

**MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND**  
**Academic Council of the School of Graduate Studies**  
**Minutes, Meeting of February 13, 2023 via email**

Academic Council (AC) members were asked to review and approve the below academic remedies aimed at mitigating impacts from the strike that occurred from January 30-February 13, 2023. As a result of the strike there were 10 days of instruction that were missed for MUNFA taught courses. Given the need for expedient resolution for students, AC members were asked to e-mail if they agree to endorse these motions (see Appendix A) and if approved Senate executive would be advised that these remedies were endorsed by the SGS AC.

The relevant documentation was reviewed and acknowledgement of the endorsement of the following motions will be forwarded to Senate Executive:

#### Appendix A

##### Notes Regarding Scheduling:

To date, we have had:

- 3 Mondays
- 3 Tuesdays
- 3 Wednesdays
- 4 Thursdays
- 4 Fridays

As of February 15 there remain for paused courses:

- 10 Mondays
- 10 Tuesdays (**classes held Thursday, April 6, 2023 will follow the Tuesday timetable**)•10 Wednesdays•10 Thursdays•10 Fridays

The Winter 2023 semester will now consist of 10 of each of Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday for paused courses/sections and 12 of each Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday for not paused courses/sections.

### **3.8 Termination of Graduate Programs**

General Regulation 4.13 Termination of Graduate Program (all clauses under Regulation 4.13.1) be suspended until June 30, 2023. This will ensure Memorial University is protecting graduate students from academic penalty arising from the disruption of the Winter 2023 semester. The School of Graduate Studies will email all students (along with their academic units) whose programs would normally have been terminated up until June 30, 2023. In those cases, students will be encouraged to consult with their supervisor or graduate officer for academic advice. This is consistent with the suspension of general regulations governing undergraduate

student continuance and re-admission for the Winter 2023 semester as outlined in recommendation 3.2 of this memo. Finally, a notation will be added to the transcript in line with the notation recommended above and used for both the 2000 strike and the COVID-19 pandemic:

Transcript notation:

Academic leniency granted as a result of interruption of instructional activity due to labour action

**Supplementary Motions to the document entitled: "Academic Remedies as a Result of Disruption of Instructional Activities January 20, 2023 – February 13, 2023" for the Meeting of Senate – February 14, 2023**

**Motion:**

Senate recommends that, where possible, instructors modify the remaining course material such that students are not subjected to unreasonable material overload. In subsequent courses for which the disrupted course is a prerequisite, attempts should be made, where possible, to include the necessary material that is dropped from a course this term.

**Motion:**

That Senate approve the principle of placing a notation on the transcript of students whose performance would otherwise have led to academic warning or academic withdrawal and that the wording as outlined below, and endorsed by Senate during the previous labour disruption in October 31, 2000 – November 12, 2000 and during the COVID-19 pandemic be used .

ACADEMIC STATUS: Clear Standing

Academic leniency granted as a result of interruption of instructional activity due to labour action

**Motion:** Senate recommends that General Academic Regulation (Undergraduate) 6.5.7.2 *Dropping of Courses Without Academic Prejudice Changes*, and Graduate Studies General Regulation C4(b), *Changes in Course Registrations* be amended for all students, and students be permitted to drop courses or to withdraw from the university without academic prejudice up to and including the last day of paused lectures in the Winter 2023 semester, April 10, 2023 without required signatures.

**Motion:** Senate recommends that General Academic Regulation (Undergraduate) 6.7.6 *Correction and Return of Student Work*, be amended for those courses/sections where learning was paused. Once instructors have determined appropriate methods of evaluation, given the new condensed teaching timeframe, they should work to provide academic feedback to students as quickly as is appropriate. **Motion:** Senate recommends that General Academic Regulation (Undergraduate) 6.8.1 *Scheduling of Final Examinations*, be amended to ensure that all courses/sections where it is deemed that a final examination is not possible to avoid through the scheduling of an alternate form of assessment, will be subject to the date and time provided by the Office of the Registrar, and may not be within the timeframe of the scheduled class, for example a course offered during the day is scheduled for a daytime examination.

**Motion:** Senate recommends that (Undergraduate) 6.7 Evaluation of Student Work, specifically Regulations 6.7.2 Course Syllabus, 6.7.3 Scheduling Parts of the Evaluation, 6.7.4 Changing the Method of Evaluation, Exemptions from Parts of the Evaluation, and Correction and Return of Student Work, be amended to permit the administration of evaluative devices normally prohibited by that regulation as late as April 3, 2023, for courses that were paused.

With 28 yeas, the motions carried and Senate Executive was advised that these academic remedies were endorsed by both Academic Council Executive and the AC for SGS.