MOUNT ALLISON UNIVERSITY
MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

May 9, 2024, 10:30 am
Windsor Grand Room & Microsoft Teams (hybrid format)

Present: N. Anthonisen, C. Brett (Secretary), B. Broadbent, P. Brown, B. Clayton, A. Comfort, R. Delaney, G. Desmarais, J. Devine, S. Dewolfe, J. Dryden, C. Duguay, B. Evans, A. Fancy, S. Fanning, A. Francis, L. Garnett, D. Hamilton, M. Hamilton, O. Hart, M. Hashemi, K. Hele, C. Ionescu, B. Jewett, K. Johnston, N. Johnston, L. Keliher, L. Landon, C. Lovekin, R. MacKinnon (Chair), R. Majithia, I. McCardle, V. Meli, T. Reiffenstein, B. Robertson, R. Rubin, S. Runge, V. St. Pierre (Vice-Chair), E. Steuter, D. Thomas, J. Tomes, K. Ulkuer, M. Vicaire, N. Vogan, G. Waldron, B. Walters, W. Wilson

Regrets: R. Inglis, L. Michaelis, G. Pardy, C. Pringle-Carver

Guests: J. Mullen

01.05.09 Territorial Acknowledgement

R. MacKinnon 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.

02.05.09 Approval of agenda

Motion (K. Ulkuer/T. Reiffenstein): that Senate adopt the agenda as presented.

Motion carried

03.05.09 Consent Agenda

a. Approval of the minutes (March 12, 2024)
b. Report from the Graduate Studies Committee
c. Report from the Research Ethics Board
d. Discover Mount Allison

Approved without discussion

04.05.09 Business arising from the minutes (none)

05.05.09 Chair's remarks

R. MacKinnon invited senators to University Convocation, to be held on Monday, May 13. He noted that A. Fancy is among those receiving an honorary doctorate. Indeed, all this year's honorary degree recipients are alumni. Senators recognized A. Fancy with a round of applause.

The president noted the Convocation Recital, scheduled for May 12. He complemented the Department of Music for its thorough entries in Discover Mount Allison. S. Runge noted the work of Margaret Craig in preparing the departments submissions.

The chair noted the significant turnover expected in upper administration. The search for the new Provost was nearing completion. R. MacKinnon also noted the retirement of A. Comfort, Vice President International and Student Affairs.

R. MacKinnon thanked senators for their assistance in the presidential and vice-presidential searches. Finally, he remarked that he found the Senate orderly and well-functioning during his year as chair.

06.05.09 Report from the Graduation Review Committee

K. Uluker outlined the report. M. Hamiliton asked whether the student who failed to receive a minor would graduate. K. Uluker answered that the student would not.

07.05.09 Candidates for Degrees

Motion (V. St. Pierre/R. Rubin): that Senate move *in camera* for the purpose of considering candidates for degrees.

Motion carried

08.05.09 Report from University Planning Committee

V. St. Pierre gave a written report. She highlighted the upcoming review of the Department of Classics, likely to occur in Winter 20224. In addition, the committee brought forward the following motion.

Motion (V. St. Pierre/J. Tomes): that Senate approve changes to Policy 5900 Academic Unit Reviews as outlined in the Report from the University Planning Committee dated May 9, 2024.

Motion carried

In response to a question from M. Hamilton, V. St. Pierre outlined the major changes in the policy, namely removing an informal reporting stage and requiring a written report to Senate from the University Planning Committee on the reviews.

R. MacKinnon asked how data is obtained for reviews. V. St. Pierre answered that the Registrar's Office provides data to departments.

09.05.09 Report from the Academic Matters Committee (Regulations)

Motion (V. St. Pierre/K. Ulkuer): that Senate approve changes to Section 10.9.1 of the Academic Calendar (on grading and assessment polices for courses) as outlined in the Report from the Academic Matters Committee (Regulations) dated May 9, 2024.

Motion carried (3 abstentions)

V. St. Pierre noted that these revisions to the policy were in response to questions for clarifications from faculty members and were developed jointly by the committee on the Senate Committee on Teaching and Learning.

R. Delaney welcomed the policy's insistence on input from and communication with students.

R. Delaney asked how students could report instructors who failed to provide the items required under the revised policy. V. St. Pierre answered that a student could first take the matter up with a Department Head, then with a Dean if necessary.

There was some discussion on whether it should be mandatory (not preferred) that written information on course grading be given by the end of the first week of semester. B. Boadbent if it should be mandatory. J. Tomes noted that some instructors work with students in the first weeks to set the schedule of assignments. D. Thomas noted that the policy allowed for the information to be circulated in the second week and wondered whether this was too late. J. Tomes suggested that "Preferably within the first week" could be changed to "Normally during the first week". V. Meli noted that the Teaching and Learning Committee decided the remove the word "normally". V. St. Pierre did not wish to entertain changing the wording to include "normally".

On the issue of the amount of detail required, N. Johnston and N. Anthonisen asked whether specific deadlines are required for short assignments and T. Reiffenstein asked about specifying the time of day that assignments are due. V. St. Piere noted that information should be made available about the number and types of assignments, but it would be difficult to specify an exact rule for all courses. The same difficulty arises, she noted, for due times.

Senators also commented on the process for making changes to syllabi. J. Devine noted that the standard for changes that needed approval of students was imprecise. He also wondered about the mechanism for determining whether two thirds of students agree to changes. V. St. Pierre noted that unanimous agreement by students was rejected because it seemed infeasible to contact all students for consent. J. Tomes noted that one could use a rule that non-response to a poll about changes implies consent. J. Dryden wondered what problem this new clause is meant to solve. She noted that sudden changes to course deadlines can cause harm to students and would rather see a rule that instructors should deal with any conflicts created by changes to deadlines. B. Broadbent expressed support for J. Dryden's idea. V. St. Pierre responded that the changes are meant to protect students from large changes to course work and assignment weightings, noting that there have been instances of this kind in recent years. J. Tomes added that the existence of a policy provides faculty with a way to make changes if they see fit.

V. St. Pierre also asked for suggestions about wording the part of the regulation excluding exams set by the Registrar from the items needed to be dated on syllabi. M. Hamilton suggested "final examinations held during the term".

10.05.09 Report from the Committee on Committees

Motion 1 (S. Runge/ C. Ionescu): The Committee on Committees moves that Senate acclaim the following faculty and librarians to the following Senate Committees for three-year terms beginning July 1, 2024:

The Academic Appeals Committee
1 faculty member or librarian who is not on the Academic Integrity Committee
Genevieve Desmarais
The Academic Information Technology Committee
1 faculty member from the Faculty of Science
David Fleming
The Academic Integrity Committee
1 faculty member or librarian
Andrew Nurse
The Academic Matters (Curriculum and Academic) Committee
1 faculty member or librarian
Erin Steuter
The Academic Matters (Regulations) Committee
1 faculty member from the Faculty of Arts
(one vacancy remaining)
1 faculty member from the Faculty of Science
Genevieve Demarais
1 faculty member (any Faculty) or librarian
Margaret-Ellen Messenger
The Admissions and Readmissions Committee
1 faculty member or librarian
Vicki Meli
The Committee on Emeriti Appointments
1 faculty member or librarian
(one vacancy remaining)
The Committee on Students with Disabilities
1 librarian
(one vacancy remaining)
The Experiential Learning Committee
2 faculty members
Carla VanBeselaere
Sacha Dewolfe
1 librarian
(one vacancy remaining)
The Graduate Studies Committee

1 faculty member (to serve as Alternate)
Vett Lloyd
The Graduation Review Committee
1 faculty member from the Faculty of Social Sciences
(one vacancy remaining)
1 faculty member (any Faculty) or librarian
Leslie Shumka
The International Programs Committee
1 faculty member of librarian (must be faculty contact for international program)
Andrea Morash
The Readmissions Appeals Committee
1 faculty member or librarian who is not on the Admissions and Readmissions Committee (to serve as Alternate)
Leslie Shumka

The Research and Creative Activity Committee
2 faculty members (from any Faculty)
(two vacancies remaining)
The Research Ethics Board
2 faculty members or librarians
Robbie Moser
Mario Levesque
The Teaching and Learning Committee
1 faculty member from the Faculty of Social Sciences
Fabrizio Antonelli
1 librarian
(one vacancy remaining)
The University Planning Committee
1 faculty member from the Faculty of Science
Laurie Ricker
1 faculty member from the Faculty of Social Sciences
James Devine
1 faculty member (from any Faculty)
Janine Rogers
The Honorary Degrees Committee
2 faculty members or librarians
Jenny Wong
(one vacancy remaining)

Motion carried

Motion (S. Runge/ C. Ionescu): The Committee on Committees moves that Senate acclaim the following students to the following Senate Committees for terms beginning immediately and ending April 30, 2025:

The Academic Appeals Committee

Cailean Clements
Grace Waldron
The Academic Information Technology Committee
Cole Sinclair
Georgia Pardy
The Academic Integrity Committee
Benjamin Broadbent
Chloe Duguay
Rajan Minocha-McKenney (alternate)
The Academic Matters (Curriculum and Academic) Committee
Rajan Minocha-McKenney
The Academic Matters (Regulations) Committee
Benjamin Broadbent
The Admissions and Readmissions Committee
Georgia Pardy
The Committee on Emeriti Appointments
Cole Sinclair
The Experiential Learning Committee
Georgia Pardy
The Graduation Review Committee
Chloe Duguay
The Graduate Studies Committee
Christelinda Laureijs
The International Programs Committee
Forest Holbrook
The Research and Creative Activities Committee
Rajan Minocha-McKenney
Cole Sinclair
The Scholarships and Bursaries Committee
Chloe Duguay
The Senate Agenda Committee
Chloe Duguay
The Teaching and Learning Committee
Rajan Minocha-McKenney
Grace Waldron
The University Planning Committee
Grace Waldron
Benjamin Broadbent
The Honorary Degrees Committee
Benjamin Broadbent

Motion carried

Motion 3 (S. Runge/ C. Ionescu): The Committee on Committee recommends the following change to the Terms of Reference of the Experiential Learning Committee:
(ii) Membership (5 members, including 3 elected faculty or librarians)

1 ex-officio member: An academic Dean
2 faculty, elected by the Senate
1 librarian, elected by the Senate
1 student, elected by the Senate
The Director of Experiential Learning and Career Development attends meetings as a resource person to the committee.

Motion carried

11.05.09 Election to the Committee on Committees

Motion (C. Brett/ V. St. Pierre): that Geoff Crutwell and Stephen Law be elected to the Committee on Committees with a term beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2027.

Motion carried

C. Brett noted that there remains one vacancy for a Senator to serve on the committee.

R. MacKinnon thanked S. Runge, the outgoing chair of the committee, for this work.

12.05.09 Other Business (none)

13.05.09 Adjournment

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 11:40 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig Brett, Secretary