



Senate Meeting  
Alice Egan Hagen Boardroom (Rosaria 312); MS Teams

May 24, 2023  
2 p.m.

## MINUTES

**Present:** J. Dickinson (Chair), K. Blotnicky, S. Brigham, C. Cameron, A. Card, G. Chan, P. Crouse, C. Dawson, G. Durepos, M. Eskritt, T. Findlay, J. Fraser Arsenault, T. Franz-Odendaal, G. Fraser, J. Gahagan, M. Gonick, S. Goswami, S. Hale, M. J. Harkins, T. Harrison, E Henderson, J. MacLeod, S. MacMillan, M. McGonnell, G. Morrison, J. Mozvik, M. Ralston, C. Schneider, C. Slumkoski, L. Steele, S. Trenholm, J. Valcke

**Regrets:** R. Gechtman, K. Jones, J. R. Sylliboy, B. Taylor, R. Zuk

**Observers:** A. Cain, K. Gallant, G. Johnston

*The meeting was called to order at 2:04 p.m. Observers were identified and welcomed. Procedures to be used during the meeting and while voting on motions were outlined. Senators whose terms are ending were thanked. A reminder was given regarding the Senate Self-Evaluation coming out soon.*

### 1. Indigenous Land Recognition

J. Dickinson 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

One addition was made, 7.3.1.2.1 Admission Requirements for MAHN and MScAHN.

**Moved** by T. Franz-Odendaal, seconded by J. Valcke, to approve the agenda as amended.  
CARRIED.

### 3. Approval of Minutes

3.1. April 17, 2023

**Moved** by S. MacMillan, seconded by S. Trenholm, to approve the minutes of April 17, 2023, as presented. CARRIED.

3.2. April 28, 2023

**Moved** by S. Hale, seconded by M. McGonnell, to approve the minutes of April 28, 2023, as amended. CARRIED.

#### 4. Business Arising from the Minutes

##### 4.1. Safety audit

G. Morrison shared that Facilities Management undertook a detailed study of the MSVU security department in 2022 to review the security structures, processes, and infrastructure on campus.

Notable findings from the study included heightened awareness of the new Seton Ridge development which will house 5000+ people, the need to promote security awareness on campus, how to respond to emergency situations, and an update of MSVU's emergency plan. It was also noted that CCTV needs to be reviewed and updated as required. G. Morrison offered to provide the report to Senators upon request.

##### 4.2. Mi'kmaq language course

C. Dawson spoke about our 8+ years' collaboration with SMU and Dal to offer a Mi'kmaq language course. C. Dawson noted that, given the small pool of local speakers available to teach a Mi'kmaq language course, Dal has hired a full-time faculty member who will teach this course as part of their workload and has reserved 12 spots per year for MSVU students. C. Dawson also shared that a MSVU department may bring forward its own proposal for a course and that perhaps doing a combined Mi'kmaq language and culture course (similar to our Introduction to Chinese Culture course) would attract more students. L. Steele spoke about the course development process, noting that the instructor would need to be in place in order to develop the framework for the course. C. Schneider added that the B.Ed. program includes Indigenous focused courses and co-operation between EDUC and MODL could bring these courses to a wider audience. J. Dickinson shared that she has also been consulting with P. Small Legs-Nagge regarding a "lunch and learn" type of event on Mi'kmaq language and culture which would be open to faculty, staff and students.

##### 4.3. Funding for internal research grants

J. Dickinson referenced the total research budget, noting that in accordance with the FA Collective Agreement, that budget must cover up to 12 release-time awards, totalling over 85% of that account and leaving only a small amount for small internal research grants. While this item will be reviewed for next year's budget, J. Gahagan offered to provide a more fulsome report at the next Senate meeting.

##### 4.4. Lab images and Outlook's global access list

J. Valcke updated that IT&S will be temporarily removing student access to the Global Address Book (GAL) over the summer and that they are working on a communication to students including a request for feedback on this change. She noted that the Contact Us section on msvu.ca, Moodle, WebAdvisor and the mobile app can assist students in locating MSVU emails in the interim. She also reported that an alternate address book for students could be set up, possibly resulting in fewer phishing attempts, but it is not a perfect solution. J. Valcke reported that mid-July is the target for reimaging campus

computer labs and for faculty testing while further software updates will be pushed out after the conclusion of SSII.

## **5. Administration Updates**

### **5.1. President**

J. Dickinson reported on the Spring 2023 convocation events, sharing that students, parents and online guests all gave excellent reviews of the events. She further reported on the following: the federal government budget which omitted the Dimensions project, therefore putting the project at risk; updates from a recent government relations session regarding progressing positively with our asks to the provincial government; attendance at the successful Science Atlantic Psychology Student Research Conference; the Afrocentric Leadership Summit; and the May training event hosted by the AVPR's office.

### **5.2. Vice-President Academic and Provost** No report as B. Taylor was absent.

### **5.3. Vice-President Administration** G. Morrison shared her report earlier during Business Arising.

## **6. Question Period**

T. Findlay requested an update regarding the Harassment & Discrimination Advisor position and the Indigenous Advisor position. J. Dickinson responded that the Harassment & Discrimination Advisor position is posted, adding that the Indigenous Advisor position has also been posted and has been revamped in consultation with P. Small Legs-Nagge. Regarding this, M. J. Harkins questioned the requirement of having an M.Ed. for the Indigenous Advisor position and how it could be perceived by Indigenous Elders. J. Dickinson took the feedback into consideration and will talk again with Patrick.

T. Franz-Odendaal asked for an update regarding the Research Grants Coordinator position to which J. Gahagan responded that they are holding interviews next week and hope to have that position filled by July 1.

C. Schneider questioned if Robert Wright's speech from the Chancellor's Dinner would be available as it was impactful. J. Dickinson responded that she has already consulted with him regarding the speech as she felt the same, and he does not have notes available to share.

T. Findlay suggested that the convocation program should include information about what terms mean such as "with distinction" as many guests may not be familiar with the terminology. S. Hale noted this suggestion for future convocations.

T. Franz-Odendaal questioned the next steps in regard to getting a sign language course at the Mount. J. Dickinson responded that at the last Senate meeting, it was stated that the

MSVUSU (who originally asked for the course) would need to take a proposal to the appropriate department for consideration.

C. Schneider spoke about the need to revisit the processes and procedures surrounding course evaluations (“SRIQs”). She noted that the current process may be creating inequity between course evaluations done in-class vs. online due to the lack of response that many online evaluations receive. In particular, C. Schneider is seeking a better policy to be put in place regarding administering online evaluations. J. Dickinson will take note of these suggestions and concerns and follow up with B. Taylor. P. Crouse suggested that SCOTL may be the most appropriate committee to address this initially.

S. Brigham asked for an update on the University Librarian search. M. J. Harkins updated that a job description is complete and a posting is ready. S. Brigham followed up by asking if plans were in place for an interim University Librarian and membership changes on the search committee due to upcoming retirements and resignations. J. Dickinson responded that B. Taylor has an internal plan for both items. T. Harrison noted that the posting is now live.

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

### **7.1. Senate Executive**

#### **7.1.1. Announcement of Senate Master Graduation List approval**

J. Dickinson reported that the Senate Master Graduation List was approved at the May 10, 2023, Senate Executive meeting with 667 students approved to graduate and 4 on the enabling list, two of whom were cleared to graduate. She noted that the ceremonies represented graduates from 26 countries and from over 40 programs, including two MountAbility grads. She reported that 6 graduates received a second credential, 25 graduates received a Senate medal, and 210 students graduated with distinction or first-class honours.

### **7.2. Academic Policy and Planning**

#### **7.2.1. Revisions to Policy on Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

On behalf of CAPP, C. Dawson referenced the revisions to this policy and welcomed to Senate the Manager of Accessibility Services, G. Johnston, who was in attendance to address questions.

M. J. Harkins questioned the language in 6.3 regarding confidentiality, noting that it should be clearly outlined that faculty are not allowed to ask students why they need accommodation. G. Johnston responded that a separate procedures document goes into more detail than the policy document does, that accommodations at the Mount are not diagnosis based, and that asking questions regarding functional limitations is legal.

S. Brigham asked for clarity on point 6.3B, noting that some instructors do not have access to private spaces (i.e. part-time faculty and librarians), so it is the employer's duty to ensure that there are spaces available for confidential discussions. Secondly, S. Brigham commented regarding 6.1B and conflicting accommodation (competing rights) with students and faculty. In response, G. Johnston shared that, after consultation with the Faculty Association, 6.3B was reworded so that it does not imply a space is available and that often these discussions are done via email rather than in person. G. Johnston added that an accessibility policy for MSVU staff and faculty is currently being developed and will cohabitate with the student accommodations policy.

M. Ralston sought clarification regarding item 12, wondering about the timeframe of the two-week accommodation process vs. the new internal complaint process. G. Johnston noted that the two weeks begin at the student's intake meeting with Accessibility Services and that during this two-week period, communication with instructors is encouraged but not required and instructors should not deny the accommodation if it is reasonable. G. Johnston also spoke about the timeline of the complaint process, sharing that there is no deadline within that process and that the inclusion of the dispute resolution is after the accommodation process was not followed or failed in some way.

**Moved** by C. Dawson, seconded by C. Schneider, that Senate approve the revisions to the Policy on Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities, effective immediately. CARRIED.

### 7.3. Graduate Studies Program and Policy

#### 7.3.1. Applied Human Nutrition

##### 7.3.1.1. Changes to Existing Courses

###### 7.3.1.1.1. Revisions to GAHN 6602: Contemporary Issues in Food, Health, and Disease

**Moved** by S. Trenholm, seconded by S. Hale, that Senate approve the revisions to GAHN 6602. CARRIED.

##### 7.3.1.2. Changes to Existing Program

###### 7.3.1.2.1. Admission Requirements for MAHN and MScAHN.

**Moved** by S. Trenholm, seconded by M. J. Harkins, that Senate approve the changes to admission requirements for MAHN and MScAHN. CARRIED.

- 7.3.2. Child and Youth Study
  - 7.3.2.1. Changes to Existing Courses
    - 7.3.2.1.1. GCYS 6016: Children in International Contexts  
**Moved** by S. Trenholm, seconded by E. Henderson, that Senate approve the revisions to GCYS 6016. CARRIED.
  - 7.3.2.2. New Course Proposal
    - 7.3.2.2.1. GCYS 6010: Foundations in Child and Youth Study  
**Moved** by S. Trenholm, seconded by S. Hale, that Senate approve the new course GCYS 6010. CARRIED.
  - 7.3.2.3. Changes to Existing Program
    - 7.3.2.3.1. Program requirements for MA CYS  
**Moved** by S. Trenholm, seconded by E. Henderson, that Senate approve the changes to the program requirements for MA CYS. CARRIED.
- 7.3.3. Education—Educational Foundations
  - 7.3.3.1. Changes to Existing Program
    - 7.3.3.1.1. Program requirements for MEd and MAEd Educational Foundations  
**Moved** by S. Trenholm, seconded by A. Card, that Senate approve the changes to the program requirements for MEd and MAEd Educational Foundations. CARRIED.
- 7.3.4. Education—Elementary and Middle School
  - 7.3.4.1. Changes to Existing Courses
    - 7.3.4.1.1. GEMS 6424: Seminar and Project: Focus on Teaching  
**Moved** by S. Trenholm, seconded by S. Hale, that Senate approve the changes to GEMS 6424. CARRIED.
- 7.3.5. Education—Lifelong Learning
  - 7.3.5.1. Changes to Existing Courses
    - 7.3.5.1.1. GSLL 6290: Practicum Studies in Lifelong Learning  
**Moved** by S. Trenholm, seconded by M. McGonnell, that Senate approve the changes to GSLL 6290. CARRIED.
  - 7.3.5.2. New Course Proposal
    - 7.3.5.2.1. GSLL 6299: Lifelong Learning Project  
**Moved** by S. Trenholm, seconded by A. Card, that Senate approve the new course GSLL 6299. CARRIED.
  - 7.3.5.3. Changes to Existing Program
    - 7.3.5.3.1. Program requirements for MEd Lifelong Learning  
**Moved** by S. Trenholm, seconded by M. McGonnell, that Senate approve the changes to the program requirements for MEd Lifelong Learning. CARRIED.

- 7.4. Undergraduate Curriculum
  - 7.4.1. Business Administration
    - 7.4.1.1. Changes to Existing Program
      - 7.4.1.1.1. Professional exemptions for Association of Administrative Assistants  
**Moved** by A. Card, seconded by E. Henderson, that Senate approve the change in professional exemptions in Business Administration to include the Association of Administrative Assistants. CARRIED.
  - 7.4.2. Communication Studies
    - 7.4.2.1. New Course Proposals
      - 7.4.2.1.1. COMM 4403: Directed Study  
**Moved** by A. Card, seconded by S. Hale, that Senate approve the new course COMM 4403. CARRIED.
    - 7.4.2.2. Changes to Existing Program
      - 7.4.2.2.1. Minor in Science Communication  
**Moved** by A. Card, seconded by C. Dawson, that Senate approve the addition of a minor in Science Communication. CARRIED.
  - 7.4.3. History
    - 7.4.3.1. Changes to Existing Program
      - 7.4.3.1.1. Addition of Combined Major Honours Certificate  
**Moved** by A. Card, seconded by C. Dawson, that Senate approve the addition of a Combined Major with Honours Certificate in History. CARRIED.
  - 7.4.4. Psychology
    - 7.4.4.1. Changes to Existing Program
      - 7.4.4.1.1. Addition of Combined Major with Honours and Combined Major with Honours Certificate.  
**Moved** by A. Card, seconded by C. Dawson, that Senate approve the addition of a Combined Major with Honours and Combined Major with Honours Certificate in Psychology. CARRIED.
  - 7.4.5. Undergraduate Curriculum Committee
    - 7.4.5.1. New Calendar Entry
      - 7.4.5.1.1. Double counting of courses  
A. Card introduced the topic of double counting of courses, providing examples and clarification that the proposed motion is putting past/current practice in writing.  
  
J. MacLeod sought clarification on double-counting courses across programs. S. Hale responded that it

would be department specific and that a maximum of 50% of “unique” courses would be required for each major/minor/etc. C. Dawson added that this new language is a clarification of our current practice and departments are invited to submit Calendar entries containing language to prevent students from double-counting courses if departments choose to do so. The potential implications for specific departments were discussed, including enrollment patterns and who will be responsible for catching double-counting if specific departments choose to exclude themselves from this. (M. Eskritt, G. Durepos, J. MacLeod, G. Fraser). S. Hale noted that regulations would be checked by the Registrar’s Office and programmed into our degree auditing system in Colleague. The name “double-counting” was also discussed, ultimately deciding to use this term to be in line with other institutions.

**Moved** by A. Card, seconded by J. MacLeod, that Senate approve the new Calendar entry about double counting of courses. CARRIED.

7.4.6. Changes

A. Card presented the following change for information.

7.4.6.1. Mathematics and Statistics

7.4.6.1.1. New Prerequisites for MATH 2500

7.5. Library and Archives

7.5.1. Revisions to Open Access Policy

**Moved** by M. Gonick, seconded by M. J. Harkins, that Senate approve the revisions to the open access policy. CARRIED.

7.6. Nominations

7.6.1. Report on Elections by the Faculty Complement

J. Fraser Arsenault shared the Faculty Complement election results for information.

7.6.2. Nominations for Senate-Elected Committees

Committee	Nominee	Term Begins	Term Ends
Executive	Dr. Gabrielle Durepos	1 July 2023	30 June 2026
	Dr. Cornelia Schneider	1 July 2023	30 June 2026
Academic Appeals	Dr. Angela Birt (Alternate)	1 July 2023	30 June 2026
	Dr. Fred French (Regular)	1 July 2023	30 June 2026



Committee	Nominee	Term Begins	Term Ends
Graduate Studies Program and Policy	Dr. Shannan Grant	1 January 2024	30 June 2026
	Dr. Gavin Kernaghan	1 July 2023	30 June 2026
	Dr. Sara King	1 July 2023	30 June 2026
	Dr. Bohdan Luhovyy	1 July 2023	30 December 2023
Undergraduate Curriculum	Dr. Roni Gechtman	1 July 2023	30 June 2026
	Dr. Elsie Henderson	1 July 2023	30 June 2026
	Dr. Bernadette Russo	1 July 2023	30 June 2026
Information Technology & Services	Dr. Donovan Plumb	1 July 2023	30 June 2026
Research and Publications	Dr. KelleyAnne Malinen	1 July 2023	30 June 2026
	Dr. Amy Thurlow	1 July 2023	30 June 2026
	Alina Ruiz	1 January 2024	30 June 2026
	Dr. Zachary Zimmer	1 July 2023	30 June 2026
Teaching and Learning	Dr. Krista Ritchie	1 January 2024	30 June 2026
Undergraduate Admissions, Scholarships & Awards	Megan Fisher	1 July 2023	30 June 2026
Graduate Scholarships, Assistantships & Awards	Dr. Angela Birt	1 July 2023	30 June 2026
	Dr. Maya Eichler	1 July 2023	30 June 2026
	Dr. Mary Jane Harkins	1 July 2023	30 June 2026
	Dr. Alla Kushniryk	1 July 2023	30 June 2026
University Research Ethics Board	Dr. Fred French	1 July 2023	30 June 2026
	Dr. Daniel Séguin	1 January 2024	30 June 2026
	Dr. Patty Williams	1 July 2023	30 June 2026
Nancy's Chair	Dr. Jamie Leach	1 July 2023	30 June 2026
Student Judicial Committee	Dr. Normand Gendron (Alternate)	1 July 2023	30 June 2026
	Dr. Ellen Shaffner (Alternate)	1 July 2023	30 June 2026
Student Discipline Appeals	Dr. Normand Gendron (Alternate)	1 July 2023	30 June 2026
	Dr. Stephen Perrott (Regular)	1 July 2023	30 June 2026
	Dr. Ellen Shaffner (Alternate)	1 July 2023	30 June 2026
Advisory Committee for Chair in Learning Disabilities	Prof. Lindsay Leighton	1 July 2023	30 June 2026

**Moved** by J. Fraser Arsenault, seconded by T. Franz-Odendaal, that Senate ratify the slate of nominations presented by the Senate Nominations Committee on May 15, 2023 and May 17, 2023. CARRIED.

7.6.3. Ratification of Chair of Student Discipline Appeals Committee

**Moved** by J. Fraser Arsenault, seconded by M. J. Harkins, that Dr. Steven Perrott be ratified as Chair of the Student Discipline Appeals Committee effective July 1, 2023. CARRIED.

## 8. Other Reports

### 8.1. Students' Union

J. Mozvik reported on the new MSVUSU executive team, introducing two new members: Deonté Elliott and Tian Pham. J. Mozvik reported on various projects, including idea generation to prepare for the fall, the process of hiring new MSVUSU staff (general manager, food bank manager, and Fountain Play Centre coordinator) and summer grants received to research the history of the SU. J. Mozvik also updated on the ongoing construction to the food bank and thanked Advancement for contributing funds to buy new fridges and freezers for the food bank.

C. Cameron reported on the ongoing work on the naloxone project, noting the supplies now available on campus and upcoming discussions with Administration to ensure that this program continues and to determine the best location to house these supplies.

### 8.2. Strategic Plan Update

J. Dickinson reported that the link to the strategic plan tracker is live and an update will be provided before the next Board meeting on June 27.

## 9. New Business

### 9.1. Recommendations from Tributes Committee

**Moved** by T. Franz-Odendaal, seconded by C. Schneider, that Senate move in-camera to review the recommendations from the Tributes Committee. CARRIED.

**Moved** by T. Franz-Odendaal, seconded by S. Hale, that Senate move out of the in-camera session. CARRIED.

The in-camera session was used to review the recommendations from the Tributes Committee, of which seven nominations were approved and one revocation was approved.

## 10. Items for Communication

Senate approved:

- Minutes of April 17 and 28, 2023
- Revisions to Policy on Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities
- Revisions to Open Access Policy
- Several graduate and undergraduate curriculum changes
- A slate of nominees for standing committees of Senate and other committees
- Ratification of chair for the SDAC
- Seven nominations for honorary degrees and one revocation of an honorary degree.

Senate received for information:

- Undergraduate curriculum change
- Report on elections by the Faculty Complement

Senate thanked Senators whose terms are ending:

*Ex officio members:* B. Taylor, G. Morrison and T. Harrison; *Faculty:* G. Chan, G. Durepos, T. Findlay, J. Fraser Arsenault, G. Fraser, E. Henderson and M. Ralston.

**11. Adjournment**

**Moved** by C. Cameron, seconded by S. Hale, that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 4:28 p.m.