



MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY SENATE

MINUTES

Tuesday, May 14, 2024

4:00-6:00 pm – WebEx

PRESENT

Dr. J. Anderson
Dr. K. Anderson
Dr. R. Bailey
Dr. E. Bezzina
Dr. N. Bose, Chair
Dr. P. Brett
Mr. D. Budden
Dr. D. Peters
Dr. S. Bugden
Dr. K. Bulmer
Dr. P. Button
Mr. C. Couturier
Dr. A. Cunsolo
Dr. O. Dobre
Dr. P. Dold
Mr. E. Durnford
Dr. E. Fraser
Mr. S. Ganesan

Dr. G. George
Dr. S. Giwa
Dr. E. Haven
Dr. R. Haynes
Dr. K. Hodgkinson
Dr. P. Issahaku
Dr. K. Jacobsen
Dr. D. Keeping
Dr. D. Kelly
Dr. E. Kendall
Mr. N. Keough
Dr. J. Lokash, Deputy Chair
Mr. E. Ludlow, Chancellor
Dr. M. Marshall
Dr. L. A. McKivior, Secretary
Ms. B. Meaney
Dr. K. Myrick
Dr. L. Moore

Ms. T. Noseworthy
Dr. P. Osmond-Johnson
Dr. A. Pike
Ms. H. Pretty
Dr. P. Ride
Ms. S. Rowe
Dr. K. Shannahan
Dr. J. Sinclair
Dr. M. Stordy
Dr. A.M. Sullivan
Dr. K. Szego
Dr. L. Twells
Ms. C. Walsh
Dr. A. Warren
Dr. J. Westcott
Dr. M. Woods
Mx. A. Zedel

REGRETS

Dr. L. Moores

Dr. C. Purchase

Dr. K. Simonsen

ABSENT

Mr. M. Alam
Dr. F. Bambico
Dr. A. Bittner
Dr. R. Burry
Dr. T. Brown
Dr. T. Chapman
Dr. T. Fridgen
Dr. D. Hancock

Dr. T. Hennessey
Dr. N. Hurley
Dr. C. Kozak
Dr. K. Laing
Dr. A. Loucks-Atkinson
Dr. S. MacDonald
Dr. S. Moore
Dr. P. Morrill

Dr. D. Mullings
Dr. S. Nielsen
Dr. J. Pridham
Ms. V. Quao
Ms. B. Smith
Mr. P. Sullivan
Mr. S. Shah
Dr. S. Shetranjiwalla

OBSERVERS

Dr. Tana Allen
Dr. Catharyn Andersen
Dr. Patricia Beh
Dr. Lisa Browne
Ms. Margot Brown

Dr. Ailsa Craig
Dr. Paula Dyke
Dr. Virginia Fugarino
Dr. John Hawboldt
Mr. Chad Pelley

Dr. Leslie Redmond
Dr. Shannon Sullivan
Ms. Martha Wells
Ms. Meghan Whelan

RECORDING

Ms. M. Broders

Mr. B. Hammond

N. Bose delivered the land acknowledgement and called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

N. Bose thanked Senators for their participation in the April 9, 2024 hybrid meeting. He made note of the importance of ensuring that the ability to experience and participate in the business of Senate is equal across Memorial's campuses.

N. Bose further thanked Dr. Robert Bailey, Interim Vice-president (Grenfell Campus), and Dr. Ken Jacobson, Interim Dean, School of Art and Social Science for assuming those positions following the departure of Dr. Ian Sutherland. N. Bose also thanked the outgoing student Senators for 2023-2024, whose terms ended on May 1, and welcomed the incoming student Senators from MUNSU.

Finally, N. Bose acknowledged the recent passing of Dr. Martin Mulligan, a member of the University Community and active member of the Senate Committee on Honorary Degrees and Ceremonial.

1.0 Approval of the Agenda

1.1 Meeting of May 14, 2024

A draft agenda was circulated to Senators on May 7, 2024.

MOTION G. George / E. Bezzina

RESOLVED that the agenda be approved as circulated.

No discussion.

CARRIED

2.0 Approval of the Minutes

2.1 Meeting of April 9, 2024.

A draft of the minutes for the meeting of April 9, 2024, was circulated on May 7, 2024. N. Bose thanked those who had already passed along corrections to the Secretary of Senate.

MOTION C. Couturier / M. Woods

RESOLVED that the minutes for the meeting of April 9, 2024 be approved as circulated.

Discussion ensued regarding the scope of the corrections already suggested. L.A. McKivior advised the Senate that the suggested corrections were somewhat substantial in scope. Several Senators made further suggestions regarding the scope and language of the minutes.

MOTION to WITHDRAW C. Couturier / M. Woods
RESOLVED that the motion be withdrawn.

No discussion.

CARRIED

WITHDRAWN

L.A. McKivior advised that the minutes of the April 9, 2024 meeting would be revised and included in the agenda for the next regular meeting of Senate.

3.0 Consent Agenda

3.1 Report of the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies

S. Sullivan, Chair, Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, presented the report of the Committee. The report includes recommendations regarding the following proposals (summarized):

Faculty of Business Administration

- Changes to prerequisite structure for BUSI 4545
- Changes to course titles for BUSI 3550 and BUSI 4550
- Changes to the course description of BUSI 4550 to reflect that it is not an extension of BUSI 3550.
- Changes to course description for BUSI 4560 International Finance to reflect the content that is required for a course in international finance.
- Deletion of BUSI 5530 Public Finance Proposed Calendar Changes

Faculty of Education

- Changes to ED 5000 (Teacher Development Seminar) to split a three (3) credit hour course that is completed over three consecutive semesters in the Bachelor of Education (Intermediate/Secondary) and Bachelor of Education (Intermediate/Secondary) Conjoint with the Diploma in Technology Education programs into three one credit-hour courses (ED 5103/5104/5105).
- Changes to ED 5001 (Teacher Development Seminar for Primary/Elementary) to split a three (3) credit hour course that is completed over three semesters in the Bachelor of Education (Primary/Elementary) as a First Degree and Bachelor of Education (Primary/Elementary) as a Second Degree into three one-credit hour courses (ED 5100/5101/5102)

The Committee recommends the adoption of all proposed changes.

MOTION P. Osmond-Johnson / P. Brett
RESOLVED that Senate approve the Consent Agenda as circulated.

No discussion.

CARRIED

4.0 Regular Agenda

4.1 Update on Speaker and Deputy Speaker of Senate

N. Bose informed Senators that the nominations for the election to the positions of Speaker and Deputy Speaker of Senate have now closed, and that information regarding voting in that election will be circulated following an upcoming meeting of the Senate Committee on Elections, Committees, and Bylaws.

4.2 Presentation from Co-Chairs of the Senate Committee on Academic Appeals (“SCAA”)

In keeping with continuing efforts to hear from the Chairs of the Standing Committees of Senate regarding the operations of their Committees, N. Bose invited Drs. L. Redmond and K. Hodgkinson, Co-Chairs of SCAA, to address the Senate.

The Co-Chairs outlined that the purpose of SCAA is to act as the final level of appeal within the University. The Committee hears appeals of all kinds and have recently noticed an increase in the number of appeals submitted. The Co-Chairs provided an overview of the types of appeals most commonly heard by the Committee and briefly discussed the process by which appeals are considered.

Following the conclusion of the presentation, N. Bose invited Senators to ask questions about the presentation.

M. Woods asked whether SCAA has the ability to advise as to institutional policy.

L. Redmond explained that the Committee or a given Panel thereof may issue communication to various University offices when concerns are identified in the course of the assessment of an appeal. This may include observations about consistently problematic regulations, or advice regarding the future handling of particular kinds of case. However, SCAA does not normally make recommendations regarding academic regulations, and cannot ensure that its recommendations are taken up.

Senators agreed that, in light of the fact that SCAA oversees many kinds of appeals, it may be beneficial for the Committee to report more regularly to Senate. L. Redmond agreed and it was noted that the office of the Secretary of Senate is able to assist with the transmission of recommendations from the Committee to Senate.

N. Bose thanked Drs. Redmond and Hodgkinson for their presentation.

5.0 Remarks from the Chair

5.1 Remarks from N. Bose, President and Chair of Senate

At the session of Convocation to be held on May 29, 2024, an Honorary Doctorate will be presented to Mr. Boyd Cohen. As Mr. Cohen's health is deteriorating and it is likely that he will be unable to travel from his home in Grand Falls to accept the Honorary Doctorate, N. Bose and E. Ludlow, Chancellor, visited Mr. Cohen in-person to present him the award in a small ceremony.

N. Bose is currently in Corner Brook, first for a meeting of the Board of Regents, followed by the Spring Convocation at the Grenfell Campus.

The Provost Search Committee will be meeting in the near future following multiple consultation sessions. The feedback gathered from the consultations has been compiled for members of the Committee, who will work on the creation of an advertisement for release as soon as possible.

Questions for the Chair:

Martha Wells, a delegate sent to Senate by the Lecturers' Union of Memorial University of Newfoundland ("LUMUN") inquired about progress on updates to the Senate bylaws to allow for non-tenured/permanent members of the academic staff in the membership of Senate.

L.A. McKivior made note that with the finalization of the positions of Speaker and Deputy Speaker, the inclusion of non-tenured/permanent members of the academic staff at Senate is a top priority for the Senate office and is being explored actively. Implementation of new membership guidelines is expected for September 2024.

C. Couturier inquired as to whether it would be practicable to hold a meeting of the Senate during the summer to approve changes to the membership prior to September 2024.

N. Bose agreed that this would be desirable if possible.

6.0 Remarks from the Deputy Chair

6.1 Remarks from J. Lokash, Associate Vice-president (Academic) and Deputy Chair of Senate

J. Lokash, due to a poor internet connection, provided the following remarks in writing via the WebEx chat function:

“I am happy to report that the decanal searches are going well, and I hope to make an announcement about the Dean of the Faculty of Business Administration by the end of this week. We are currently interviewing the longlist for the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science. The other searches are moving along, and I am very grateful to all faculty, students, and administrators who are serving on search committees. I congratulate all of you on a successful Winter 2024 semester, and I wish you well for a productive and restful summer.”

No questions or comments were raised regarding the remarks of the Deputy Chair.

7.0 Other Business

7.1 Communication regarding genocide in Gaza

N. Keough noted that MUNSU is disappointed that they have received no communication from the University regarding requests for support for Palestinian students, as well as regarding the University’s willingness to disclose investments and general ties to the State of Israel.

N. Bose informed Senate that a communication had been prepared to be sent to MUNSU but seems to not have been received, and that he will verify that that communication was properly issued. He noted that a public statement would be released shortly.

7.2 Notice of Motion: Academic Amnesty

A. Zedel provided notice to the Senate that at the regular meeting of Senate in September 2024, MUNSU will be presenting a motion for academic amnesty in respect of a protest scheduled for early October.

N. Bose advised that a written motion should be received by the Senate office to ensure that it is able to be duly considered by the Senate.

As there was no further business raised, N. Bose announced that, due to the discussion of confidential material issued by the Senate Committee on Honorary Degrees and Ceremonial, the Senate would be moving into a Closed Session.

Non-Senators were asked to leave the meeting, and the Secretary of Senate confirmed that those remaining were all Senators.

8.0 Report of the Senate Committee on Honorary Degrees and Ceremonial

8.1 Recommendations for awarding of Honorary Degrees

Two (2) recommendations were received from the Senate Committee on Honorary Degrees

and Ceremonial regarding the awarding of Honorary Degrees. Senators were given the opportunity to discuss the merits of each candidate prior to voting. Two (2) motions were made, seconded, and ultimately carried, resulting in both candidates being confirmed for receipt of Honorary Degrees.

ADDENDUM

Following a review of votes cast using the online WebEx polling tool and the Senate bylaws, it was determined by the Senate office that one of two motions had been tallied incorrectly, and that the result was therefore improperly called. Therefore, one candidate was confirmed for receipt of an Honorary Degree, while one was not confirmed. Senators were informed of this error and the according correction by the Secretary of Senate on May 24, 2024.

Having disposed of the business reserved for the Closed Session, N. Bose announced that the Closed Session was now over.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:12 pm.