

Senate Minutes

**February 18, 2022
MS Teams**

The Vice-Chair, A. Walsh, called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm.

She 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:

Faustina Amoako, Catherine Arseneau, Tanya Brann-Barrett, Mark Campbell, Sean Campbell (for David Gerbasi), Simon Chen, Logan Collins, David Dingwall, Mary Beth Doucette, Ayse Ersoy, Ava Graham, Michael Henick, Jasmine Hoover, Patrick Howard, Katherine Jones, George Karaphillis, Mary Keating, Doug Lionais, Jason Loxton, Gordon MacInnis, Richard MacKinnon, Bernie MacLennan, John MacMillan, Dana Mount, Mandy Nguyen, Marcia Ostashewski, Joe Parish, Andy Parnaby, Rick Pierrynowski, Michelle Prendergast, Erin Robertson, Karen Rowe, Chloe Stewart, Ann Sylliboy, Laurianne Sylvester, Éric Thériault, Mya Trimm, Audrey Walsh, Lacie White, Bilynda Whiting, John Mayich

Regrets:

Sahand Ashtab, Carol Beaton, Bettina Callary, Terry Gibbs, Janet Kuhnke, Marjorie McGillivray, Martin Mkandawire, Mohammed Faraaz Rahman, Tom Urbaniak, Wendy Wadden, Terry MacDonald

2. Consent Agenda – N/A

3. Matters to be Considered in Closed Session/Confidential Business – N/A

4. Reports and Items for Information

4.1 President

President Dingwall reported on the following:

- CONSUP has provided an update on the Accessibility Act, and they will be in touch with Senators, through John Mayich, to provide input.
- The Strategic Enrolment Plan has entered phase two.
- Thanks, in advance, were offered to all those who will be involved in the various committees that will be set up for the 58 new hires.
- Searches for the Dean of Nursing and the Dean of SSOB are near completion.
- The Bachelor of Social Work proposal was pitched to the Minister of Mental Health and Addictions in late December.
- In 2024, CBU will celebrate its 50th anniversary, and Senators were asked to share their views on how best to celebrate this milestone.

4.2 Vice President Academic

R. MacKinnon reported on the following:

- The initial meeting of the Center for Teaching and Learning Quality Review with two external reviewers has taken place.
- There are several quality assurance reviews taking place or soon to begin.
- Meetings continue with the Coast Guard on the revising of the MOU.
- As mentioned by President Dingwall, the Provost is involved in both Dean searches.
- John Mayich was invited to provide more information on the Accessibility Act.

J. Mayich noted that he is part of the working group established in March of 2019 to develop a framework signed off by CONSUP for 2022. The framework contains eight areas of focus within the accessibility framework: teaching, learning, research information, communication, delivery of goods and services, employment, transportation, and the built environment. CBU's accessibility advisory committee is working on that framework's basis and is in the draft writing phase. Senators were asked to provide any suggestions or input they may have to himself, Tanya Brann-Barrett, Amy Campbell, or Jacqueline Cote. As mentioned by President Dingwall, J. Mayich will be reaching out to Senators, and the draft report will be brought back to Senate.

4.3 Unama'ki College

L. Sylvester reported on the following:

- two positions will be filled in the next two weeks; enrolment specialist and the L'nu Chair of Health.
- Students in the Bachelor of Science in Eskasoni are in their last week of the first course and giving lots of positive feedback so far. At the request from DLAE, Unama'ki College will be meeting with them to provide an update on the program.
- She is working with the Mi'kmaw language lecturer, Starr Paul, to customize a Mi'kmaw language program for Gesgapegiag in Quebec. This request came from Gesgapegiag as a result of funding that came from a generous donor to invest money in the revitalization of the language.
- The MEW position is still being worked on.

4.4 Students' Union

C. Stewart reported on the following:

- The recent changes in the Union's executive after Ms. O'Brien accepted a position as a parliamentary assistant with Mike Kelloway. Logan Collins has stepped into the Presidents role, and she has been appointed the Executive Vice President.
- The Union has posted informative posts on social media pages and their website containing the steps needed for students to submit the grade appeal after receiving many requests on how the process works. Students now have free access to the Nova Scotia Power makerspace, which provides tools for students to design and build innovative projects.
- Twenty-nine applications for the food bank and emergency bursary fund have been improved, and there is an expectation that more applications will be received.
- Email templates are being drafted for students to send to faculty members, asking them to consider adopting open educational resources or OERs in their courses.
- The recent general election was appealed and overturned, meaning students will soon return to the polls.
- The NS government has approved a COVID-19 relief grant, which allows all Student Financial Assistance borrowers to receive a non-repayable grant of \$875.
- Upcoming projects include the continued advocacy for OER, the bank borrowing campaign, collaboration with the indigenous liaison officer, healthy living week.

4.5 Executive Committee

J. Hoover reported that the Executive Committee met on February 11th to set the agenda for this Senate meeting. The Committee discussed the motion to receive regular updates on the hiring process and will, as the Vice President Academic to, include that in that report periodically. The report on succession and planning was added to the agenda as a notice of motion for the Senate's next meeting. A take note debate on indigenization and the role Senate can play may be scheduled for the March meeting. Congratulations were offered to Marcia Ostashewski as the replacement Senator on the Board of Governors. A new member will be joining the Academic committee. With that, **it was moved** by J. Hoover, seconded by M. Keating, that Kevin McKague be appointed to the Academic Committee. **Motion carried.**

4.6 Board of Governors – N/A

4.7 Working Group on Senate Structure & Succession

M. Keating referred to the report circulated in advance of the meeting. At this time, to allow Senators more time to read the report thoroughly, the Committee proposed a notice of motion that the report will be presented during the March meeting for approval.

5. Special Presentation – N/A

6. Question Period – N/A

7. Take Note Debate – N/A

8. Approval of Minutes – January 21, 2022

It was moved by É. Thériault, seconded by A. Ersoy, the **approval of the minutes of January 21, 2022. Motion carried.**

9. Business Arising from the Minutes – N/A

10. Reports of Other Committees of Senate

i) Academic

M. Keating referred to the material circulated with the meeting material as follows:

Items for Information:

Two Articulation Agreement between CBU and AFOA Canada

Recommendation:

1. Approval of the Minor Changes to Program: ENGL Pre-requisite changes **It was moved by** M. Keating, seconded by A. Parnaby, to approve **the existing prerequisites; 1. 2000-level ENGL: Take 6 credits from English, level 1000. Or receive permission from the instructor, 2. 3000-level ENGL: Take 6 credits from English, level 1000. Or receive permission from instructor, 3. 4000-level ENGL: Take 6 credits of 1000 level English. Take 3 credits from level 2000 or 3000, be changed to 1. Take 3 credits of 1000-level English and a minimum of 15 credits of study overall, or receive permission from the instructor, 2. Take 6 credits of English, including 3 credits from the 1000 level, and a minimum of 30 credits of study overall, or receive permission from instructor, and 3. Take 9 credits of English, including 3 credits from the 1000 level and 3 credits at the 2000 and/or 3000 level, or receive permission from instructor. Motion carried.**

ii) Bylaws

MB Doucette reported that the Committee continues to focus on and accept the various bylaws that departments and schools are reviewing as they are submitted. She referred to the meeting material, and **it was moved by** MB Doucette, seconded by L. Sylvester, that Senate approved the bylaws for the department of Health Sciences as presented. **Motion carried.**

iii) Planning & Review

J. MacMillan reported that now that the pre-budget submission is complete, the committee is now focused on the tri-semester viability and the external academic education and or research agreement process.

iv) QA – No report.

v) Research

É. Thériault referred to the circulated report and the recommendation contained within it. **It was moved** by É. Thériault, seconded by C. Jones, that the Centre for Sound Communities (CSC) be changed from a Research Institute to a Research Center. **Motion carried.**

vi) TLEC

J. Loxton provided a brief update in the meeting chat. He noted that the Committee will strike two subcommittees, one to look at possible policy supporting OER and another to look at policy governing anti-plagiarism software (e.g., Turn it in). Any Senator interested in being involved in either of these is asked to reach out to any member of the Committee. They also plan on reaching out to schools/departments to look at the current use of invigilation software (e.g., Protorio, ProtctorU, etc.) as part of ongoing work on the online exam policy.

11. Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:40 pm.

Jasmine Hoover
Secretary to Senate