

MOUNT ALLISON UNIVERSITY  
MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

October 11, 2022, 4:00pm  
Windsor Grand Room & Microsoft Teams (hybrid format)

Present: N. Anthonisen, F. Antonelli, K. Bell, A. Beverley, J-P. Boudreau (Chair), S. Chun, B. Clayton, A. Comfort, K. Crosby, J. Dryden, B. Evans, A. Fancy, S. Fanning, D. Fleming, A. Francis, L. Garnett, M. Hamilton, J. Hennessy (Vice-Chair), R. Inglis, C. Ionescu, K. Johnston, E. Jollimore, J. Kalyn, K. Keleher, A. Koval, A. Kreuger, R. Lapp, A. Lepage, M. Levesque, I. Lirette, C. Lovekin, C. MacDougall, C. Major, V. Meli, R. Minocha-McKenney, R. Moser (Secretary), T. Nelson, G. Ouelette, C. Pringle-Carver, B. Robertson, R. Rubin, S. Runge, S. Park, J. Penley, V. St. Pierre, S. Sarkar, J. Tomes, N. Vogan, B. Walters, W. Wilson

Observers: T. Hicks

01.10.11 Territorial Acknowledgement

J-P. Boudreau read the official territorial acknowledgment written by Elders and the Indigenous Advisory Circle as follows:

We would like to acknowledge that we are located within the territory of Mi'kma'ki, the unceded, ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq. Our relationship and our privilege to live on this territory was agreed upon in the Peace and Friendship Treaties of 1752. Because of this treaty relationship it is to be acknowledged that we are all Treaty people and have a responsibility to respect this territory.

The Chair thanked all members of the Mt.A. community for implementing Indigenous principles of seeing, doing, and knowing, and for participation and engagement in the activities and events on and surrounding September 30<sup>th</sup> National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

02.10.11 Approval of agenda

R. Moser inserted a modified agenda into the Teams chat and the Chair communicated the minor change (a motion on the previous agenda was withdrawn by the mover) and the subsequent reordering of items.

**Motion (B. Robertson / J. Dryden): that Senate adopt the agenda as modified.**

**Motion carried**

03.10.11 Consent Agenda  
Approval of the minutes (13 Sept., 2022)

The Chair reminded Senators of this meeting's introduction of the consent agenda procedure. Only one item appears on the consent agenda for now: the minutes of the Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> Senate meeting. In future meetings, the consent agenda will be used to expedite items that are generally perfunctory matters for Senate but otherwise time-consuming. All items on the consent agenda will be approved together. Senators will have reviewed the items once the Senate materials have been distributed a week prior, and any Senator may move to take any item off the consent agenda for discussion.

There was no discussion of the items on the consent agenda.

04.10.11 Business arising from the minutes

No business arising.

05.10.11 Chair's remarks

### *Enrollment*

The Chair reminded Senate of earlier estimate of 700-715 new first-year students. As of this morning, the actual number of new students is 689. The actual number of returning students is 1612. This is not what we were hoping for, but it is still a 1.1% increase over last year's enrollment. The Chair said that the initial projection of 750 was a conservative estimate based on models predicting enrollment numbers for the region. AAU institutions were expecting much larger enrollments. As we budgeted for 750 new students, there will be a shortfall of approximately \$825k, which is significant for a small institution like ours. The Chair said the VP Finance would remind everyone to let this frame up the context for conversations about the budget and present budgetary requests.

The Chair said that Hurricane Fiona has delayed some AAU institutions' gathering and reporting accurate enrollment numbers, with more AAU data expected after October 14<sup>th</sup>. So far, informally reported actual enrollments from AAU institutions range at the extremes from a 10% decrease to a 45% increase, while most AAU institutions are reporting no gain or only very slight gain. Consultation has begun with an outside firm for an external study to learn about students' decision patterns, particularly looking for data from students who didn't come to Mt.A. This will help us better to understand the gap between the high expectation and the low conversion rate. Early speculation includes factors such as (i) an ongoing 'pandemic mindset' about beginning a new degree; and, (ii) a cohort hesitant to enter Post-Secondary Education and opting instead for directly entering the work force or for training in a trade. The Chair added that enrollments are down across New Brunswick, and in our province approximately 1% of the projected operating budget coming from the provincial government is tied to enrollment growth. The target growth for triggering the provincial contribution has not yet been defined for the year, but the Chair is hoping it's "1.1%".

### *Open House*

This major recruitment event is taking place on October 14<sup>th</sup>. It is an opportunity for everyone on campus to try to connect with prospective students and their families. Estimates are 340 prospective students will be here on campus, with another 100 or so expected to participate in online-only events. The Chair implored faculty to be present on campus to help open a door—literally and figuratively—for someone coming to our institution. The Chair said Open House is a reminder that recruitment is everyone's responsibility and opportunity.

The Chair opened discussion on his Report. J. Dryden asked whether the June announcement of the cancellation of the NB EI Connect program was being considered as a factor in lower actual enrollment. Dryden also noted that unclarity in communicating course modes of delivery (e.g., hybrid) may have been a factor as well. The Chair thanked Dryden for the comments, took note of each, saying each is important to consider.

06.10.11 Candidates for Degrees – October graduation (*in camera*)

The Chair called for a motion that Senate go *in camera*.

**Motion: (B. Robertson / B. Walters) That Senate move *in camera*.**

The Chair indicated that Senate is *in camera*. Senate considered and approved a list of candidates for degrees. The Chair moved Senate *ex camera*.

J-P. Boudreau declared Convocation open. The Chair conferred degrees in absentia to the candidates whom Senate had approved. The Chair then declared Convocation closed.

07.10.11 Report from University Planning Committee (J. Hennessy)

The Provost reported that the UPC met 4 times since the last Senate meeting. They have authorized some hiring searches, with further communication on this forthcoming. As they're now working with a tighter budget, they've got some multi-year planning to do—assessing most high-priority needs and looking at good prospects from this year's requests for positions in subsequent years—and they aim to get this done and communicated to departments and programs as soon as possible.

The Chair thanked the Provost and all the members of the UPC. There was no discussion.

08.10.11 Report from Academic Matters, Regulations (J. Hennessy)

**Motion (J. Hennessy / J. Tomes): The Academic Matters, Curriculum and Academic Committee moves that Senate approve the changes to Physics as described in the report for the 2023-24 academic calendar.**

**Motion carried**

09.10.11 Report from Committee on Committees (S. Runge)

**Motion 1 (S. Runge / C. Ionescu): The Committee on Committees moves that Senate acclaim the following faculty to the following Senate Committee for a term beginning immediately and ending June 30, 2025:**

**The Academic Matters (Curriculum and Academic) Committee**

VACANCY: 1 faculty member from the Faculty of Social Sciences

Corrine Cash

**Motion 2 (S. Runge / C. Ionescu): The Committee on Committees moves that Senate approve the revision to the Membership of The Teaching and Learning Committee, as outlined in the circulated report, effective immediately.**

The motions were taken together for voting.

**Motions carried**

The Chair thanked Corrine Cash for willingness to serve on the Academic Matters Committee.

10.10.11 Discover Mt.A.

The Chair invited members to signal events.

The Provost noted that of 8 internal nominations for Canada Research Chairs, the 2 applications that Mount Allison will put forward are Dr. Jill Rourke (Chemistry & Biochemistry) and Dr. Linda Pearce (Music). He thanked Greg Sandala and Maria Thistle at the Office of Research Services for their continued work with nominees.

J. Tomes signaled the following items of note from the Faculty of Science:

Jill Rourke (Chem/Biochem) received a grant from NBIF equipment fund just shy of \$150,000 to support the Centre for Toxicology and Pharmacological Discovery.

Tyson MacCormack (Chem/Biochem) received \$40,000 from the Heart and Stroke Foundation of New Brunswick and the NB Health Research Foundation.

Rima Azar (Psychology) received \$64,000 from NB Health Research Foundation.

Julia Riley (Biology) received funding from the NB Wildlife Trust Fund for a project titled “Determining the presence of *Ophidiomyces ophiodiicola* on New Brunswick Snakes”.

Andrew Grant (Chem/Biochem) is in Toronto with some Mt.A. students for the ENACTUS nationals.

Matt Litvak (Biology) received funding from the NB Wildlife Trust for a project titled “Sex ratio of shortness sturgeon in the Saint John River”.

Geoff Cruttwell and the Math/CS Department received funds to support the Science Atlantic Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science Conference which will be held at Mount A on Oct. 14-15. They are expecting 150-200 students from across the Atlantic Region.

Graduate Studies recently held a BBQ mixer for science faculty and graduate students. Thank you to Ryan Wahl and Charlotte Hache for organizing the event and to all the faculty and students who attended.

The President’s Speaker Series presents Tareq Hadhad, CEO of Peace by Chocolate, visiting campus on Wed. Oct. 19 to talk about “Resilience Through Adversity”. The event is in Crabtree Auditorium and is hybrid.

V. St. Pierre signaled the following from the Faculty of Arts and the Faculty of Social Sciences:

Drama presents its first show of the academic year—“The Wolves”—Oct 26-29, directed by Valmai Goggin at the Motyer-Fancy Theatre.

Music is hosting the “POPS concert” this year entitled “Water”, featuring Symphonic Band, Chamber Orchestra, and Elliott Chorale. The matinee is Thursday Oct 13<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am, and an evening show Friday 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:30, each in Convocation Hall. J. Kalyn noted that they are

expecting 1200 students from grades K-12 at the matinee. The Provost noted that he played timpani at that matinee in 1993, in case he's needed. Kalyn suggested an audition.

Music also is holding a guest recital from Soprano, Denise Ritter-Bernardini, Saturday October 15th at 7:30pm in Brunton.

Stay tuned for book launch information from Geography and Environment's Corrine Cash, who has two new publications to celebrate.

A new date is set for Terry O'Reilly's talk, rescheduled owing to Hurricane Fiona. The new date is Oct. 26<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in Crabtree Auditorium.

Dawn Henwood's BizComm Inc. writing Workshop— developing business etiquette and business writing skills—is open to all students, and takes place on Oct 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>.

A. Comfort signaled this Sunday is Senior's Day for the Soccer teams, at which senior graduating students are celebrated. Comfort also noted that Crandall University has generously donated its gym facilities for upcoming events for Mt.A. volleyball and basketball teams, owing to the ongoing gym renovations on campus.

J.-P. Boudreau congratulated Dr. Susie Andrews and Dr. Fiona Black from Religious Studies for their recent awards from AAU. Andrews received the 2022 AAU Distinguished Teaching Award, and Black received the 2022 AAU Anne Marie MacKinnon Educational Leadership Award.

A. Francis signaled that there would be a sweat lodge ceremony on October 30<sup>th</sup>, and anyone interested may sign up with Patty Musgrave.

11.10.11        Other business

There was no other business.

12.10.12        Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:52pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Robbie Moser  
Secretary