2XXX Literature and Globalization**

**Motion:** It was moved by D. Janes, seconded by R. Nicholls, to approve ENGL 2XXX Literature and Globalization. **Motion carried.**

**7) ENGL 2XXX Foundations of Postcolonial Literature**

**Motion:** It was moved by D. Janes, seconded by R. Nicholls, to approve ENGL 2XXX Foundations of Postcolonial Literature. **Motion carried.**

**8) ENGL 2XXX The Literature of Sport**

**Motion:** It was moved by D. Janes, seconded by J. Roper, to approve ENGL 2XXX The Literature of Sport. On the question of the prerequisite of six credits in English in order to enroll in a 2000 level, R. Nicholls noted that the SPHK program does not have English as part of its core. **Motion carried.**

**9) HIST 2106 Europe in Renaissance and Reformation**

**Motion:** It was moved by D. Janes, seconded by J. Roper, to approve HIST 2106 Europe in Renaissance and Reformation. **Motion carried.** **Abstentions: 1**

**10) DRAM3XXX Acting 2**

**Motion:** It was moved by D. Janes, seconded by J. Roper, to approve DRAM 3XXX Acting 2. On the comment of overlap with courses 3101 and 3103, M. Keating replied these courses are very specific, with minimal, if any, overlap. **Motion carried.**

**11) RELS 3XXX Mysticism**

**Motion:** It was moved by D. Janes, seconded by S. Korol, to approve RELS 3XXX Mysticism. **Motion carried.**

**g) Bylaws –** Chair, B. Crowley, reported verbally with no items to present to Senate. The committee is currently working on the following projects:

- SST Bylaws - deferred back to the School
- SASS bylaws - will soon be sent to the committee
- Dept of Math, Physics and Geology-currently working on memo to be sent with recommendations
- Dept of Psychology - currently working on memo to be sent with recommendations
- Dept of Education - memo to be sent with recommended changes
- Currently investigating the potential of an undergraduate program development committee
- Dept of Indigenous Studies bylaws have been received

B. Crowley noted that with a committee existing almost entirely of new members, their efforts were stalled until they had a clear understanding of their duties. He brought this back to the comment from the Nominating committee regarding Senators sitting on committees for the length of their Senate term.

## **12. Board of Governors Report**

M. Keating reported the Board met on March 2<sup>nd</sup> with a fairly light Public agenda. Highlights from the Public meeting included:

- Motion to adopt changes in the pension plan as mandated by the Superintendant of Pensions with respect to term employees and LTD recipients was carried
- Motion to discontinue the practice of accepting credit cards for major fees was carried

## **13. Confidential Business – N/A**

## **14. Adjournment**

The next Senate meeting is scheduled for Friday, May 4, 2012.  
There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:45 pm.



Ron Rooth, Secretary