

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND

SENATE

The regular meeting of Senate was held on January 9, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. NDT via Webex.

161. PRESENT

Dr. N. Bose – Chair	Dr. E. Haven	Dr. A. Pike
Dr. J. Lokash – Deputy Chair	Dr. T. Hennessey	Dr. J. Pridham
Mr. E. Ludlow – Chancellor	Dr. J. Hawboldt	Dr. S. Rowe
Mr. M. Alam	Dr. R. Haynes	Mr. H. Pretty
Dr. T. Allen	Dr. N. Hurley	Dr. C. Purchase
Dr. J. Anderson	Dr. P. Issahaku	Mr. S. Sayeedi
Dr. K. Anderson	Dr. K. Jacobsen	Mr. S. Shah
Dr. A. Bittner	Dr. D. Kelly	Dr. K. Shannahan
Dr. P. Brett	Dr. E. Kendall	Dr. S. Shetranjiwalla
Ms. M. Broders	Mr. N. Keough	Dr. K. Simonsen
Dr. K. Bulmer	Dr. C. Kozak	Dr. J. Sinclair
Dr. R. Burry	Dr. K. Laing	Ms. B. Smith
Dr. S. Bugden	Dr. A. Loucks-Atkinson	Dr. M. Stordy
Dr. P. Button	Dr. M. Marshall	Dr. AM. Sullivan
Dr. T. Chapman	Dr. D. McKeen	Mr. P. Sullivan
Mr. J. Chowdhury	Dr. L.A. McKivor	Dr. I. Sutherland
Mr. C. Couturier	Dr. S. Moore	Dr. K. Szego
Dr. A. Cunsolo	Dr. L. Moores	Dr. L. Twells
Dr. O. Dobre	Dr. P. Morrill	Ms. C. Walsh
Dr. P. Dold	Dr. K. Myrick	Dr. A. Warren
Dr. E. Durnford	Dr. S. Neilsen	Mr. R. Waye
Dr. T. Fridgen	Ms. T. Noseworthy	Dr. J. Westcott
Dr. G. George	Dr. P. Osmond-Johnson	Dr. M. Woods
Mr. N Gillingham	Dr. D. Peters	Mr. S. Yadav
Dr. S. Giwa		

PRESENT BY INVITATION

Dr. S. Sullivan, Chair, Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mr. S. Abyaz	Dr. E. Fraser	Dr. K. Hodgkinson
Dr. F. Bambico	Dr. M. Haghiri	Dr. D. Keeping
Ms. H. Bello	Dr. D. Hancock	Dr. D. Mullings
Dr. E. Bezzina	Dr. D. Hardy-Cox	Dr. P. Ride
Dr. T. Brown	Mr. J. Harris	Ms. B. Simmons

WELCOME:

The Chair welcomed all Senators to the first meeting of Senate for 2024. He also welcomed observers from the Labrador Campus (Larry Bauer, Kanani Davis, Amy Hudson, Jodie Lane, Sarah Papple, Alex Sawatzky and Jamie Snook) who assisted in the

development of the Labrador Campus Bachelor of Arctic and Subarctic Interdisciplinary Studies (BASIS) program noted as item #7.1 on the Senate agenda.

162. MOTION TO ADOPT THE AGENDA

RESOLVED: That Senate approve the Agenda for January 9, 2024 meeting of Senate to be adopted as presented.

The motion was moved by Dr. I. Sutherland and seconded by Dr. M. Woods, and carried to adopt the agenda as presented, with no oppositions and no abstentions.

163. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the regular Senate meeting held on December 12, 2023, be approved as circulated.

The motion was moved by Dr. M. Woods and seconded by Dr. I. Sutherland and carried that the minutes from the regular Senate meeting on December 12, 2023, be taken and read as confirmed with some minor amendments, with no oppositions and no abstentions.

CONSENT AGENDA

RESOLVED: That Senate approve the consent agenda as circulated

The motion was moved by Dr. G. George seconded by Dr. P. Brett and carried that the consent agenda be approved as presented. The motion carried with no oppositions and no abstentions.

164. 4.0 **Report of the Committee on Undergraduate Studies:**

4.1 Proposed Calendar Changes – Faculty of Business Administration

The Faculty proposed:

- A new range of special topics courses.
- Amendments to BUSI 3610.

5.0 **Constitution Amendments**

5.1 School of Science and the Environment – Grenfell Campus – Constitution Amendments

165. 6.0 **Report of The Academic Council, School of Graduate Studies**

6.1 School of Ocean Technology – Marine Institute – Calendar Revisions to section 6.2 of the University Calendar

6.2 The School of Music – Calendar revisions to sections 12.11.3, 28.5 and 44.15.3

6.3 The Master of Literary Arts program – Calendar revisions to section 5.6 of the University Calendar, adding a new graduate course ALA 6117 and adding a special topics block (6502 – 6515)

REGULAR AGENDA

The Chair invited Dr. S. Sullivan, Chair of the SCUgS to speak and present this item.

166. **7.0 Report of the Committee on Undergraduate Studies**

7.1 Labrador Campus – Bachelor of Arctic and Subarctic Interdisciplinary Studies (BASIS).

Dr. Sullivan gave a brief outline of the Bachelor of Arctic and Subarctic Interdisciplinary Studies (BASIS) as outlined in the supporting documentation.

The Bachelor of Arctic and Subarctic Interdisciplinary Studies (BASIS) provides students with the opportunity to pursue undergraduate learning in an interdisciplinary program that emphasizes place-based and Indigenous learning, with an emphasis on land-based and experiential learning. This program follows a unique structure, with students learning through two six-week interdisciplinary modules each semester. Student also have 12 credit hours for pursuing student-directed learning options from other Northern institutions, units throughout Memorial University, and professional development opportunities. This program aims to make a strong contribution to understanding and addressing the most pressing needs and priorities of the North, and to train a network of students and learners who will contribute to Northern social, cultural, and economic growth, development, and prosperity. There are two pathways for this program: 1. General Degree of Bachelor of Arctic and Subarctic Interdisciplinary Studies, and 2. Honours Degree of Bachelor of Arctic and Subarctic Interdisciplinary Studies.

Dr. A. Cunsolo, Vice-Provost, Labrador Campus and Dean, School of Arctic and Subarctic Studies, spoke further on this first program fully offered by the Labrador Campus School of Arctic and Subarctic Studies related to the creation of the Bachelor of Arctic and Subarctic Interdisciplinary Studies (BASIS) program. She also thanked all those involved with putting the program together.

Discussions then followed with various Senators concerning the Bachelor of Arctic and Subarctic Interdisciplinary Studies (BASIS).

RESOLVED: That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Regents the introduction of the new Bachelor of Arctic and Subarctic Interdisciplinary Studies (BASIS) offered by the Labrador Campus School of Arctic and Subarctic Studies.

The motion moved by Dr. A. Cunsolo and was seconded by Dr. A. Warren; carried with no members opposed or abstained.

The Chair invited Dr. McKivior to speak and present item #8.0.

167. **8.0 Recommendations of the Senate Committee on Elections, Committees and Bylaws**

8.1 Delegation of Authority – Request from the University Planning and Budget Committee of Senate (PBC) regarding delegating authority from Senate to PBC for the approval of establishing University Centres.

Dr. McKivior provided an explanation of the follow motions noting that they were sequential in nature.

8.2 Amendment to the Senate ByLaws to include a Delegation of Authority Section.

RESOLVED: That the Senate ByLaws be amended to include the following: The Senate may, from time to time, delegate authority to and seek recommendations of the various standing committees. Standing committees may not sub-delegate their authority in any manner without Senate approval. Senate reserves the right to rescind delegation of authority.

The motion moved by Dr. M. Woods and was seconded by Ms. M. Broders. This motion was carried and passed, four members abstained and one member opposed.

Discussions where held amongst Senators concerning the process which the Planning and Budget Committee follows for the establishment of University Centres.

8.3 A Request for Senate to Delegate Authority to PBC in Relation to the Approval of University Centres.

RESOLVED: That the Senate delegate authority to the University Planning and Budget Committee of Senate (PBC) to provide approval, on behalf of Senate item #8.3, for the establishment of University Centres.

The motion moved by Dr. M. Woods and was seconded by Dr. I. Sutherland. . This motion was carried and passed, seven members abstained and no members opposed.

8.4 A Change to the PBC Terms of Reference to Reflect the Requested Delegation of Approval.

RESOLVED: That the Senate approve the amendments to the University Planning and Budget Committee of Senate (PBC) Terms of Reference item #8.4 to reflect a delegation of authority for PBC to approve, on behalf of Senate, proposals to establish University Centres.

The motion moved by Dr. M. Woods and was seconded by Dr. A. Warren. This motion was carried and passed, eight members abstained and no members opposed.

8.5 Nomination to Senate:

- Dr. Bonnie White (School of Arts & Social Science, Grenfell Campus)
- Dr. J. Gerard Curtis (Visual Arts, School of Fine Arts)

RESOLVED: That the Senate approve the new Senate member appointments (Dr. Bonnie White and Dr. J. Gerard Curtis) as recommended from the Senate Committee on Elections, Committees and Bylaws as presented in item #8.5

The motion moved by Dr. K. Jacobsen and was seconded by Dr. P. Brett; carried with no members opposed or abstained.

8.6 Nomination to Senate Standing Committee:

- Dr. Erin Oldford (Business Administration) to the Senate Committee on Academic Appeals for the 3 year term – Fall 2023 to August 2026.

RESOLVED: That the Senate approve the new Senate Standing Committee member appointment (Dr. Erin Oldford) as recommended from the Senate Committee on Elections, Committees and Bylaws as presented in item #8.6.

The motion moved by Dr. A. Warren and was seconded by Dr. K. Laing; carried with no members opposed or abstained.

8.7 Marine Institute Students' Union (MISU) – Student Representation for Senate and Senate Standing Committees

- Senate – Ms. Carina Korchoski
- Committee on Academic Appeals – Ms. Daisy Archibald
- University Planning and Budget Committee – Ms. Daisy Archibald
- Executive Committee of Senate – Ms. Carina Korchoski
- Teaching and Learning Committee – Mr. Aiden Parsons
- Committee on Academic Unit Planning – Mr. Aiden Parsons

8.8 Memorial University of Newfoundland Students' Union (MUNSU) – Student Representation for Senate Standing Committees.

- Committee on Academic Appeals – Thoriere “Thor” Rice (they/them) and Kat McLaughlin

Senate received background information and approved the appointments for Items #8.7 and #8.8.

The Chair noted that Dr. Lokash would excuse herself from the meeting regarding Senate's discussion of item #9.1

168. 9.0 **Recommendation of the Senate Committee on Honorary Degrees and Ceremonial**

9.1 Appointment (Renewal) of Public Orator – Dr. Jennifer Lokash

The Chair spoke on behalf of his role as Chair of the Senate Honorary Degrees and Ceremonial Committee. He noted that in accordance with the process outlined for the renewed appointment of the Public Orator, Dr. Lokash was consulted, and had expressed her willingness to be considered for another 5 (five)-year term as Public Orator.

RESOLVED: That the Senate approve the Public Orator re-appointment for Dr. Jennifer Lokash as recommended from the Senate Committee on Honorary Degrees and Ceremonial as presented.

The motion was moved by Dr. A.M. Sullivan and seconded by Dr. P. Sullivan; carried with no members opposed or abstained.

The Chair invited Dr. McKivior to have Dr. Lokash rejoin the meeting and then invited Dr. McKivior to speak and present item #10.0.

169. 10.0 **Ad-hoc Committee Regarding “Ode to Newfoundland” (Ode) during the Convocation Ceremonies – Student Nominations**

10.1 Student Nominations

- Makaela Blake, Indigenous Student
- Charles Adaeze Stella, International Student
- Shyam Yadav, Graduate Student
- Mackenzie Broders, Undergraduate Student

Dr. McKivior advised that the Senate Committee on Elections, Committees, and Bylaws requested the four Students’ Unions of Memorial (Memorial University of Newfoundland Students’ Union (MUNSU), the Graduate Students’ Union (GSU), the Marine Institute Students’ Union (MISU) and the Grenfell Campus Students’ Union (GCSU), to recommend four student nominations representing four constituencies: undergraduate students, graduate students, indigenous students and international students, to the ad-hoc Committee regarding “Ode to Newfoundland” during Memorial’s Convocation Ceremonies. She noted that this was in line with the information shared with Senate at the December 12, 2023, meeting. Additionally, ad-hoc committee members have been invited to informal meet-and-greet and introduction meetings. If approved, the student representatives will be invited to an additional offering of this opportunity.

RESOLVED: That the Senate approve the student nominations included in Item #10.1.of the Senate agenda package for ad-hoc committee forming to investigate and recommend to Senate the inclusion of the provincial anthem “Ode” in the Memorial’s convocation ceremonies.

The motion was moved by Ms. M. Broders and seconded by Dr. K. Szego; the motion was carried. No members opposed or abstained.

170. 11. **Remarks from the Chair of Senate – Question/Comments from Senators.**

Dr. N. Bose, Chair of Senate and President and Vice-Chancellor, *pro tempore* provided the following updates:

- The search committee for the Provost and Vice President (Academic) is formed and there is a preliminary meeting of committee scheduled for January 19, 2024.
- The posting is live for the position of Chief Information Officer.

- The Vice-President (MI) Search Committee is being formed.
- Cyber security and Grenfell Campus – on December 29, 2023, officials advised there was a cyber security incident at Grenfell Campus.
- There has been an update of the incident posted to Memorial's *Gazette* via *Newsline* on today – as soon as the issue was discovered various security protocols were put into place, an investigation was launched and law enforcement was notified and external cyber security experts were engaged to support the Memorial IT teams involved. The investigation is on-going and currently with law enforcement officials. Grenfell's Winter Semester were delayed and re-started on Monday, January 8, 2024.
- Additionally, Bright space course shells were not affected and an "All Grenfell" Bright space shell was created to support internal communications. Hot spots have been set up in high-traffic areas throughout Grenfell Campus. Dr. Sutherland has been holding daily "coffee break" updates. He thanked everyone for their continued patience and support.

The Chair invited Dr. Sutherland to speak further on the Grenfell Campus Cyber Security update.

- Dr. Sutherland added his thanks to everyone – because of the extraordinary people that work for Memorial – across the entire university coming together as one team – how deeply everyone cares for the University's academic mission and in particular the students. He noted how remarkable the support had been - just a few days ago, there was virtually no IT services and no Wi-Fi. Yet as of yesterday, the library, dining hall, bookstore, and bursary offices are now functioning. ATM debit and credit card payments are working, faculty and instructors were able to connect to computers, iPads, laptops to projectors, etcetera. Dr. Sutherland again thanked all the IT staff (who have been working around the clock), the leadership group at Grenfell and across the University and all faculty, instructors and staff who have pivoted once again to deliver courses this week in ways that would not necessarily have been done under normal IT circumstances.

Discussions then followed with various question/comments from Senators concerning Cyber Security and Memorial Campuses.

- A Senator inquired, once the dust has settled and when there is slightly less sensitivity around confidentiality of this incident, will there be a report made available to members of Senate concerning what happened?
- The Chair advised that information that can flow will flow and what has to remain confidential for sensitive reasons has to remain confidential. There are very complex issues involved that concern various legal and criminal investigations. The Grenfell investigation is on-going, no assessment can be made at this time.

171. 12. **Remarks from the Deputy Chair of Senate – Question/Comments from Senators**

The Chair invited Dr. J. Lokash, Deputy Chair of Senate to speak.

The Deputy Chair of Senate provided an update on a number of items from the Provost and Vice-President (Academic) portfolio, including:

- A call will be going out to Senators shortly for Senate nominations to the President and Vice-Chancellor search committee.
- Following the December 9, 2023, Senate meeting whereby the Chair of the Board of Regents joined - there are now 4 student positions based on the revised membership structure there are four students to be chosen by them from each of the respective unions as follows: Memorial University of Newfoundland Students' Union (MUNSU); Marine Institute Students' Union (MISU); Graduate Students' Union (GSU); and Grenfell Campus Students' Union (GCSU)).
- Active searches within the Provost's portfolio:
 - Dean, School of Music
 - Dean, Faculty of Science
 - Dean, Faculty of Nursing
 - Dean, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science
 - Dean, School of Social Work
 - Dean, Faculty of Business Administration
 - Dean of Medicine – the Search Committee is being formed

172. **Adjournment:**

It was moved by Dr. D Peters and seconded by Mr. N. Keough and carried that the meeting of Senate be adjourned. The meeting adjourned at 5:20 pm.

CHAIR

SECRETARY