

Senate Minutes

January 24, 2020
Senate Chamber CE-339

M. Mkandawire, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm.

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:

Amar Anwar, Catherine Arseneau, Stephen Augustine, Pat Bates, Tanya Brann-Barrett, Parteek Brar, Debbie Brennick, David Dingwall, Mary Beth Doucette, Karen Foss, Stephanie gilbert, Jasmine Hoover, David Johnson, George Karaphillis, Mary Keating, Carolin Kreber, Janet Kuhnke, Geoffrey Lee-Dadswell, Brendan MacDonald, Gordon MacInnis, Judy MacInnis, Richard MacKinnon, John MacMillan, Martin Mkandawire, Mary Jane Morrison, Joshua Nyamukapa, Amara Othman, Joe Parish, Andy Parnaby, Rick Pierrynowski, Dena Richardson, Bill Robinson, Scott Rodney, Samuel Shaji, Tom Urbaniak, Audrey Walsh, Richard Watuwa, Terry MacDonald, John Mayich

Regrets:

Patrick DeLamirande, Emma Drohan, Jim Gerrie, Bernie MacLennan, Emily MacLeod, Ann Sylliboy, Éric Thériault

Absent:

Jaya Kaushik, Shantanu Pandey, Gurpreet Singh

2. Consent Agenda

2.1 Research Committee – Information only.

2.2 Academic Committee – Moved to regular agenda to address comment/question.

2.3 QA Committee – Information only.

3. Confidential Business – N/A

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

5. Matters Forwarded for Information – N/A

6. Special Presentations/Updates – Role of the CBU Chaplaincy, Fr. Doug MacDonald

Fr. Doug MacDonald, CBU Chaplain, provided members with an overview of the work and services offered by the CBU Chaplaincy. He described the Chaplaincy is an accompaniment for those looking for multi-faith based spiritual direction and support for those experiencing mental health stresses. For clarification, it was noted that chaplaincy, much like Dean's row, is like a front-line support that offers assistance, guidance and references to the professional supports available on and off campus. Fr. Doug was thanked for joining Senate today and providing information on CBU's Chaplaincy.

7. Report of the President and Vice-President Academic & Provost

7.1 Report of the President

President Dingwall noted that he looks forward to working with colleagues on the implementation of the Academic Plan and welcomed any comments or questions.

7.2 Report of the Vice-President Academic & Provost

Dr. MacKinnon reported that with the last meeting of Senate being not much more than one month ago and the holiday break, there has not been a whole lot activity within his office. He has attended two MPHEC meetings and preparations for the implementation of the Academic Plan have begun.

8. Question Period – N/A

9. Approval of Minutes

9.1 It was moved by C. Arseneau, seconded by S. Augustine, **the approval of the minutes from the December 13, 2019 meeting**. It was suggested that going forward for the purpose of recording motions that the actual motion be clearly identified by bolding or quotation marks. **Motion carried.**
Abstentions: 6

10. Business Arising from the Minutes

On the question of the pre-budget report recommendations, G. MacInnis noted the recommendations have been received by the Budget Committee and will be considered during the budget process.

11. Report of the Executive Committee

D. Johnson reported that the Executive Committee met on January 10th to set agenda for this meeting. The Committee also discussed administrative stresses felt by committee chairs and effective archiving and modes of retrieval of Senate documents. After a thorough discussion the Committee recognized that Senate may suggest that additional administrative support be provided to Senate. P. DeLamirande will consult with the Senate committees and Senators were as to provide their input to him on the matter. The Committee also discussed that a replacement was needed for one of Senate's representatives on the Board of Governors'. Prior to the beginning of this meeting, a vote was held with Dr. Scott Rodney elected as this representative.

C. Arseneau suggested that when any documents are being archived for long term retention that Courtney Vienneau, CBU's University Records and Privacy Officer, be consulted.

12. Students' Union Report

S. Shaji reported that the new exam procedure was very well received and appreciated by students. This term the Union will be focusing on student engagement to ensure all students receive and find all the supports they have to offer.

13. Reports of Other Committees

(a) TLEC – G. Lee-Dadswell referred to the documents circulated with the meeting material. **It was moved by G. Lee-Dadswell, seconded by C. Kreber, that the following amendments to the Course Syllabus be approved:**

- **The addition of a Mi'kmaw Treaty Acknowledgement to the list of required elements in syllabi. The language for CBU's acknowledgement is included in the example template. Alternatives are suggested for courses which do not take place on the CBU campus.**
- **The addition of a requirement that class policies regarding participation or attendance, including grades for participation or attendance, must be explicitly stated.**
- **The addition to the suggested supplementary information list of links to relevant library resources.**
- **Links to the online descriptions of the Writing Centre and/or the Math and Science Centre in the list of suggested items.**
- **Exceptions are made for courses not taking place on the CBU campus, so that they do not need to include reference to the Inclement Weather Policy or the instructor's office location.**
- **Minor changes to the example/template syllabus which is included in the document.**
- **The policy is in the format prescribed by the Policy on Policies. This necessitated specifically defining the scope of the policy and responsibility for implementation.**

It was suggested that a clear definition of the syllabus and Moodle ought to be determined to ensure there is a clear statement of record and that a statement be developed with regard to archiving that would state 'as per the current collective agreements.

Following a fulsome discussion, friendly amendments were accepted that the policy should include emergency evacuation procedures, references to Moodle will be removed and clear language that the syllabus must be a document with references to the Collective Agreements with regard to archiving.

CBU's University Records and Privacy Officer, on how this policy will be enacted with the University's records schedule.

Members agreed that the Mi'kmaw Treaty Acknowledgement ought to be further discussed to ensure the

working is exact and correct. President Dingwall suggested that a discussion be held to determine the most appropriate language for this item and it be brought back to the next meeting of Senate. With all in agreement, and the approval of the mover and seconded, **the motion was withdrawn.**

(b) **P&R** – No report.

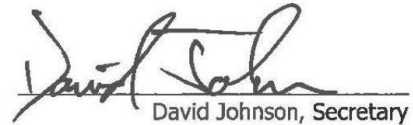
(c) **Bylaws** – No report.

(d) **Academic – It was moved** by M. Keating, seconded by A. Parnaby, that **the language presented governing transfer credits for French courses and/or immersion programs be approved.** M. Keating confirmed that the equivalency for the French immersion credits will be determined by a member of the French faculty. There will be consultation with the student, Department Chair, and Registrar's Office but the faculty member will make the determination. **Motion carried.**
Abstention(s): 1

14. Board of Governors' Report – N/A

15. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned the meeting at 2:45 pm.



David Johnson, Secretary