

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND
SENATE

The regular meeting of Senate was held on October 11, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. in the Lecture Theatre in the Physical Education Building, Room 2001.

14. PRESENT

The President, Dr. N. Golfman, Dr. R. Shea (for Mr. G. Blackwood), Dr. C. Reynolds, Dr. M. Abrahams, Dr. K. Anderson, Dr. L. Bishop, Dr. H. Carnahan, Ms. S. Cleye, Dr. A. Gaudine, Dr. G. Naterer, Dr. L. Phillips, Mr. R. Wells (for Ms. B. Simmons), Ms. S. Singleton, Dr. M. Steele, Dr. A. Surprenant, Dr. I. Sutherland, Dr. W. Zerbe, Dr. S. Abhyankar, Ms. L. Alcock, Mr. P. Brett, Dr. S. Carr, Dr. J. Connor, Mr. C. Couturier, Dr. A. Fiech, Professor A. Fisher, Dr. D. Ford, Dr. D. Foster, Dr. T. Fridgen, Dr. G. George, Dr. J. Lokash, Dr. A. Loucks-Atkinson, Dr. D. McKay, Dr. S. Mulay, Dr. M. Mulligan, Dr. A.C. Onodenalore, Dr. K. Parsons, Dr. C. Purchase, Dr. R. Russell, Dr. C. Schiller, Dr. K. Simonsen, Dr. C. Thorpe, Dr. C. Vardy, Professor D. Walsh, Mr. E. Hussein, Mr. M. Ismail, Mr. K. Oluwadairo, Mr. M. Allen, Ms. B. Byrnes, Ms. S. Descalzi, Mr. M. O'Keefe.

Chair of the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies
(Standing Invitation)

Dr. Shannon Sullivan

Attending by Invitation for discussion of the Budget Planning
under Item #7 Remarks from the Chair

Mr. Kent Decker, Vice-President (Administration & Finance)

Attending by Invitation for discussion of Item 5. Academic Unit
Planning Committee Procedures for the St. John's Campus and
Marine Institute:

Dr. Linda Rohr, Vice-Chair of the Academic Unit Planning Committee
Mr. Paul Chancey, Centre for Institutional Analysis and Planning

Welcome New Dean of Medicine

Dr. Margaret Steele (effective August 15, 2016)

The President acknowledged the passing of Dr. Richard Marceau, Vice-President (Research), two weeks ago. Dr. Bluehardt and Mr. Blackwood attended the funeral in Ontario last Wednesday. Dr. Golfman and the President will be holding a memorial at a later date where members from Memorial and the community can attend.

15. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Mr. C. Callahan, Dr. M. Haghiri, Dr. A. Rose.

16. MINUTES

It was moved by Dr. George, seconded by Dr. Carr, and carried that the Minutes of the regular meeting held on September 13, 2016 be taken as read and confirmed.

CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Dr. Surprenant, seconded by Professor Walsh, and carried that the consent agenda, comprising the items listed in 17 to 18 below, be approved as follows:

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

17.1 School of Graduate Studies – Calendar Revisions

Page 576, 2016-2017 Calendar, under the heading 4.8 Comprehensive Examinations, amend section to read as follows:

“4.8 Comprehensive Examinations

4.8.1 Master's Comprehensive Examination

1. The composition of the Comprehensive Examination Committee is specified in the Degree and Departmental regulations, and the Committee is appointed by the Dean. The Dean of Graduate Studies or delegate may exercise the right to attend. All members of the Committee including the Chairperson, but excluding the Dean of Graduate Studies, shall be voting members.

2. In this examination the candidates must demonstrate an advanced knowledge of the academic discipline as defined by the academic unit in which they are students. Therefore, in order to be eligible to sit the examination, all course requirements must normally be completed.

3. In cases where there are multiple parts to a comprehensive exam, including written and oral parts, a candidate must satisfy all parts of the examination to obtain a pass. The requirements to advance to a later part of the examination are specified in the Degree and Departmental regulations or by the appropriate academic unit.

School of Graduate Studies – Calendar Revisions (cont'd)

4. Members of the Comprehensive Examination Committee shall decide the results of the comprehensive examination as indicated in a.-d. below:

a. The category of 'pass with distinction' will be awarded to candidates who demonstrate superior knowledge of their chosen field. This category requires unanimous support of the Comprehensive Examination Committee.

b. The category of 'pass' will be awarded to candidates who demonstrate an acceptable knowledge of their chosen area and requires a simple majority vote.

c. The category of 're-examination' selects those candidates with an understanding of their research area that lacks sufficient depth and scope as indicated by a simple majority of the Comprehensive Examination Committee. Only one such re-examination is possible and students in this category are not eligible for the award of 'pass with distinction'. If a re-examination is to be held, it must be conducted not less than one month and not more than six months after the first examination. The decision of the voting members of the Committee following this re-examination can only be 'pass' or 'fail' decided by simple majority. Failure will lead to immediate termination of the candidate's program. There is no option for further re-examination.

d. Students awarded a 'fail' are deemed, by unanimous vote of the Comprehensive Examination Committee, to be unable to demonstrate an adequate understanding of their research area. The candidate's program is terminated. A simple majority vote will default to the award of 're-examination'.

5. The Chairperson of the Comprehensive Examination Committee shall report to the Head of the academic unit who shall report to the Dean. The result of the comprehensive examination(s) shall be reported to the candidate by the Dean.

4.8.2 Ph.D. and Psy.D. Comprehensive Examination

1. The candidate shall submit to a comprehensive examination, which may be written or oral or both as determined by the academic unit. Candidates shall normally take the examination no later than the end of the seventh semester in the doctoral program. Unless an extension is approved by the Dean of Graduate Studies, failure to take the examination at this time will result in the termination of the candidate's program.

School of Graduate Studies – Calendar Revisions (cont'd)

2. This examination, whether written or oral, shall be conducted by a Committee appointed by the Dean of Graduate Studies on the recommendation of the academic unit. It shall consist of the Head of the academic unit (or delegate) who shall be the Chairperson, the candidate's Supervisor [or, where a Supervisor has not yet been appointed, the Graduate Officer or Chair of the Graduate Studies (or equivalent) Committee], the Dean of Graduate Studies (or delegate), and at least three other members, the total voting members to be an odd number. All members of the Committee including the Chairperson, but excluding the Dean of Graduate Studies, shall be voting members.

3. In this examination, the candidate must demonstrate a mastery of those sub-disciplines appropriate to his/her research area, as defined by the academic unit in which he or she is a student. Therefore, in order to be eligible to sit the examination, all course requirements must normally be completed. These sub-disciplines upon which the candidate will be examined should be made known to the candidate no later than three months prior to the examination. The candidate must further be able to relate the specialization of his/her research to the larger context of these sub-disciplines.

4. In cases where there are multiple parts to a comprehensive exam, including written and oral parts, a candidate must satisfy all parts of the examination to obtain a pass. The requirements to advance to a later part of the examination are specified in the Degree and Departmental regulations or by the appropriate academic unit.

5. Members of the Comprehensive Examination Committee shall decide the results of the comprehensive examination as indicated in a.-d. below:

a. The category of 'pass with distinction' will be awarded to candidates who demonstrate superior knowledge of their chosen field. This category requires unanimous support of the Comprehensive Examination Committee.

b. The category of 'pass' will be awarded to candidates who demonstrate an acceptable knowledge of their chosen area and requires a simple majority vote.

c. The category of 're-examination' selects those candidates with an understanding of their research area that lacks sufficient depth and scope as indicated by a simple majority of the Comprehensive Examination Committee. Only one such re-examination is possible and students in this category are not eligible for the award of 'pass with distinction'. If a re-examination is to be held, it must be conducted not

School of Graduate Studies – Calendar Revisions (cont'd)

less than one month and not more than six months after the first examination. The decision of the voting members of the Committee following this re-examination can only be 'pass' or 'fail' decided by simple majority. Failure will lead to immediate termination of the candidate's program. There is no option for further re-examination.

d. Students awarded a 'fail' are deemed, by unanimous vote of the Comprehensive Examination Committee, to be unable to demonstrate an adequate understanding of their research area. The candidate's program is terminated. A simple majority vote will default to the award of 're-examination'.

6. The Chairperson of the Comprehensive Examination Committee shall report to the Head of the academic unit who shall report to the Dean. The result of the comprehensive examination(s) shall be reported to the candidate by the Dean."

18. REPORTS OF SENATE COMMITTEES

Written reports were received for the information of Senators from the following Senate Committees:

- Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies
- Grenfell Campus Committee on Special Admissions
- Senate Committee on Scholarships, Bursaries and Awards
- Committee on Honorary Degrees and Ceremonial
- Executive Committee of Senate
- Senate Committee on Elections and Committees
- Senate Committee on Academic Appeals
- University Committee on Admissions
- Senate Committee on Course Evaluation

The following nomination to Senate Standing Committees was approved:

Committee on Undergraduate Studies	Member until September
Katherine Gallagher	2019

The following Memorial University Students' Union nominations for student representation on Senate Standing Committees, effective immediately and lasting until April 30, 2017, were approved:

Committee on Undergraduate Studies	Philip Hillier Hillary Bellows
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Reports of Senate Committeess (cont'd)

Committee on Academic Appeals	Lindsay Batt Brittany Lennox Renata Lang Brittany Byrnes Hillary Bellows
Executive Committee of Senate	Hillary Bellows
Committee on Research	Lindsay Batt
Committee on Undergraduate Scholarships, Bursaries and Awards	Hillary Bellows
University Planning and Budget Committee	Lindsay Batt
University Committee on Admissions	Brittany Lennox
Committee on Elections and Committees	Brittany Lennox

REGULAR AGENDA

19. Proposal to Establish a Centre for Social Enterprise

A proposal dated May 26, 2016, was received from Dr. Donna Hardy-Cox, Dean, School of Social Work, and Dr. Wilfred Zerbe, Dean, Faculty of Business Administration, regarding the proposed Centre for Social Enterprise.

The President invited Dr. Wilfred Zerbe, Dean, Faculty of Business Administration, to present this item.

The Centre for Social Enterprise is a new University-wide initiative with a mandate to generate knowledge about social entrepreneurship, particularly in the Newfoundland and Labrador context, support teaching and learning and serve as a catalyst to strengthen social enterprises and social entrepreneurship. The Centre for Social Enterprise is being proposed by the Faculty of Business Administration and the School of Social Work. It will be a platform to support creative linkages between academic disciplines to nurture innovation in social entrepreneurship.

It was moved by Dr. Zerbe, seconded by Professor Fisher, and carried that this proposal be approved for recommendation to the Board of Regents for final approval.

20. Academic Unit Planning Committee Procedures for the St. John's Campus and Marine Institute

The President welcomed Dr. Linda Rohr, Vice-Chair of the Academic Unit Planning Committee, and Mr. Paul Chancey, Centre for Institutional Analysis and Planning.

Academic Unit Planning Committee Procedures for the St. John's
Campus and Marine Institute (cont'd)

Dr. Rohr thanked Senate for the invitation and gave a brief summary of the changes to the procedures. The Academic Unit Planning Committee (AUPC) of Senate has revised the exiting AUP Procedures (Interim) February 2015 document which guides the Academic Unit Planning process at Memorial.

Significant revisions have been made to the overall procedures in order to promote a more forward-looking planning process focused on future directions as opposed to an assessment of current operations and performance.

The key changes include:

- Overall adjustments to the guidelines and timelines to better reflect the current AUP process;
- The addition of guidelines specific to aligning accreditation with the AUP process;
- Increased emphasis on student engagement throughout the AUP process;
- The additional requirement of a 3-year progress report in order to encourage more long term focus on AUP;
- The addition of a statement indicating the public and online posting of AUP documents; and
- Significant revisions to the proposed templates for the (1) Self Study Document, (2) Panel Report and (3) Action Plan to improve areas of assessment and to increase consistency among documents.

Separate procedures have been developed for the St. John's campus and the Marine Institute, given the different academic and administration structures. In the coming year, procedures will also be developed specifically for Grenfell Campus to reflect the campus' new administrative structure.

The AUPC has consulted with the Provost and Deans regarding the St. John's campus procedures and with the Marine Institute's Academic Council regarding the process specific to the Marine Institute campus.

It was moved by Dr. Surprenant and seconded by Dr. Simonsen to accept the new procedures.

The floor was opened up for questions and comments which included:

- With regards to the Faculty of Medicine, undergraduate and post-graduate accreditation should not be part of the review

Academic Unit Planning Committee Procedures for the St. John's
Campus and Marine Institute (cont'd)

- Mr. Chancey noted that accreditation should not be a substitute for academic review
- Senate retains the right to do reviews
- Can this be implemented at the unit level ie. Programs in Medicine are delivered by faculty
 - Number of units are accredited externally
 - They do look at both department and faculty levels
- Program vs unit – will every unit be evaluated regardless of size
- There is value in academic reviews
- “Unit” not well defined in document
- Do not understand what the implications of the review are
- External accreditation review in Engineering
 - academic review timing to align with accreditation
 - consider materials prepared for accreditation
- Would there be any damage to delay for a month for further consultation
 - all deans and Provost's office were consulted with minimal feedback and all feedback was incorporated.
 - this was circulated over the summer

It was moved by Dr. McKay, seconded by Dr. Mulay, and carried to table these procedures pending further consultation.

21. Memorial University of Newfoundland Students' Union - Request for
Academic Amnesty

An email dated September 23, 2016 was received from Ms. Brittany Lennox, Executive Director of External Affairs, Communications & Research, Memorial University of Newfoundland Students' Union, noting that on Wednesday, November 2, 2016, students across the country will be participating in a National Day of Action on Post-Secondary Education, organized through the Canadian Federation of Students.

The key themes for the Day of Action are:

Universal Access. Regardless of where you are born, how old you are or the background you come from, everyone should be able to access higher education and skills training without the barrier of cost or the fear of incurring debt.

Education Justice. Students who are being pushed out of the current model of colleges and universities today are disproportionately indigenous, racialized, queer and trans, people with disabilities, people raised in single-parent homes and people from low-income families.

Memorial University of Newfoundland Students' Union - Request for Academic Amnesty (cont'd)

Our public education system must not further marginalize these communities. Education is a pathway to liberation.

Public Education. Public education is a public good that society benefits from as a whole and it must be funded as such. Post-secondary education in Canada must be by the public, for the public. Colleges and universities must be not-for-profit and not tailored to private interests.

Provincially, students are highlighting the need to reduce and eliminate tuition and student fees in this province; the need to restore the full provincial needs-based grants system; and the need to increase funding to College of the North Atlantic and Memorial University.

These are goals that intrinsically benefit the university and which are widely shared by faculty and staff at this university and elsewhere. They are also consistent with goals and values that have been reflected by this very Senate.

The Memorial University of Newfoundland Students' Union is requesting that students be granted academic amnesty so as to ensure they will not be academically penalized for participating in the November 2 Day of Action. Similar motions for academic amnesty for national and provincial days of action have been endorsed by the Memorial University Senate previously in 2007, 2005, 2004, and 2002 (as well as various points in the 1990s).

In this regard, they are requesting that Senate approve the following motion:

"Whereas the Senate recognizes the importance of the Canadian Federation of Students National Day of Action;

Be It Resolved That the Senate encourage academic units and professors to be flexible in making alternate arrangements, including re-scheduling examinations and the deadlines for submission of assignments, and adopting any other required forms of leniency for students who are absent from classes on November 2, 2016 so that they may freely participate in the Day of Action with no fear of academic repercussions."

It was moved by Ms. Byrnes, seconded by Mr. Allen, and carried that the Senate encourage academic units and professors to be flexible in making alternate arrangements, including re-scheduling examinations and the deadlines for submission of assignments, for students who are

Memorial University of Newfoundland Students' Union - Request for Academic Amnesty (cont'd)

absent from classes on November 2, 2016 so that they may freely participate in the Day of Action with no fear of academic repercussions.

22. Academic Leniency

The President noted that given the current road conditions in the province, resulting from adverse weather conditions, the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies has recommended that self-reported travel difficulties be an acceptable reason for academic units and instructors, on Wednesday, October 12, 2016, to extend academic leniency and flexibility, including but not limited to attendance in classes/laboratories, re-scheduling examinations and the deadlines for submission of assignments for those students who may be impacted by travel to campuses of Memorial University.

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

The President noted that Mr. Kent Decker and Dr. Noreen Golfman will give presentations on the University Budget.

Mr. Decker and Dr. Golfman each gave a slide presentation and responded to questions from Senators.

The President commented on the following:

- Enactus Memorial became the 2016 Enactus World Cup champions
- Grenfell Campus Fall Convocation last week
- Co-hosted the 20th Biannual Inuit Conference
- Support for Battery project
- A Way Forward Participation

Questions/Comments from Senators:

- There should be videoconferencing for Grenfell Campus so all members of Senate can attend. The Grenfell Campus budget has been affected and cannot afford to send all members to St. John's Campus to attend Senate meetings. With today's technology, we need to do all we can to bring all Senators together for meetings.
- The President noted that they have had an estimate done before and will look at it again.

24. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

Sm. Sanghata
SECRETARY