

# Senate Minutes

January 20, 2023  
CE339 / MS Teams

The Chair, E. Robertson, called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm.

## 1. Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum and Land Acknowledgement

The Vice Chair 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.

### Present:

Catherine Arseneau, Sahand Ashtab, Carol Beaton, Tanya Brann-Barrett, Danielle Boudreau, Geoff Carre, Mary Beth Doucette, Philip Eappen, Ayse Ersoy, David Gerbasi, Michael Henick, Jasmine Hoover, Patrick Howard, Himali Kadam, Harkanwal Kaur, Mary Keating, Janet Kuhnke, Carolin Kreber, Kimberley Lamarche, Doug Lionais, Jason Loxton, Gordon MacInnis, Richard MacKinnon, John MacMillan, John Nadeau, Mandy Nguyen, Felix Odartey-Wellington, Marcia Ostashewski, Peter Oyedijo, Natalia Parsons, Andy Parnaby, Rick Pierrynowski, Michelle Prendergast, Erin Robertson, Karen Rowe, Damanpreet Singh, Samarjeet Singh, Chloe Stewart, Laurianne Sylvester, J. Tunnicliff, É. Thériault, B. Whiting, T. MacDonald, J. Mayich

### Regrets:

Nofisat Banjo-Saibu, David Dingwall, Jan Hancock, Samantha Hodder, Katherine Jones, Karen Kennedy, Hannah Lewis, Ann Sylliboy, T. Urbaniak

## 2. Reports and Items for Information

### 2.1 President

On behalf of the President, R. MacKinnon reported on the following:

- After being received by Senate on December 16<sup>th</sup>, the SEM plan continues to be finalized.
- Work continues on bringing a medical campus to CBU as part of our strategic healthcare initiative.
- Strong efforts continue on the Tartan Downs housing project. We are having regional discussions with the CBRM, community groups and the private sector. However, federally, challenges continue with CMHC.

### 2.2 Vice President Academic and Provost – No report.

### 2.3 Unama'ki College

L. Sylvester provided updates on the following:

- The Mi'kmaw Ethics Watch coordinator and the In.Business coordinator positions are close to being complete.
- An In.Business conference will be held on campus from February 22<sup>nd</sup>– 24<sup>th</sup>.
- In collaboration with the School of Nursing, an informational session was held in Eskasoni with the current Bachelor of Science cohort.
- The Elder in Residence will be renamed to the Kisiku on Campus.

### 2.4 Students' Union

P. Oyedijo provided updates on the following:

- The SU is collaborating with Scott Thomas on organizing a Week of Consent for students.
- The food bank continues to be utilized more often.
- Many events were held for the January Week of Welcome.
- During a recent meeting with Mike Kelloway, the SU advocated for various student issues.
- A vigil was held on January 11<sup>th</sup> for Rajesh Kumar; the student who tragically passed in a house fire.
- The previously mentioned town hall will be held in February as well as advocacy meetings with local politicians.
- CBU and the CBU Board of Governors were thanked for their donations to the CBUSU food bank.
- The general election for the next President and Vice President will take place in the coming week.

### 2.5 Executive Committee

J. Hoover reported that the Executive Committee met on January 6<sup>th</sup> to set the agenda for the special meeting on January 13<sup>th</sup> and for this meeting. The Committee discussed Senate documentation and access and will work with CBU's new records manager on best practices and how to best manage Senate's records. The SEM working group was also discussed, and E. Robertson reported that the group has been formed, and the first meeting will take place in the coming week and will regularly report to Senate.

E. Robertson also reported that the Committee discussed labour negotiations and agreed that should CBUFA withdraw services, all Senate activities will pause until the strike ends.

J. Hoover reminded members that after adjournment, all faculty members are asked to stay to elect a replacement member to the Board of Governors.

**It was moved** by J. Hoover, seconded by J. Loxton, that Ted Matheson be approved as an SST member on Academic Committee. **Motion carried.**

### 3. Approval of the Minutes: December 16, 2022

**It was moved** by C. Arseneau, seconded by M. Henick, the **approval of the minutes of December 16, 2022. Motion carried. Abstentions: 1**

#### 4. Business Arising from the Minutes – N/A

#### 5. Report of Other Committees of Senate:

##### i) Academic

C. Kreber referred to the report circulated with the meeting material and detailed the Committee's list of priorities for the remainder of the year.

##### Items for Information:

Academic Integrity Report 2021-2022.

C. Kreber introduced this report, created by the Registrar's Office, in an attempt to track and categorize academic integrity breaches over a defined period of time. This report was also described as one of the final recommendations of the President's Task Force on Academic Integrity. The report aims to provide more accurate tracking and categorizing of academic integrity infractions across the University and to improve the practice. The three levels of breaches were detailed, and the consequences of each violation and that three separate occasions at Level 2 and/or Level 3 of seriousness will be discontinued from the university for 12 months.

On the question of the Summary of Violations and there being none issued by SSOB, B. Whiting responded that the School issued letters of violations, but no penalties were applied, or the Dean did not report the penalties. J. Nadeau also noted that the Registrar's Office has been added as a cc on any future letters to ensure proper reporting.

Concerning instances that do not meet the first level of infraction and how these are recorded, A. Parnaby responded that this is an area that is not recorded because it is at the faculty member's discretion. If a faculty member feels the infraction is not a flagrant violation and chooses to use it as a learning opportunity for the student, it would not be reported.

##### Items for Approval:

##### 1. Updated Calendar of events for 2023-2024

**It was moved**, by C. Kreber, seconded by L. Sylvester, that Senate approve the updated Calendar of events for 2023-2024 as presented. For information, L. Sylvester noted that Unama'ki College recognizes both Treaty Day and the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation and that they will recognize Treaty Day on September 28<sup>th</sup> as it falls on a weekend this year.

**Motion carried.**

Before moving to the next committee report, P. Oyedijo mentioned a recent student survey dealing with mandatory online resources students must purchase. There was a strong response to the survey. **It was moved** by P. Oyedijo, seconded by F. Odarety-Wellington, **that Academic Committee or TLEC investigate policies that might assist and address the concerns of students on additional course costs.** He also suggested that the policy should include wording that ensures students are fully aware of all course costs before signing up. Additionally, it should state that any student who cannot afford additional materials is not penalized academically. **Motion carried.**

## **ii) Bylaws & Procedures**

A. Ersoy noted that the committee is awaiting responses from several departments and are reviewing the School of Nursing bylaws. The committee is also reviewing suggestions from MB Doucette's presentation on the Senate membership.

G. MacInnis referred to the earlier note on the possible suspension of Senate and that the Bylaws Committee might want to review its representative quorum rules.

## **iii) Planning & Review – No report.**

## **iv) Quality Assurance**

R. MacKinnon reported that the committee is revising the BBA review, Emergency Management and Student Affairs external reports are due soon, the Business Management post-bac draft will be ready in February, and the BSc degree will begin shortly.

## **v) Research**

É. Thériault reported that the Committee has not yet met but did note that the RISE applications have been circulated and that NSGEU members have been added to the application. J. Loxon added that the applications have always been open to NSGEU members, but the application was cumbersome and challenging, and the changes have made it much easier to navigate.

## **vi) Teaching, Learning & Evaluation**

J. Loxton reported that the committee has not yet met, but when they do, he will bring the recommendation from the students to them. He offered that the suggestions will be complicated and will likely require consultations with other committees and bodies within the University. He welcomed feedback from any Senator on the topic.

## **11. Adjournment**

With no further business, **it was moved by** T. Brann-Barrett, seconded by C. Arseneau, to adjourn the meeting at 2:45 pm. **Motion carried.**

**Jasmine Hoover  
Secretary to Senate**