

Senate Minutes

November 8, 2019
Senate Chamber CE-339

The Chair, M. Mkandawire, called the meeting to order at 1:31.

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, Tanya Brann-Barrett, Pat Bates, Debbie Brennick, Sheila Christie, David Dingwall, Mary Beth Doucette, Emma Drohan, Karen Foss, Jim Gerrie, Jasmine Hoover, David Johnson, Jaya Kaushik, Mary Keating, Geoff Lee-Dadswell, Brendan MacDonald, Emily MacLeod, John MacMillan, Judy MacInnis, Richard MacKinnon, , Martin Mkandawire, Mary Jane Morrison, Amara Othman, Shantanu Pandey, Andy Parnaby, Rick Pierrynowski, Dena Richardson, Bill Robinson, Scott Rodney, Samuel Shaji, Gurpreet Singh, Ann Sylliboy, Éric Thériault, Tom Urbaniak, Audrey Walsh, Richard Watuwa, Terry MacDonald

Regrets:

Parteek Brar, Patrick DeLamirande, Stephanie Gilbert, George Karaphillis, Carolin Kreber, Janet Kuhnke, Gordon MacInnis, Bernie MacLennan, Joshua Nyamukapa, Joe Parish

Absent:

Jaya Kaushik, Gurpreet Singh, Ann Sylliboy, John Mayich

2. Consent Agenda – N/A

3. Matters to be Considered in Closed Session

It was moved by M. Keating, seconded by T. Brann-Barret, to move into Closed Session for the purpose of conducting confidential business. **Motion carried.**

3.1 Approval of Minutes – October 18, 2019

4. Confidential Business

5. Changes to the Graduation List

Following the Closed Session, **it was moved** by P. Bates, seconded by E. Drohan, to move back to Open Session following the completion of confidential business. **Motion carried.**

6. Report of the President & Vice-President Academic (Provost)

6.1 Report of the President

President Dingwall began by thanking Senators for adjusting the agenda to allow his early departure from the meeting. He encouraged Senators to participate in the Moodle exercises which will be detailed during the presentation from Stephen Augustine. He noted that the CIBC Welcoming Centre was official opened Thursday evening, that the bus shelter construction, with some additional assistance from Government, continues and the furniture for the cafeteria has arrived and the renovation design aspects of the Pit has been slightly delayed. He also advised that a reception is being planned to celebrate the three Canadian Research Chairs. Referring to a report from G. Carre at a previous meeting, he noted the reference to the Sustainability Tracking Assessment and Rating System (STARS) advising that Senators might wish to meet with G. Carre with respect to the best parameters going forward with regard to this software, as it requires extensive volunteer time and that alternate possibilities exist which could be explored.

M. Keating noted the usage of the new furniture placed throughout the campus and commended the administration on what has become very welcomed, appreciated, and used by students.

5.2 Report of the Vice-President Academic (Provost)

R. MacKinnon noted that he attended a luncheon held on campus with the High Commissioner of India during his visit and then they very successful Diwali celebrations that evening. The Board of Governors met on October 25th; a report will be given later in the agenda. He attended the National Association of Vice-Presidents Academic Council (NATVAC) in Toronto where many common topics from across the country are addressed. Finally, he advised that the Academic Plan is near completion and tabled a **Notice of Motion** that it will be placed on the Senate SharePoint site in two weeks and will be presented during the December meeting of Senate for consideration.

6. Special Presentations/Updates

6.1 Stephen Augustine: Truth & Reconciliation and Indigenizing CBU Academics in the L'Nu Way

Stephen Augustin Associate Vice President, Indigenous Affairs and Unama'ki College provided members with an informational session on the L'Nu Way with respect to historical topics, First Nations governance structures, taxation and economic development, the legacy of residential schools, the report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC), and contemporary issues. Following his presentation, many Senators supported the Learning About the L'Nu Way content offered through Moodle and suggestions were offered this ought to be a mandatory requirement for all faculty and staff of CBU. S. Augustine was thanked for this time, knowledge and insight of his presentation to Senate.

7. Question Period – N/A

8. Approval of Minutes

8.1 It was moved by MB Doucette, seconded by D. Brennick, the approval of the minutes from the October 18, 2019 meeting. One amendment of T. Brann-Barrett being in attendance was accepted. With the noted amendment **motion carried. Abstentions: 4**

9. Business Arising from the Minutes

On the question of the adjustment of the timetable passed during the Academic Committee report, the suggestion of this change take place in January rather than September would be referred back to the Academic Committee for further consideration.

10. Report of the Executive Committee

D. Johnson reported that the Executive Committee met on November 1nd to set the agenda for this Senate meeting. The Committee also discussed an update on the presentation from G. MacInnis on enrolment data and the requested break-down of departmental and course-based enrolment projections. D. Johnson provided Senators with the requested data which will also be posted to the Senate SharePoint. The Committee discussed future presentations during Senate meetings and requested suggestions be sent to the Committee.

11. Students' Union Report

On behalf of the Students' Union President, S Sahji reported that the Union has been busy with mid-terms but has also been working on initiatives for the Capes Helping Capers campaign, providing academic supports for students, and providing special project programs with respect to volunteering opportunities. The Union also expressed appreciation of the new collaborative spaces on campus.

12. Reports of Other Committees

(a) Academic Committee – M. Keating referred to the report circulated with the meeting material.

Items for Information:

M. Keating advised that the Committee is working on a spring/summer timetable template in efforts to provide consistency and provided a follow-up on the exam protocol. She noted that workshops will be held for the training of the invigilators.

Recommendation:

It was moved by M. Keating, seconded by A. Parnaby, that the Senate approve the change to the admission regulations for the co-op program to allow students to apply for admission to a Co-op Program from high school with a 75 average. M. Keating further explained that students will still be required to complete 30 credits and achieve an overall average of 70 before their first placement, but allowing early admission into the program would have several benefits, as outlined in the accompanying document. On the question of how this relates to co-op programs not yet approved, it was confirmed that if the change

is applicable to those programs it will be introduced once approved by MPHEC. **Motion carried.**

(b) Research – E. Barre noted that in addition to the report circulated with the meeting material, the Committee has received a proposal for the World Tourism Institute and will present it to Senate during the December meeting.

(c) TLEC – G. Lee-Dadswell reported that the Committee met on November 6th where the Committee passed a new Syllabus Policy which will be presented to Senate during the next meeting and housekeeping amendments to the terms of reference will be forthcoming. The Committee also continues to review possible course evaluation software. It was suggested that in light of the Kaplan decision, any decisions should keep this kept this in mind prior to any decisions being made.

(d) QA – No report.

(e) Bylaws – On behalf of the Chair T. Urbaniak reported that Committee is reviewing bylaws that are due for review and the issue of documentation trail with respect to documentation retention is being discussed.

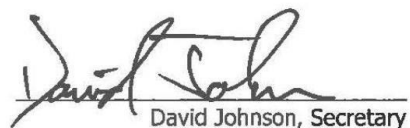
(f) Planning & Review – No report.

13. Board of Governors' Report

S. Christie and P. Bates reported that the Board of Governors' met on October 25th when the Student's Union reported that positive numbers of students who left for summer employment in other provinces have returned happily to CBU. They reported that enrolment numbers were presented from across the Province and CBU is performing exceptional well, the restructuring of Unama'ki College, the continued effort to increase the funded seats for the Nursing Department, and various MOUs being initiated and renewed.

14. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned the meeting at 3:35pm.


David Johnson, Secretary