

**MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND**  
**Academic Council of the School of Graduate Studies**  
**Minutes, Meeting of January 16, 2023**

PRESENT: A. Warren (Chair), M. Burchell, E. Pittman, J. Leibel, A. Lang, A. Dorward, B. Chen, R. Williams, R. Shanahan, A. Cunsolo, F. Polack, J. Shea, K. Parsons, V. Kavanagh, C. Walsh, C. Manful, R. Joy, C. Badenhorst, A. Variyath, G. Wideman, H. Liu, A. Kim, E. Simms, S. Burman

APOLOGIES: J. Evermann, C. Bottaro and J. Rodway

1. MINUTES

It was moved by A. Warren, and seconded by J. Leibel, that the minutes of the meeting held December 19, 2022 via email be approved as circulated. The motion  
CARRIED

2. BUSINESS ARISING

3. CORRESPONDENCE

4. DEAN'S REPORT/REPORT OF SENATE

All items passed at the last meeting of Senate - January 10, 2023.

A. Warren noted that there was a discussion regarding the Ode of Newfoundland being removed from fall convocation. This item is now being referred to an existing committee to examine the matter further.

A. Warren acknowledged that MUNFA will be holding a strike vote on Wednesday January 18, 2023. If MUNFA gets a strike mandate they will be in legal position to strike by January 23<sup>rd</sup>. She noted that SGS will continue to support students and keep Academic Council updated on any matters related to graduate students and potential job action.

5. REPORT OF THE GRADUATE STUDENTS' UNION

This month the GSU Academic is working with Grammarly team regarding payment. They are also preparing for the Aldrich Conference and the Volunteer Appreciation Event. Campus life is working on Winter Orientation for January 26, 2023. They are also working on recognition of two new societies. GSU External are hoping that Bitters will be open in June.

6. a) Academic Council Executive
  - i. Graduate Diploma in Post-Secondary Education (Student Affairs and Services)

The Faculty of Education are requesting approval of the proposed new Graduate Diploma in Post-Secondary Education (Student Affairs and Services). Included for review is the review committee report, proponent's response and proposal. It was moved by E. Pittman and seconded by R. Joy, that the proposed new Graduate Diploma in Post-Secondary Education (Student Affairs and Services) be approved. The motion (one abstention)

CARRIED

- ii. Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Calendar Revisions
  - a. The Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences are requesting approval of revisions to sections:
    - i. 11.5.1, 43.1.1 of the University Calendar. This is a general clean up and updating of the program descriptions for the MA and PhD program in Anthropology. It was moved by E. Pittman and seconded by J. Leibel that the the proposed revision be approved. The motion (one abstention)

CARRIED

- ii. 11.12 of the University Calendar. The proposed course title change to FOLK 6060 more accurately describes the course content as taught by the course professor. It was moved by E. Pittman and seconded by C. Walsh that the proposed revision be approved. The motion (one abstention)

CARRIED

- iii. 17 of the University Calendar. The MER program is changing the Calendar language to better reflect the substantial content of the program (36 credit hours); more accurately describe the reality of student experience in the program; reduce potential confusion for prospective and admitted students; align with similarly structured programs at Memorial; and benefit international students by enabling them to acquire longer PGWP and have better post-graduate outcomes and attachment to the Province's labor market. It was moved by E. Pittman and seconded

by A. Dorward that the proposed revision be approved. The motion (one abstention)

CARRIED

- iv. 29.8 of the University Calendar. The faculty of Humanities is requesting approval of revisions to clarify the program process and streamline the calendar entry for coherence; section 29.8.3(1) which increases the program course-load by six credit hours, with a research project (rather than a thesis); section 29.8.3(3) which changes and updates the description of the program Journal to a research project; and 29.8.5 which revises the titles of the courses to better embrace the contributed teaching expertise of Advisory Committee members. It was moved by E. Pittman and seconded by M. Burchell that the proposed revision be approved. The motion (one abstention)

CARRIED

- v. 11.19 of the University Calendar. The proposed changes include adding additional calendar language in section 11.19.1.1 to encourage thesis students to consult with their supervisors about course selection from the outset of enrolling in the program as well as to propose some new political science courses and modifying some existing courses to reflect current teaching expertise and priorities; align the undergraduate and graduate course numbering (where the second digit denotes a subfield); and to create graduate courses that can be “piggybacked” with undergraduate courses in order to increase the availability of our upper level course offerings. It was moved by E. Pittman and seconded by R. Williams that the proposed revision be approved. The motion (one abstention)

CARRIED

- vi. 11.21 of the University Calendar. SOCI 6620 has been taught for three years. The department of Sociology is requesting approval of a new course SOCI 6180 and deletion of existing SOCI 6620. It was moved by E. Pittman and seconded by J. Leibel, that the proposed revision be approved. The motion (one abstention)

CARRIED

iii. Master of Accounting Calendar Revisions

The Master of Accounting program are requesting approval of revisions to section 5 of the University Calendar. The Faculty of Business Administration are requesting the removal from the Calendar all regulations pertaining to the Degree of Master of

Accounting due to lack of interest in this program. It was moved by E. Pittman and seconded by R. Shannahan, that the proposed revision be approved. The motion (one abstention)

CARRIED

iv. Master of Marine Studies Calendar Revisions

2. The Master of Marine Studies (Marine Spatial Planning and Management) program at the Marine Institute Campus is requesting approval of revisions to section 25.3 of the University Calendar. The School of Fisheries are requesting to add a proposed third option – 36- credit hour course route- to their program of study to attract potential students who work full-time in related fields and international students. It was moved by E. Pittman and seconded by C. Walsh, that the proposed revision be approved. The motion (one abstention)

CARRIED

v. Faculty of Medicine Calendar Revisions

3. The Faculty of Medicine are requesting approval of revisions to section 38 of the University Calendar. The Faculty of Medicine are requesting to revise the title of program area for Cancer & Development to now read Bioscience of Health and Disease with respective calendar description updates for the program (MSc, PhD) and the course offerings. Minor calendar edits are also being proposed to update courses MED6590 and MED6591. It was moved by E. Pittman and seconded by A. Dorward that the proposed revision be approved. The motion (one abstention)

CARRIED

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

A. Warren reiterated that SGS would keep council members informed as much as possible in relation to any graduate student issues that need attention in the event of job action by MUNFA members.

A member noted that the February Academic Council meeting is scheduled during winter break. A. Warren noted that a new meeting request will be sent out to members this week.

8. NOTICE OF MOTION

9. ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

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A. Warren, Chair

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Echo Pittman, Secretary