

MOUNT ALLISON UNIVERSITY  
MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

March 11, 2025, 4:00pm  
Windsor Grand Room & Microsoft Teams (hybrid format)

Present: I. Andrea, B. Annear, F. Antonelli, Y. Bourgeois, C. Brett (Secretary), B. Broadbent, P. Brown, G. Cruttwell, R. Delaney, E. Doukas, C. Duguay, A. Fancy, S. Fanning, A. Francis, L. Garnett, D. Hamilton, L.D. Hamilton, M. Hashemi, C. Ionescu, R. Isnor (Vice-Chair), K. Johnston, S. Law, M. Lee, A. LePage, C. MacDougall, R. Majithia, M. Maston, V. Meli, L. Michaelis, R. Minocha-McKenney, K. Morse, A. Nurse, G. Pardy, B. Robertson, R. Rubin, K. Souch, V. St. Pierre, I. Sutherland (Chair), J. Tomes, M. Vicare, G. Waldron, B. Walters, A. Wilson, W. Wilson

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

Regrets: J. Devine, R. Inglis

01.03.11      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.

02.03.11      Approval of agenda

**Motion (G. Cruttwell/ B. Robertson): that Senate adopt the agenda as presented.**

**Motion carried**

03.03.11      Consent Agenda (V. St. Pierre/G. Cruttwell)

- a. Approval of the minutes (February 4, 2025)
- b. Discover Mount Allison
- c. Report from the Committee on Emeriti Appointments

**Approved**

04.03.11      Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes

**05.03.11      Report from the Chair**

The Chair highlighted several aspects of his written report, including the completion of the review of International and Student Affairs, and the launch of the search for a new Vice President, International and Student Affairs. He thanked M. Matson for his ongoing work as Interim Vice President.

The President thanked the organisers of the Winter Open House. He noted that application by international students continue to fall far short of previous years, except for applications from the United States, which are up by 40 per cent from last year. Domestic applications are down approximately 6 per cent from last year. The Chair informed senators that the 25 in 2025 initiative has led to an increase in digital engagement with prospective students and contributed to an uptick in applications relative to the year's trends.

I. Sutherland offered congratulations to Dr. Andrew Grant on delivering the Last Lecture to graduating students, to Dr. Jennie Wong and Dr. Julia Riley on being named Canada Research Chairs, Dr. Lisa Dawn Hamilton on receiving grant funding from CIHR, and Thaddeus Holownia on receiving the Governor General's Award from the Canada Council for the Arts. Senators joined in a round of applause. The Chair also congratulated the Women's Volleyball team on winning the ACAA championship and three members of the Badminton Team on qualifying for the National Championships.

The President thanked the Black Students Union and all who engaged in Black History Month activities during February.

The Chair noted that University Advancement is on track to reach a fundraising target of \$16.6 million for 2024-25. The university has worked with the other public universities in New Brunswick on a submission in advance of the provincial budget.

Finally, the President recognized the professional development initiatives of the Department of People and Culture, and he informed Senate of the need to re-estimate the costs of building projects due to recent increases in tariffs.

R. Delaney said that he welcomed the emphasis on The Owens in the report and the invitation of Nicole Poter from Fort Folly First Nation to enhance access to ceremonies and traditional teachers. He asked whether naming a café is sufficient recognition of Grace Annie Lockhart. Finally, he voiced concern over the depiction of the maple leaf in the new logo for the Centre for Indigenous and Critical Canadian Studies. He asked what consultations had occurred during the design process for this logo.

The President noted that there will be celebration of Grace Annie Lockhart during this year's Convocation and took the point about the naming of the café under advisement.

I. Sutherland and R. Isnor both responded that they were unaware of the concern about the new logo and would look into it.

A. Francis suggested consultation with William Nevin, the Elder-in- Residence and with the Indigenous Advisory Circle

A. Nurse noted that the new name and logo for the centre were a long time coming and that the designer of the new logo was known by the centre and donors. He was unaware of any concerns. K. Johnston added that the new name and logo apply to the research centre, not to the academic unit. She added that the logo was developed over a three-year period by Wolastoqey artist Emma Hassencahl-Perley, Mount Allison alumna and curator of Indigenous art at the Beaverbrook Art Gallery. The process included consultation with Indigenous communities and Elders. Both A. Nurse and K. Johnston welcomed conversation on the issue.

Referring to some of the questions posed at a strategic planning feedback session, A. Wilson asked about the relationship between the strategic plan and budgeting. I. Sutherland answered that the consultation process may uncover ideas for non-tuition revenues. The goal of the strategic planning process is to arrive at themes to help guide the university's decisions.

B. Walters asked how recent turmoil in financial markets has affected the university's endowments and what contingencies are in place to deal with any losses. I. Sutherland responded that the university is monitoring its investment portfolios and that these are structured to minimize the effects of short-term fluctuations. The President did note that it is impossible to say that there will be no impact on the university's bottom line.

#### 06.03.11 Report from University Planning Committee

R. Isnor reported the committee met on March 10 to receive responses from Psychology and Visual and Material Cultures on their program reviews. The committee hopes to provide summary reports on these reviews to Senate in May.

The committee also received mid-cycle updates from department heads and program directors on the most recent program reviews in Physics, Aviation, English, and Feminist and Gender Studies.

#### 07.03.11 Strategic Planning Update

I. Sutherland informed Senate that the consultation sessions informing the strategic plan were on-going, with a dedicated session for Senate scheduled for March 18. He noted that the consultation survey had received 760 responses. The President thanked R. Rubin and C. Brett for coordinating the consultations.

R. Rubin reminded Senate of the upcoming sessions for faculty and staff on March 20 and March 26. C. Brett thanked everyone who had attended sessions so far and encouraged senators to attend the upcoming sessions.

#### 08.03.11 Report from the Academic Matters (Curriculum and Academic) Committee

**Motion (V. St. Pierre/B. Annear): that Senate approve the changes to courses, academic regulations, and academic programs as outlined in the Academic Matters (Curriculum and Academic) Committee Report for Senate, March 11, 2025.**

**Motion carried**

9. Report from the Committee on Committees

**Motion (A. LePage/S. Dewolfe): that Senate elect the following faculty to the Senate committees listed in the report from the Committee on Committees, March 11, 2025, with a term beginning immediately and ending June 30, 2027.**

**Motion carried**

10. Affirmation of Universities Canada Membership

**Motion (R. Isnor/B. Robertson): that Senate recommend the President re-affirm Mount Allison's membership in Universities Canada.**

**Motion carried**

I. Sutherland noted that Mount Allison has been a member of Universities Canada since 1949, and that this membership is reviewed every five years. He reminded Senate of the expectations of members of Universities Canada, as detailed in pre-circulated materials.

The President undertook to write to Universities Canada, reaffirming Mount Allison's membership.

11.03.11 Report from the Honorary Degrees Committee

**Motion (G. Cruttwell/B. Robertson): 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/V. St. Pierre): that Senate move out of camera.**

**Motion carried**

12.03.11 Other Business

I. Sutherland noted that an open discussion of honorary degrees could be added to a future agenda.

13.03.11      Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig Brett  
Secretary