



University Planning and Budget Committee (PBC)

Minutes

Monday, February 24, 2025

14:30 pm NT | A3047, [Teams](#)

CHAIR

Dr. M. Woods

SECRETARY

Mr. K. Matthews

PRESENT

Dr. E. Haven, Vice-Chair
Dr. C. Bazan
Dr. D. Hancock
Dr. J. Hawboldt
Dr. R. Haynes
Dr. E. Kendall
Dr. J. Lokash
Dr. D. Peters
Dr. N. Pedri

Mr. B. Mishkat
Ms. J. Porter
Ms. C. Walsh

ABSENT

Dr. R. Williams
Mr. M. Alam (MUNSU)
Vacant (GCSU)
Vacant (GSU)
Vacant (MISU)

REGRETS

Ms. L. Pike
Ms. M. MacLean

RECORDING

Mr. K. Matthews, Mr. B. Mishkat

Dr. M. Woods called the meeting to order at 14:30 pm NT

Land Acknowledgement delivered by N. Pedri.

1.1. Approval of the Agenda

Meeting of February 24, 2025

Draft agenda for the meeting was posted online via Brightspace.

MOTION C. Bazan/E. Kendall

RESOLVED that the agenda be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

2. Approval of the Minutes

2.1. Meeting of January 27, 2025 (Appendix A, pp. 3-6)

Draft of the minutes for the meeting of January 2024 was posted online via Brightspace.

MOTION N. Pedri/ E. Kendall

RESOLVED that the minutes be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

3. New Business

3.1. Strategic Framework for Indigenization 2021-2026 – Presentation (C. Andersen, K. Butler)

K. Butler presented the Strategic Framework (SFI) for Indigenization 2021-2026. The presentation covers the challenges, opportunities, and accomplishments of the ongoing implementation of the Framework, with particular emphasis on increased engagement with the university community. Noting that the Forum on Indigenous Reconciliation at Memorial (FIRM) has become an essential aspect of the Framework with respect to developing relationships and dialogue, as well as an indicator of the community engagement. Noted that the Indigenous Verification Initiative has become a focal point for her office. While the Strategic framework was developed before Transforming Our Horizons, there is significant alignment between the two documents. She also spoke to engagement with other institutional plans and frameworks that are in development (Public Engagement, Strategic Enrolment and Retention Plan (SERP), and Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Anti-Racism Strategy (EDI-AR)). They are considering means by which more indigenous content can be deployed in curricula across the university, noting the challenges as there are not a lot of indigenous faculty members at Memorial University.

The Q&A which followed K. Butler's presentation covered the following topics:

- Elaboration on the nature of the engagement with Truth and Reconciliation across the university.
- How to develop and deliver courses with indigenous content at a time of fiscal constraint. It appears that students across the country are demanding indigenous content to be delivered by indigenous people. Not all academic units/programs may have capacity to engage equally with the Framework.
- How progress is measured.
- To track the progress in the longer term, aligning the office's quantitative measurements with the university's strategy is essential.
- Building a closer connection to the Strategic Framework in the Senate-mandated Academic Unit Planning process.
- How to connect with the K-12 system with respect to Truth and Reconciliation.

3.2. Special Meeting of Senate: "The Practice of Doing Research: Faculty Feedback on Memorial University's Research Ecosystem" [Update]

- Planning continues for the special meeting of Senate on March 11. The Working Group has met weekly. M. Woods will be the moderator of the discussion and Dr. Cote will present the results of the survey. A second presentation by the Vice-President (Research) was also discussed.

- The Research Ecosystem survey presentation is improved over the draft delivered at the previous meeting.
- It was noted that the Vice-President (Research) and administrative personnel within the portfolio have been engaged with the development of the presentation and special meeting agenda.
- The value of including the presentation by the Vice-President (Research) was questioned, given the one-hour time constraint and the need to focus on the faculty member's experiences. Instead, it was recommended that the moderator will briefly speak to main points in the introduction to the meeting. Dr. Woods will reach out to the Vice-President to discuss.
- The Committee discussed next steps and outcomes of the discussion. M. Woods noted that he anticipates the Senate Committee on Research (SCOR) maintain the momentum from the survey and Senate discussion once the meeting is over.
- Given that many of the issues related to research support are pan-institutional, it was suggested that administrators in Information Technology Services, Financial Administration, Human Resources, Research and Innovation Services be invited (among others).
- It was noted that the current fiscal situation has seen significant cuts over the past years to research support units.
- In light of the feedback received from the survey and the issues identified, prioritization of possible action item is essential, allowing focus on tasks that provide the most support.

3.3. Plans and Frameworks

3.3.1. Schedule of 2025 Plans/Frameworks Presentations (Updates)

Dr. Woods noted that the schedule of presentations has been updated and posted to Brightspace:

- February: Strategic Framework For Indigenization
- March: Strategic Enrolment and Retention Plan
- April: Accessibility Plan (from January)
- May: Research Strategy
- June: EDI-AR (from April)

3.4. Institutional Comparator Information (K. Matthews)

Meeting time did not allow discussion. This item deferred until the next meeting.

3.5. PBC Action Items [Update]

- The letter to Dr. Allen (Vice-President of Record) endorsing the establishment of the Quantum Centre for Computing was sent February 5, 2025. Copy uploaded to Brightspace.

- The letter to Ms. Kim Shipp (acting Associate Vice-President (Public Engagement) regarding the Public Engagement Framework was sent February 12, 2025. Copy uploaded to Brightspace.
- The letter to the Vice-President (Administration and Finance) regarding the Campus Renewal Fees was sent February 14, 2025. Copy uploaded to Brightspace.

4. Other Business

No further business.

Meeting Adjourned at 16:37 (R. Haynes/E. Haven)