

MOUNT ALLISON UNIVERSITY
MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

December 3, 2024, 4:00pm
Windsor Grand Room & Microsoft Teams (hybrid format)

Present: M. Ahmady, I. Andrea, B. Annear, F. Antonelli, Y. Bourgeois, C. Brett (Secretary), G. Briand, B. Broadbent, P. Brown, G. Cruttwell, R. Delaney, S. DeWolfe, E. Doukas, J. Dryden, A. Fancy, A. Francis, L. Garnett, D. Hamilton, L.D. Hamilton, M. Hashemi, C. Ionescu, R. Isnor (Vice-Chair), B. Jewett, K. Johnston, N. Johnston, C. Langlais, R. Majithia, L. Michaelis, C. Milner, R. Minocha-McKenney, K. Morse, G. Pardy, C. Pringle-Carver, B. Robertson, R. Rubin, K. Souch, V. St. Pierre, I. Sutherland (Chair), J. Tomes, M. Vicare, N. Vogan, G. Waldron, B. Walters, A. Wilson, W. Wilson

Guests: R. Gamm, J. Kurek, J. Mullen, C. Pomare, G. Sandala

Regrets: R. Bruening, C. Duguay, S. Law, C. MacDougall, M. Maston, V. Meli

01.12.03 Territorial Acknowledgement

I. Sutherland 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.

02.12.03 Approval of agenda

Motion (B. Robertson/B. Broadbent): that Senate adopt the agenda as presented.

Motion carried

03.12.03 Consent Agenda (R. Minocha-McKenney /E. Doukas)

- a. Approval of the minutes (November 5, 2024)
- b. Report on Equity Initiatives
- c. Report from Research and Creative Activities
- d. Report from the Information Technology Committee
- e. Report from the Teaching and Learning Committee
- f. Discover Mount Allison

Approved without discussion

04.12.03 Business arising from the minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

05.12.03 Report from the Chair

The chair thanked everyone who took part in the President's Installation on November 22. He also thanked senators for attending the November 14 Board-Senate gathering.

He then gave a listing of the main points from his written report, highlighting the work of organizers of the student-led on the Transgender Day of Remembrance on November 20. The thirteen pages of the report document what the president described as a busy semester.

I. Sutherland then stated that he enjoyed his first semester at Mount Allison and thanked everyone for their contributions to the life of the university.

06.12.03 Report from University Planning Committee

R. Isnor referred Senators to the written report. He highlighted the authorization of six tenure-track positions and two term positions from the requests for 20.5 positions, including the university's first tenure-track position in Health Studies. The Provost also noted the sabbatical replacement plan, which offered 80 percent replacement of courses taught by those going on sabbatical. R. Isnor also noted that the Academic Review of Sociology is now completed. He thanked the department for their response to the review, which identified issues relating to access to software, accessibility of buildings, access to stipends for teachers of experiential learning, and on-boarding of new faculty.

B. Walters asked about the focus of the new position in Health Studies. R. Isnor responded that it would focus on such issues as public health, social determinants of health and public policy. J. Dryden added that the position has an interdisciplinary, social science focus. L. Michaelis asked to which department the candidate would be hired and be considered for tenure in the years to come. J. Dryden responded that the person would be hired into the program, with supervision offered by the program's steering committee. The program currently has a post-doctoral fellow who was hired under similar terms. J. Tomes added that the department from which tenure letters will be expected will be decided once the position is filled.

K. Morse noted that the committee's report included the response of the Department of Sociology to its program review. He asked if other documents relating to the review would be posted. K. Morse also noted that there are currently gaps in the posted materials on past program reviews. R. Isnor answered that he will look into updating the posted materials on program reviews.

07.12.03 Strategic Planning Update

I. Sutherland reported that the Strategic Planning Facilitation Team (SPFT) has been named, with a formal announcement due on December 4. He also informed Senate (in his Chair's Report) that Academica Group has been hired as consultants to the strategic planning process.

B. Annear asked which members of Academica Group's staff will be working with the SPFT. I. Sutherland answered that he did not have that information to hand. Y. Bourgeois wondered whether the planning process will finish on schedule. I. Sutherland responded that the team will meet at most once before the end of the calendar year, and consultations will likely begin in January. The process should be completed by mid to late 2025.

R. Minocha-McKenney asked if there will be students on the SPFT and whether there was student response to the call for nominations. I. Sutherland answered both questions in the affirmative.

08.12.03 Discussion of the Calendar of Events

Motion (B. Annear/ G. Crutwell): that Senate approve the 2025-2026 Calendar of Events of circulated prior to the November 5 meeting of Senate.

Motion carried (1 nay, 1 abstention)

D. Hamilton asked why this calendar does not reflect recent discussions in Faculty Council about moving the Fall Break. B. Annear replied that moving the Fall Break would necessitate other changes in the Academic Calendar. Studying these changes would take time and might not be completed before a calendar needs ratification.

R. Delaney noted that the hold over from November was requested by MASU so that it could consult about the date of Academic Orientation. He thanked university staff and officials for meeting with MASU about that issue.

09.12.03 Candidates for Honorary Degrees

Motion (B. Robertson/ G. Pardy): that Senate move *in camera* for the purpose of considering candidates for honorary degrees.

Motion carried

Senate considered candidates for honorary degrees.

Motion (B. Robertson/ G. Pardy): that Senate move out of camera.

Motion carried

10.12.03 Other Business

I. Sutherland repeated his invitations, giving in the President's report, to the Vigil of Honor and Reflection on the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women, December 6, the Reception for Senate on President's Council, December 17 and the University Holiday Social, December 18.

11.12.03 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:52 pm, as moved by I. Andrea.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig Brett
Secretary