

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND  
SENATE

The regular meeting of Senate was held on October 14, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. in Room E5004, Education Building.

14. PRESENT

The Acting President, Dr. M. Collins, Dr. H. Pike, Dr. M. Abrahams, Dr. S. Birnie-Lefcovitch, Ms. L. Busby, Mr. G. Collins, Dr. N. Golfman, Dr. T. Gordon, Dean G. Gorman, Dr. D. Kelly, Ms. K. Kennedy, Dr. J. Quaicoe, Dean J. Rourke, Dean R. Tremblay, Dr. S. Abhyankar, Dr. R. Adamec, Dr. D. Carroll, Dr. J. Connor, Ms. B. Conran, Dr. M. Daneshtalab, Dr. A. Fiech, Dr. D. Foster, Dr. G. George, Ms. L. Goddard, Dr. D. Kimberley, Professor V. Kuester, Dr. R. McGowan, Dr. D. McKay, Dr. W. Okshevsky, Dr. C. Sharpe, Professor D. Walsh, Dr. P. Wang, Dr. J. Wyse, Mr. M. Fuchs, Mr. J. Fleming, Mr. C. Little, Mr. R. Marshall, Mr. B. Russell.

15. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Dr. S. LeFort, Mr. K. Baker, Dr. S. Kenney, Professor W. Schipper, Mr. K. Abouchehade, Mr. K. Chowdhury.

16. MINUTES

The Minutes of the regular meeting held on September 9, 2008 were taken as read and confirmed.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF SENATE

It was agreed by separate motion where necessary, that the report of the Executive Committee be approved as follows:

CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Dr. Golfman, seconded by Professor Walsh, and carried that the consent agenda, comprising the items listed in 17 below, be approved as follows:

17. REPORT OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL OF THE SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES

17.1 Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science

Page 471, 2008-2009 Calendar, under the heading 2.3.4 Evaluation, subheading Courses, delete 9600 Environmental Engineering Project (6 credit hours) and replace with the following:

“960A Environmental Engineering Project (0 credit hours)  
960B Environmental Engineering Project (6 credit hours)”

17.2 Department of Physics and Physical Oceanography

Page 533, 2008-2009 Calendar, under the heading 19.20.1 Master of Science, subheading Courses and page 568, under the heading 25.24.1 Doctor of Philosophy, subheading Courses, add the following new courses:

Department of Physics and Physical Oceanography (cont'd)

“6314 Field Oceanography  
6900 Techniques in Experimental Condensed Matter Physics”

17.3 Department of Mathematics and Statistics

Page 532, 2008-2009 Calendar, under the heading 19.19 Mathematics and Statistics, subheading Courses, and page 566, under the heading 25.21.4 Specific Regulations for the Ph.D. in Theoretical Physics, subheading Courses, add the following new course:

“6351 Advanced Linear Algebra”

17.4 Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science

Page 507, 2008-2009 Calendar, under the heading 10.13 Courses, subheading Other Courses, add the following new course:

“9211 Experimental Methods”

**REGULAR AGENDA**

18. MOTION, NOTICE OF WHICH HAS BEEN GIVEN REGARDING AN AMENDMENT TO SECTION IV.E.1 OBSERVERS OF SENATE BY-LAWS AND PROCEDURES

At a meeting of the Senate held on September 9, 2008, notice was given that a motion would be presented to Senate at its October 14, 2008, meeting to amend the Section IV.E.1 Observers of the Handbook of Senate By-Laws and Procedures by deleting the word ‘full-time’. The revised by-law will read as follows:

“The following persons may be admitted to meetings of the Senate as observers: (i) members of Convocation, (ii) all registered students, (iii) all employees of the University.”

It was moved by Mr. Collins, seconded by Dr. Okshevsky and carried that this motion be approved.

19. REPORT OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL OF THE SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES

19.1 PROPOSED REVISION TO GENERAL REGULATION 1.2.13 GOVERNING THE SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES

Page 469, 2008-2009 Calendar, under the heading 1.2.13 Termination of a Graduate Program, delete Clause 1 a-h and replace with:

- “1. a. Failure to comply with the conditions of admission into a program, unless the conditions of admission have been changed with approval of the academic unit and the School of Graduate Studies; or
- b. Failure to register in any semester by the final date for adding courses (see Registration, Program Registration 1.);
- c. Failure to obtain the required grades in courses as stated in the appropriate degree regulations (see Evaluation);

Proposed Revision to General Regulation 1.2.13 Governing the School of Graduate Studies (cont'd)

- d. Failure in comprehensive examinations (see Comprehensive examinations);
- e. Demonstrated lack of progress in a program supported by written documentation;
- f. Recommendation of the Supervisory Committee (see Supervision);
- g. Failure of Thesis, Project or Internship (see Theses and Reports);
- h. Academic misconduct as outlined under General Regulation Academic Behaviour governing the School of Graduate Studies.”

Amend the three notes that follow Clause 3 to read as follows:

“1. If the University or a School or Faculty requires a student to discontinue his/her studies under any of the above clauses, that student must be advised in writing of the nature of the case against him/her before the penalty imposed takes effect.

2. Appeals against actions taken under Clause 2. should be directed to the Senate of the University. Any such appeal should be made in writing clearly stating the basis for the appeal and should be directed to the Secretary of Senate, c/o Office of the Registrar.

3. Appeals against actions taken under Clause 3. should be directed to the Appeals Committee, School of Graduate Studies.”

19.2 PROPOSED NEW PH.D. PROGRAM IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

The New Ph.D. Program in Environmental Science was approved with the addition of an oversight Board consisting of the Dean of Graduate Studies, Dean of Arts and Dean of Science. It was agreed that the Dean of Graduate Studies would forward the wording of the new clause to the Secretary of Senate to be incorporated in the minutes as outlined below.

Page 555, 2008-2009 Calendar, insert new section 25.11 Environmental Science

**“25.11 Environmental Science**

**Board of Study**

Dr. Ratana Chuenpagdee (Geography)  
Dr. Robert Helleur (Chemistry)  
Dr. Paul Marino (Head, Biology)  
Dr. William Montevicchi (Psychology)  
Dr. Christopher Parrish (Ocean Sciences Centre) - Chair  
Dr. Lev Tarasov (Physics and Physical Oceanography)  
Dr. Susan Ziegler (Earth Sciences)

**25.11.1 Program**

1. The Environmental Science Graduate Program focuses on interdisciplinary research. Supervisors include faculty from all Departments in the Faculty of Science and the Ocean Sciences Centre, the Department of Geography, the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science, the Faculty of Medicine, and the

### Proposed New Ph.D. Program in Environmental Science (cont'd)

Environmental Science Program at Sir Wilfred Grenfell College, as well as adjunct faculty from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

2. The Board of Study is responsible for the Program. Board members are appointed by the Dean of Science, on the recommendation of the Chair of the Board. The Board chair is elected by the members of the Board of Study and appointed by the Dean of Science. The Board makes recommendations to the Dean of Graduate Studies concerning admissions and academic requirements. In consultation with supervisors, recommendations are made concerning course programs, financial support, thesis committees, comprehensive and thesis topics and examiners, students' annual progress. Upon program completion, the Board certifies that all requirements for the appropriate degree have been met. The department of the supervisor ensures that adequate facilities are provided for each candidate. Students in Environmental Science are considered for teaching assistantships in the Faculty of Science and the Department of Geography.

An 'Oversight Board' will be established, consisting of Deans or designates from participating Faculties, and the Dean of Graduate Studies.

#### **25.11.2 Regulations - Doctor of Philosophy**

1. There are three required courses for the doctoral program. All students take ENVS 6010 - Environmental Science Seminar and those with a disciplinary Master's degree in Science from a recognized university take ENVS 6000 - Environmental Science and Technology. Other courses tailored for individual students are included in the student's program by the Dean of Graduate Studies on the recommendation of the Chair of the Board of Study.

2. The comprehensive examination should be taken on completion of all course work. An Examination Committee will be struck in accordance with the General Regulations (<http://www.mun.ca/regoff/calendar/sectionNo=GRAD-0015#GRAD-0024>). At least two members of the Board of Study must be on the Examination Committee. The candidate's Supervisor will be on the Examination Committee and will be the only examiner from the candidate's Thesis Supervisory Committee. The Head of the Department of the Supervisor or his/her delegate is invited to serve on the Comprehensive Examination Committee. The Examination Committee is chaired by the Chair of the Environmental Science Program. The examination will be both written and oral. The topic is assigned by the Examination Committee, which also determines the submission date for the paper, and the date of the examination. Normally, the student will write the paper within four months, and the oral examination will occur within six weeks of the paper's submission. This paper will form the basis of a public seminar. The Examination Committee will question the candidate about the paper, the topic and its broader relationship with Environmental Science.

3. The most important requirement is the writing of the doctoral thesis. The research thesis is based on the results of systematic, independent research on an approved scientific topic. To ensure the research is interdisciplinary, the supervisory committee must be made up of members from at least two different departments. The candidate will be required to present a PhD research proposal to the supervisory committee. The completed thesis will be evaluated according to the regulations of the School of Graduate Studies. It

Proposed New Ph.D. Program in Environmental Science (cont'd)

must contribute significantly to knowledge in the field of Environmental Science.

**Courses**

6000 Environmental Science and Technology  
6001 Earth and Ocean Systems  
6002 Environmental Chemistry and Toxicology  
6003 Applied Ecology  
6004 Environmental Pollution and Mitigation  
6005 Environmental Sampling and Pollutant Analysis  
6007 Environmental Risk Assessment  
6010 Environmental Seminar  
6201 - 9 Selected Topics in Environmental Science”

Page 457, 2008-2009 Calendar, under the heading 1 General Information and Regulations Governing All Graduate Students in the second paragraph amend to read: “Interdisciplinary study.....(Computational Science - Co-operative), Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy (Environmental Science), Master..... and Master of Women’s Studies”

Page 544, 2008-2009 Calendar, under the heading 25 Regulations Governing the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy and Specific Program Regulations in the third paragraph amend to read: “Tuition leading to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy is offered.....English Language and Literature, Environmental Science, Ethnomusicology.....and Statistics.”

Page 508, 2008-2009 Calendar, under the heading 12.1 Program of Study and page 530, under the heading 19.13.1 Program of Study, amend 1 and 2 to read as follows:

“1. The Environmental Science Program is an interdisciplinary graduate program involving departments of the Faculty of Science, the Department of Geography and the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science of Memorial University of Newfoundland. There are three Environmental Science Graduate degree streams, the Master of Science (M.Sc., Environmental Science) Master of Environmental Science (M. Env. Sci.) and the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D., Environmental Science).

The program is available on a full-time or part-time basis. Admission is open to students with appropriate Science, Geography or Engineering backgrounds.

2. The program is administered by a Board of Studies appointed by the Dean of Science.”

Page 508, 2008-2009 Calendar, under the heading 12.2 Qualifications for Admission and page 530, under the heading 19.13.2 Qualifications for Admission, amend the paragraph to read as follows:

“Admission is limited and competitive. To be considered for admission applicants shall normally hold an Honours degree in Science or Geography with at least second class standing, or equivalent, or a Bachelor’s degree in Engineering from an institution recognized by the Senate or shall have qualifications and/or environmental experience acceptable to the Dean of Graduate Studies and the Board of Studies. The Board of Study will make recommendations on admission to the Dean of Graduate Studies.”

20. ADDING PRIVACY NOTICES TO COURSE OUTLINES

A memorandum dated 2 September 2008 has been received from Ms. Rosemary Smith, Information Access and Privacy Protection Coordinator regarding adding privacy notices to course outlines.

Ms. Smith noted that with proclamation of part IV (the privacy provisions) of the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act* in January 2008 and the pending adoption of University privacy policy by the Board of Regents, the University is required to comply with the legislation with respect to its collection, use, disclosure, security and retention of personal information.

Section 36 of the *Act* states:

*36. The head of a public body shall protect personal information by making reasonable security arrangements against such risks as unauthorized access, collection, use, disclosure or disposal.*

In the Winter 2008 semester, Ms. Smith reported that she received enquiries from several students about whether or not instructors are permitted under privacy law to post grades on a web site or on their office door and leave assignments outside their offices for students to pick up. Ms. Smith suggested that a privacy notice be added to course outlines to inform students of the method for returning evaluative devices and notifying students of their mid-term and in-semester grades.

It was moved by Dr. McKay, seconded by Dean Tremblay, and carried to refer this item to the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies for further consideration.

21. AMENDMENT TO THE MARINE INSTITUTE ACADEMIC COUNCIL CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

A memorandum dated September 11, 2008, was received from the Marine Institute Academic Council proposing amendments to its Constitution and By-Laws.

It was moved by Mr. Collins, seconded by Dr. Wyse, and carried that the proposed amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws of the Marine Institute Academic Council be approved for submission to the Board of Regents.

22. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES

22.1 Ad hoc Committee of Senate to Consider an Appeal by Student ECS 2008-09: #1

At a meeting held on September 9, 2008, Senate approved a recommendation that an ad hoc committee be appointed to consider an appeal by Student ECS 2008-09: #1. In this regard, the Committee on Committees was asked to recommend terms of reference and membership for the ad hoc Committee. In a letter dated September 24, 2008, the Committee on Committees recommended terms of reference and membership as follows:

Ad hoc Committee of Senate to Consider an Appeal by Student ECS 2008-09: #1 (cont'd)

**“Terms of Reference**

This Senate ad hoc Committee has been struck to consider the appeal to Senate of ECS 2008-09: #1. The ad hoc Committee:

- a. Will examine all documents submitted by the student in support of the appeal;
- b. May examine any other written evidence which it deems relevant;
- c. Will interview the student;
- d. May interview any individuals, organizations or institutions it deems relevant;
- e. May conduct further investigations as the committee deems necessary, and
- f. Will deal with this case by filing its report and recommendations to Senate as expeditiously as possible.

***Membership***

*Dr. John Garland, Counselling Centre*

*Professor Vivienne Kuester, School of Human Kinetics and Recreation (Senator)*

*Mr. Dean Seeman, Library*

*Ms. Marian Abbott, Registrar’s Office”*

While there is normally student representation on Senate committees, the Committee on Committees did not find it necessary to include one here because it is in a fact-finding rather than a decision making group, and because it was recognized that the ad hoc committee will meet often in a short timeframe and this could be unduly burdensome for a student representative. Both the undergraduate and graduate student representatives from the Committee on Committees supported this decision.

It was noted that the ad hoc committee may need to avail of medical expertise in dealing with this appeal. Because no potential ad hoc committee member from the Faculty of Medicine was named, it was agreed that the Chair of the ad hoc Committee would ask the Dean of Medicine to identify an appropriate consultant from his faculty.

It was moved by Mr. Collins, seconded by Professor Walsh, and carried (with one abstention) that the membership and terms of reference be approved.

22.2 Ad hoc Committee of the Board of Regents to recommend amendments to the Memorial University Act to Secure Autonomy for Memorial University of Newfoundland

In a memorandum dated September 19, 2008, the Board of Regents requested that Senate nominate three members to the ad hoc Committee of the Board of Regents to recommend amendments to the Memorial University Act to secure autonomy for Memorial University of Newfoundland.

As the Executive Committee of the Board of Regents was scheduled to meet before the next meeting of Senate scheduled for October 14, 2008, the Executive Committee of Senate at its meeting held on September 25, 2008, approved the following nominations to the ad hoc Committee:

Ad hoc Committee of the Board of Regents to recommend amendments to the Memorial University Act to Secure Autonomy for Memorial University of Newfoundland (cont'd)

Dr. Noreen Golfman  
Dr. Paul Wilson  
One student to be nominated by MUNSU

Mr. Collins advised that Mr. Ryan Marshall has since been nominated by MUNSU.

It was moved by Mr. Collins, seconded by Dr. Okshevsky, and carried that these nominations be endorsed by Senate.

22.3 Committee on Course Evaluations

It was recently brought to the attention of the Committee on Committees that the Committee on Course Evaluations includes seven faculty members while the Terms of Reference specify “six faculty members, including one senator appointed by Senate on recommendation of the Committee on Committees”.

At a meeting of the Committee on Committees held on September 24, 2008, it was noted that the last member to be appointed was from the Marine Institute and as the Marine Institute is currently conducting a review of its course evaluation process, it would be worthwhile having a representative on the Committee. Also, as no Senator volunteered for the Committee, it was agreed that the membership of the Committee stand until August 2009.

It was moved by Mr. Collins, seconded by Dean Tremblay, and carried (with one abstention) that this be approved.

23. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR - QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM SENATORS

- On September 12, 2008, Dr. Campbell met with the Director of Alumni Affairs and Development and a potential donor for the upcoming capital campaign.
- Dr. Campbell noted the success of seeking advice from the Planning and Budget Committee regarding proposed strategic initiatives.
- On September 15, 2008, Dr. Campbell participated in a NSERC Teleconference call.
- From September 16-18, 2008, Dr. Campbell travelled to Fredericton to attend the AAU Fall Council meetings.
- From September 21-22, 2008, Dr. Campbell travelled to Toronto for meetings with prospective donors.
- On September 24, 2008, Dr. Campbell travelled to Corner Brook to attend the funeral for the late Dr. John Ashton.
- On September 29, 2008, Dr. Campbell went on a tour of the newly renovated Barnes House.
- Dr. Campbell attended a reception and dinner on September 30, 2008, at City Hall regarding Freedom of the City on Dr. Nigel Rusted.



Remarks from the Chair - Questions/comments from Senators (cont'd)

- On September 30, 2008, Dr. Campbell joined the David Suzuki coffee break.
- On October 1, 2008, Dr. Campbell attended a dinner meeting with Jean Madill, Brian Tobin, Peter Fisher, Chris Loomis and Holly Pike regarding possible collaborations between the University and the College of the North Atlantic.
- Dr. Campbell attended the Career Fair on October 1, 2008 and co-hosted the Career Fair Reception in partnership with CNA.
- Dr. Campbell travelled to Corner Brook on October 3, 2008, for the Sir Wilfred Grenfell Convocation ceremony and luncheon.
- On October 6, 2008, Dr. Campbell attended the Habitat for Humanity sod-turning ceremony in Mount Pearl (co-hosted by Petro-Canada).
- On October 7, 2008, Dr. Campbell held a teleconference call with Jean Madill and John Rushforth regarding upcoming Knowledge in Motion Conference.
- Dr. Campbell was a guest speaker at the Oceans Advance Cluster on October 8, 2008, regarding the University's contribution to the Oceans technology sector.
- On October 8, 2008, Dr. Campbell attended a reception for Dr. John Crosbie who served as Chancellor for 14 years.

24. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

24.1 The Executive Committee of Senate approved the following appeals:

ECS 2008-09: #2 - Appeal against the decision of the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies to deny the student's request that he/she be granted permission to i) substitute Biology 2040 and/or Biology 2041 for a laboratory science course and ii) use a Human Kinetics course in lieu of a non-Human Kinetics course on the Bachelor of Physical Education degree program.

ECS 2008-09: #3 - Appeal against the decision of the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, with respect to an allegation of academic misconduct brought against the student. The Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies determined that the student was guilty of cheating in the final examination in Music 2011, a course for which the student was registered during the Winter Semester 2008.

25. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.