



Senate Meeting  
**Skype for Business**

March 26, 2021  
2 p.m.

## MINUTES

**Present:** J. McMullin (Chair), K. Allan, P. Barry Mercer, A. Benzaquén, G. Boulet, N. Buchanan, C. Cameron, P. Cantelo, A. Card, G. Chan, D. Cox, P. Crouse, K. Darvesh, C. Dawson, G. Durepos, T. Findlay, D. Fisher, J. Fraser Arsenault, D. Goree, C. Hardy, T. Harriott, T. Harrison, E. Henderson, E. Hicks, N. Kayhani, K. Kienapple, L. MacCallum, M. Nadeem, D. Piccitto, M. Ralston, K. Ritchie, J. Roberts, C. Schneider, C. Slumkoski, J. Sutherland, A. Thurlow

**Observers:** S. Davis, K. Cantelo, K. Gallant, K. Healy, J. Lamb, J. Rizwan, T. MacAdam, L.A. MacFarlane, K. Smyth, T. Strapps

*The meeting was called to order at 2:03 p.m. Observers were identified and welcomed. All observers were reminded that they may be granted speaking privileges but are not eligible to vote on motions. New Student Senators N. Buchanan, C. Cameron, and D. Goree were welcomed.*

*Procedures to be used during the meeting and while voting on motions were outlined.*

### 1. Indigenous Land Recognition

J. McMullin provided an acknowledgement that the Mount is built on traditional, unceded Mi'kmaq territory and paid respect to the Indigenous peoples of the land on which Senate meets.

### 2. Approval of Agenda

An additional agenda item was added under 7.3.4: Library Committee Report.

**Moved** by D. Fisher, seconded by E. Hicks, to approve the agenda as amended.  
CARRIED

### 3. Approval of Minutes

3.1. February 26, 2021

**Moved** by T. Harriott, seconded by K. Kienapple, that the minutes of the meeting held February 26, 2021, be approved as amended. CARRIED

### 3.2. June 19 and June 24, 2020

J. McMullin provided an overview of the concerns raised about the June meeting minutes, the discussion at the special meeting on February 5, and EX's decision to bring these minutes forward for approval today. Senate Executive recognizes that some Senators wish to have their names recorded next to their vote; therefore, the Senate Secretary will contact all Senators who participated in the June meetings to ask if they would like their votes recorded. J. McMullin then called for a motion to approve these meeting minutes with the understanding that names may be added as friendly amendments.

**Moved** by T. Harriott, seconded by C. Dawson, that the minutes of the meeting held June 19 and June 24, 2020, be approved as amended. CARRIED (18 In Favour, 8 Opposed, 6 Abstentions)

D. Piccitto questioned if we are setting a precedent regarding the use of roll call votes if we accept the minutes as presented. It was confirmed that roll call votes are still being considered by the Senate Secretary, the Parliamentarian, and Senate Executive and can be brought up for discussion in relation to Bylaws at a later date. Other Senators added that they do not support approving the minutes without the inclusion of roll call votes, noting that doing so will undermine accountability and transparency of the issues discussed at these meetings. (D. Piccitto, K. Allan, J. McMullin, J. Sutherland, K. Ritchie, C. Cameron)

## 4. Business Arising from the Minutes

### 4.1. Change to Bylaw 1.1

**Moved** by D. Piccitto, seconded by K. Allan, that the Faculty Association President be added to the list of ex officio members under Membership in Senate By-law 1.1, effective in accordance with Senate By-laws. CARRIED (21 In Favour, 6 Opposed, 5 Abstentions)

J. McMullin called on Parliamentarian T. Harriott to explain the procedural requirements of this Bylaw change. D. Piccitto invited questions and concerns to be brought forward.

C. Dawson spoke against the motion, noting that the Faculty Association's primary mandate is of a bargaining agent and that Senate's role is to oversee the academic mission of the University. She added that this motion is premature and should be postponed until after the Senate governance review is complete.

Several other Senators spoke in favour of this motion. It was pointed out that the Faculty Association is concerned with more than labour relations noting

that the FA plays an important role in academic decisions, academic integrity, and academic advocacy. Other Senators compared the FA President's role to the role of the SU President, who currently holds an ex officio seat. It was noted that this motion has been brought forward to Senate in the past and waiting on the governance review is a weak reason to postpone this motion. (D. Piccitto, J. Sutherland, C. Dawson, G. Boulet, K. Ritchie)

## 5. Administration Updates

### 5.1. President

None.

### 5.2. Vice-President Academic and Provost

J. McMullin gave an update on the search for the Dean of Professional Studies and Graduate Studies as well as the search for the Associate Vice President Research. J. McMullin thanked both search committees as well as K. Healy for this very important work.

She then addressed some concerns that were brought forward regarding the TLCOL report, including the level of emphasis placed on technology and the use of the term "quality assurance." She noted that this language speaks to a reorganized unit with a dedicated person to support both the University and various departments with the MPHEC review process. She reported that, after much discussion, the decision was made to move the Online Learning portion of TLCOL to IT&S.

She mentioned that she and Registrar P. Cantelo reviewed the survey information brought forward by the Students' Union regarding the writing of exams, tests, and midterms by students in different time zones. Although sympathetic to these concerns, she expressed confidence that students with this issue would be accommodated by their professors. She also noted that time zone is a valid reason for exam deferral. In closing, she mentioned that Senate Executive, the Senate Secretary, and the Senate Parliamentarian continue to research the use of roll call votes, preparation of meeting minutes, access to meeting audio recordings, and changes to Bylaws and that the JBSL is sorting out a process for a governance review.

### 5.3. Vice-President Administration

M. Nadeem reported that post-secondary institutions met with Dr. Strang on March 17. He noted that the plan to return to in-person classes in the fall must be flexible and the existing protocols must remain in place. He spoke about immunization, resident accommodations, and the consideration of one-meter social distancing. Regarding international students, he spoke to their access to vaccines and the lack of clarity regarding airport access, flights, and

quarantine requirements. He noted that vaccinations will not be made mandatory but that policies regarding employee vaccinations will be discussed. In closing, he stated that a common post-secondary framework will be developed and approved by public health, with institutions developing their own operational plan for Fall 2021. It was noted that all items discussed are contingent on the epidemiology of the pandemic.

## 6. Question Period

C. Schneider expressed student concerns regarding the uncertainty surrounding scheduling for the fall semester, asking if there are any indications of timelines that can be shared with the students. M. Nadeem noted that timelines are somewhat dependent on public health's review and approval of the framework; however, the sense of urgency is not lost on anyone. P. Cantelo noted that, while the intention is to release the timetable by the end of April or early May, discussions with Deans continue regarding the balance of online and in-person classes. He identified scheduling challenges due to requested teaching times and decreased classroom capacity.

D. Piccitto asked if there has been an announcement regarding the new EDIA advisor and if a full list of staff members could be added to the various non-academic websites. J. McMullin responded that they are currently working with the EDIA advisor to get the announcement out and that she will be introduced at the upcoming EDIA meeting. K. Gallant added that an interview is scheduled, and a full story will be released in the next few weeks. In the meantime, an expedited yet brief introduction was suggested. K. Gallant did note that a full staff directory is listed on the 'Contact Us' area of the main website and offered to follow up with the leadership team as the accuracy of current information may need to be addressed,

L. MacCallum expressed her disappointment with the decision regarding test taking for students in different time zones. She noted that equity requires that we move away from relying on the goodwill of individuals and instead reform our process and procedures to ensure a consistent default approach.

C. Hardy asked a question regarding the availability of the 2019-2020 Deans' list. J. McMullin responded that because of grading options introduced due to COVID-19, this issue is still being worked on. C. Dawson added that a small working group has been formed and they hope to have the work completed by the end of April or early May.

K. Ritchie asked if communications about the COVID-19 vaccination could include the risks to women who may be planning to be pregnant, are pregnant, or are breastfeeding. M. Nadeem responded that while he understands this concern, this message would be best communicated by public health and health professionals.

As part of the return to campus plan, C. Slumkoski asked if the University will ensure that structures are in place for those wanting to continue to attend meetings remotely and asked if postdoctoral fellows coming to the Mount will be able to obtain health insurance. M. Nadeem responded that flexibility will be considered as we navigate the return to campus but that we need to ensure that operational needs are met. D. Fisher noted that a postdoctoral protocol has been introduced this year. He identified health care recommendations and arrangements for international and Canadian postdoctoral fellows and agreed that further exploration about individual health insurance could be undertaken. However, whether postdoctoral positions are paid by the University or an external organization (such as SHRC) introduces an additional complication.

It was noted that we are now moving towards full-time graduate student health care. Some Senators remarked on the challenges regarding the recent referendum and the fight for this health care. It was also noted that the fight for part-time graduate student health care continues alongside challenges with the guard-me plan for international students with pre-existing conditions. The Students' Union Undergraduate/Graduate Health Care Committee is undertaking an awareness campaign for the international student community regarding this issue with hopes to negotiate better terms for this plan. (C. Slumkoski, K Ritchie, J. McMullin, J. Sutherland, S. Davis, K. Allan)

In reference to the Diversity and Inclusion Leadership award, T. Findlay asked about the rationale for limiting eligibility criteria to only the past academic year. J. McMullin responded that she will investigate.

K. Allan asked for clarification regarding the limited scheduling of courses between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. and not on weekends. P. Cantelo referenced the timetable policy and provided clarification.

K. Allan, regarding student assessment in other time zones, asked about the possibility of reopening one alternate timed assessment 12 hours after the first assessment. J. McMullin to bring this suggestion forward to the Vice President Advisory Council.

K. Allan wondered if hybrid course delivery mode could become the norm, stating that this would improve equity. It was noted that faculty workload for hybrid (multi-access) course preparation as well as technology restraints and other challenges must be considered for this type of delivery method. (J. McMullin, P. Cantelo, K. Darvesh)

**Moved** by K. Allan, seconded by D. Piccitto, that Question Period be extended for 10 minutes. CARRIED

## 7. Committee Reports (Standing and Ad Hoc)

### 7.1. Senate Executive

#### 7.1.1. Revisions to Academic Implications of a Significant Disruption of Operations Policy

On behalf of Senate Executive, T. Harriott brought forward the two minor changes to the Academic Implications of a Significant Disruption of Operations Policy.

**Moved** by T. Harriott, seconded by D. Fisher, that Senate approve the revisions to Academic Implications of a Significant Disruption of Operations Policy effective immediately. CARRIED

### 7.2. Academic Policy and Planning

#### 7.2.1. External Review Schedule

C. Dawson brought forward the External Review Schedule for information. D. Piccitto noted that the IT&S Department is not listed on the schedule. J. McMullin responded that MPHEC deems what is “academic support,” and while IT&S is not included, a review of all non-academic departments will be addressed under the strategic plan.

#### 7.2.2. Review of TLCOL

C. Dawson brought forward the TLCOL review for information and discussion; Senators engaged in a discussion of the report.

Lack of student input was discussed, and as this is the case, a student needs assessment will take place. It was reiterated that online course development will remain with the Teaching and Learning Centre; however, the instructional technologies part of the unit will be moving to IT&S which will create better alignment and synergy.

The scope of the review was also discussed. Concerns were expressed regarding the perception that reviewers recommend TLCOL move away from being a faculty support unit. It was noted that not all suggestions in the report are relevant to the Mount and that some recommendations were about teaching and learning at the Mount in general, not just within the TLCOL unit.

SCOTL’s concern of changing the Director role to that of Associate VP was mentioned, noting that the investment in an AVP role would not necessarily lead to the faculty support that was envisioned. The concern with “quality insurance” was reiterated; however, it was

pointed out that TLCOL is being frequently approached to support departments with their external reviews, self-studies, retreats and learning outcomes. Currently the unit is unstaffed to provide this kind of support; however, the term Quality Assurance Officer did not sit well with SCOTL. The lack of support for technology in conducting research was also mentioned.

Next steps will see the creation of a working group to help prioritize the goals, particularly those aligned with the strategic plan. Reorganization of the unit along with the leadership of the unit will also be considered at a senior administrative level in consultation with the working group. Senators expressed concerns regarding the working group in light of the uncertainty of upcoming leadership changes. It was noted that Acting Director K. Darvesh will take a lead role in establishing the working group and J. McMullin noted that interim AVP&P B. Taylor will be brought up to date on all recent discussions surrounding this report. (C. Dawson, J. McMullin, K. Darvesh, K. Allan, J. Roberts, G. Boulet, A. Benzaquén)

7.2.3. Revisions to Discontinuation of Academic Programs Policy

C. Dawson brought forward the proposed revisions to the Discontinuation of Academic Programs policy.

**Moved** by E. Hicks, seconded by K. Kienapple, that Senate approve the revisions to Discontinuation of Academic Programs Policy effective immediately. CARRIED

7.2.4. New Program Proposals for Bachelor of Education – Primary Program and Bachelor of Education – Secondary Program

A. Card provided background surrounding the new program proposals in the Bachelor of Education program. He noted that once approved the proposals would go to MPHEC for expedited process. A. Card and P. Cantelo expressed kudos to all faculty involved. Many other Senators expressed thanks and gratitude for the hard work of those involved.

**Moved** by C. Dawson, seconded by A. Card, that Senate approve the New Program Proposals for Bachelor of Education – Primary Program and Bachelor of Education – Secondary Program. CARRIED

7.3. Undergraduate Curriculum

7.3.1. Business and Tourism

A. Card brought forward the new course proposals for Business and Tourism. He explained the voting process and noted that, although

brought forward in a group, each proposal would be voted on individually.

7.3.1.1. New Course Proposals

7.3.1.1.1. BUSI 2321: Introduction to Accounting

7.3.1.1.2. BUSI 2322: Introduction to Accounting II

**Moved** by A. Card, seconded by E. Hicks, that Senate individually approve the new course proposals noted in items 7.3.1.1.1 and 7.3.1.1.2. CARRIED

7.3.1.2. Changes to Existing Program

Considering the new course proposals, A. Card then brought forward the various changes in program requirements as outlined in 7.3.1.2.1 to 7.3.1.2.4.

7.3.1.2.1. Changes in requirements for Certificate in Accounting, Certificate in Business Administration, Diploma in Business Administration

7.3.1.2.2. Changes in requirements for Bachelor of Business Administration: General, with a Major, with a Major in Nonprofit Leadership, International Option, and with a Concentration

7.3.1.2.3. Changes in requirements for Minors for Students in Professional Degree Programs, Co-operative Education Option Program Standards, Honours Certificate Professional Exemptions

7.3.1.2.4. Changes in requirements for Tourism and Hospitality Management (Certificate, Diploma and Bachelor)  
**Moved** by A. Card, seconded by G. Durepos, that Senate approve individually the changes to existing programs as noted in items 7.3.1.2.1 to 7.3.1.2.4. CARRIED

7.3.2. Education

In conjunction with the new program proposals, A. Card brought forward the new course proposals as noted in 7.3.2.1.1 to 7.3.2.1.18. D. Piccitto noted an inconsistency in the documents: “pre-service” and “preservice.” A. Card noted that this would be made consistent for the Calendar.

7.3.2.1.1. EDUC 5201: Inclusive Practices in Elementary Classrooms: Part I



- 7.3.2.1.2. EDUC 5202: Inclusive Practices in Elementary Classrooms: Part II
  - 7.3.2.1.3. EDUC 5205: Interdisciplinary Foundations of Education
  - 7.3.2.1.4. EDUC 5207: Curriculum and Technology Integration
  - 7.3.2.1.5. EDUC 5208: Inclusive Practices in Secondary Classrooms: Part I
  - 7.3.2.1.6. EDUC 5209: Inclusive Practices in Secondary Classrooms: Part II
  - 7.3.2.1.7. EDUC 5211: Restorative Approaches to Education
  - 7.3.2.1.8. EDUC 5212: Indigenous Knowledges and the Curriculum
  - 7.3.2.1.9. EDUC 5213: Curriculum and Instruction in Physical Education
  - 7.3.2.1.10. EDUC 5214: Holistic Teaching and Learning
  - 7.3.2.1.11. EDUC 5215: Teaching Abroad and in Different Cultures
  - 7.3.2.1.12. EDUC 5216: Classroom Communities of Philosophical Inquiry
  - 7.3.2.1.13. EDUC 5218: Secondary Educational Assessment
  - 7.3.2.1.14. EDUC 5219: Teaching Literacy in Content Areas
  - 7.3.2.1.15. EDUC 5395: Professional Seminar & Practicum in Secondary Schools
  - 7.3.2.1.16. EDUC 5396: Teaching English as Additional Language in P-12
  - 7.3.2.1.17. EDUC 5450: Elementary Educational Assessment
  - 7.3.2.1.18. EDUC 5495: Professional Seminar & Practicum in Elementary Schools
- Moved** by A. Card, seconded by C. Schneider, that Senate approve the new course proposals individually as noted in items 7.3.2.1.1 to 7.3.2.1.18. CARRIED

7.3.2.2.

Changes to Existing Program

A. Card brought forward changes to the requirements for both the BEd. Elementary as well as the BEd. Secondary.

- 7.3.2.2.1. Changes in Bachelor of Education, Elementary Education requirements: Admission, program, and continuation of study

- 7.3.2.2.2. Changes in Bachelor of Education, Secondary Education requirements: Admission, program, and continuation of study  
**Moved** by A. Card, seconded by C. Schneider, that Senate approve, individually, the Changes in existing programs as noted in items 7.3.2.2.1 and 7.3.2.2.2. CARRIED

### 7.3.3. Changes

The following items were presented for information.

#### 7.3.3.1. Business and Tourism

- 7.3.3.1.1. New prerequisite for BUSI 3311/THMT 3311
- 7.3.3.1.2. New prerequisite and description for BUSI 3320
- 7.3.3.1.3. New prerequisite for BUSI 3325
- 7.3.3.1.4. New prerequisite for BUSI 3360
- 7.3.3.1.5. New prerequisite for BUSI 3361
- 7.3.3.1.6. New prerequisite for THMT 3311/BUSI 3311
- 7.3.3.1.7. New prerequisite for THMT 3316
- 7.3.3.1.8. New prerequisite for THMT 3221
- 7.3.3.1.9. New prerequisite for THMT 3362

#### 7.3.3.2. Education

For EDUC 5327, D. Piccitto questioned the missing 'l' in *2SLGBTQIA+*; A. Card assumed the missing 'l' was a typo and would follow up.

- 7.3.3.2.1. New course name, WebAdvisor name and description for EDUC 5301
- 7.3.3.2.2. New course name, WebAdvisor name, prerequisite and description for EDUC 5302
- 7.3.3.2.3. New course name, WebAdvisor name and description for EDUC 5305
- 7.3.3.2.4. New course name, WebAdvisor name, prerequisite and description for EDUC 5306
- 7.3.3.2.5. New course name, WebAdvisor name and description for EDUC 5327
- 7.3.3.2.6. Removal of prerequisite and new course name, WebAdvisor name and description for EDUC 5331
- 7.3.3.2.7. New course name, WebAdvisor name, prerequisite and description for EDUC 5333
- 7.3.3.2.8. New course name, WebAdvisor name and description for EDUC 5340
- 7.3.3.2.9. New course name, WebAdvisor name, prerequisite and description for EDUC 5341

- 7.3.3.2.10. Removal of prerequisite and new description for EDUC 5350
- 7.3.3.2.11. New course name, WebAdvisor name and description for EDUC 5360
- 7.3.3.2.12. New course name, WebAdvisor name, prerequisite and description for EDUC 5361
- 7.3.3.2.13. New course name, WebAdvisor name and description for EDUC 5370
- 7.3.3.2.14. New course name, WebAdvisor name, prerequisite and description for EDUC 5371
- 7.3.3.2.15. New course name, WebAdvisor name and description for EDUC 5381
- 7.3.3.2.16. New course name, WebAdvisor name, prerequisite and description for EDUC 5382
- 7.3.3.2.17. New course name, WebAdvisor name and description for EDUC 5390
- 7.3.3.2.18. New WebAdvisor name and description for EDUC 5441
- 7.3.3.2.19. New course name, WebAdvisor name and description for EDUC 5461
- 7.3.3.2.20. New course name, WebAdvisor name and description for EDUC 5462
- 7.3.3.2.21. New course name, WebAdvisor name and description for EDUC 5471
- 7.3.3.2.22. New WebAdvisor name and description for EDUC 5481
- 7.3.3.2.23. New course name, WebAdvisor name and description for EDUC 5490

7.3.4. Library Committee Report

T. Harrison gave an oral follow-up to the Senate Library Committee's last written report to Senate, which mentioned the transition away from a long-time institutional license for the citation management program RefWorks, which will expire on April 30. The SLC has decided to focus its annual departmental meeting on support for this transition and an introduction to other management tools such as Zotero and Mendeley. There will also be a Q&A for anything to do with the Library & Archives. The session will take place on Friday, April 23, at 10 a.m. via Collaborate.

## 8. Other Reports

### 8.1. Students' Union

J. Sutherland gave an update on the SU Election process (noting a full roster of candidates for various positions) and the upcoming hiring of the new General Manager.

## 9. New Business

None.

## 10. Items for Communication

### Senate approved:

- Minutes of two meetings: June 19 & 24, 2020, and February 26, 2021
- Changes to Bylaw 1.1
- Revisions to two policies: Academic Implications of a Significant Disruption of Operations & Discontinuation of Academic Programs
- New program proposals for Bachelor of Education – Primary Program and Bachelor of Education – Secondary Program
- Several undergraduate curriculum changes in EDUC and Business & Tourism

### Senate received for information:

- External review schedule
- Review of TLCOL
- Several undergraduate curriculum changes in EDUC and Business & Tourism

J. McMullin was recognized for her service to Senate and Senate Executive.

## 11. Adjournment

**Moved** by C. Schneider, seconded by G. Boulet, that the meeting be adjourned.  
CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 4:31 p.m.