Senate Meeting   November 25, 2016
Rosaria Boardroom   2 p.m.

MINUTES

Present: R. Lumpkin (Chair), M. Atwater, P. Barry, C. Blayney, K. Blotnicky, P. Cantelo,
E. Church, P. Crouse, M. Eskritt, M. Forrest, J. Fraser-Arsenault, R. Gechtman, A. Grant,
R. Green, T. Harrison, A. Humble, N. Kayhani, K. Kienapple, G. MacDonald, J. Mills, R. Nearing,
A. Pottie, I. Pottie, K. Ritchie, D. Rodrigues, J. Sawler, M. Smallridge, L. Steele, P. Watts

Regrets: S. Badali, R. Farmer, M. J. Harkins, B. Jessop, A. MacGillivary, S. MacIntosh, B. Taylor,
M. Whalen

R. Lumpkin advised Senators that the Senate Executive agreed that given there are no agenda
items warranting a meeting, the December Senate meeting will be cancelled. Senators
A. Humble and I. Pottie, completing their terms effective December 31, were thanked for their
service.

To ensure their comments and questions are recorded, Senators were encouraged to use the
microphone system when speaking.

1. Approval of Agenda
    A question was raised, and clarification provided, on agenda item 6.1.1. No change to the
    agenda was required.

    Moved by P. Cantelo, seconded by M. Eskritt, to approve the agenda as presented.
    CARRIED

2. Approval of Minutes of October 28, 2016
    A few typos were identified and will be corrected. Other changes include:
    Page 5: Change "I. Rengate" to "I. Redgate" in first paragraph of 7.2.1
    Page 8: Add "in the retention of" to the third paragraph so that the sentence now reads,
    "G. MacDonald questioned how the 5% drop in the retention of first-year students…"

    Moved by P. Watts and seconded by L. Steele to approve the meeting minutes of
    October 28, 2016, as amended. CARRIED

3. Business Arising from the Minutes
   3.1. Social Responsibility Statement (for approval)

   Based on feedback received at the Board meeting, R. Lumpkin suggested that the circulated Social Responsibility Statement be revised to add the Board of Governors to the list in paragraph 2. The statement would now read: *Our students, faculty, staff and Board of Governors are committed to the dissemination and creation of knowledge that advances social well-being.*

   A question arose, and clarification was provided on "ways of knowing" and the decision not to specifically name examples of ways of knowing.

   Moved by E. Church, seconded by R. Nearing, that the Social Responsibility statement be approved as amended. CARRIED

4. President's Announcements

   R. Lumpkin congratulated the Research Office and faculty and student participants for a highly successful Research Remix event. As well, the students were congratulated on another wonderful Multicultural Dinner. Feedback on both events has been very positive.

   She also noted the announcement of the gift from RBC in support of the Spark Zone Entrepreneurship Centre, working in particular with female students on entrepreneurial projects.

   Under Government relations, R. Lumpkin provided an update on the strong recommendation made in the report from the Government's Research and Innovation Table for the restoration of Nova Scotia Research Infrastructure Trust (NSRIT) matching funding for Canadian Foundation for Innovation (CFI) grants originally cut from the Provincial budget last year. CFI will be in Halifax for a reception on Monday; R. Lumpkin has been asked to speak on the importance of CFI funding, particularly within HRM campuses. An overview of NSRIT funding awarded in the past 20 years within the province and the portion the Mount received was shared.

   Other government relations updates included the meeting with the Deputy Ministers on the research and exciting work happening on campus and subsequent letter of appreciation received from the Province. The Minister of Aboriginal Affairs, Carolyn Bennett, visited campus in connection with a Truth and Reconciliation and treaty education event organized by faculty member J. Sharpe; E. Church added a brief overview of the event attended by a broad range of indigenous students.

Senate members were encouraged to drop into the students' monthly TGIF event at Vinnies and were encouraged to attend the Board/Senate reception tonight in the Art Gallery.

5. Question Period

No questions were raised.

6. Committee Reports (Standing and Ad Hoc)
   6.1. Senate Executive
      6.1.1. Senate Policy on the Academic Implications of a Labour Dispute (for approval)
      R. Lumpkin provided the background context for the proposed change, an overview of discussions held at Senate Executive and the subsequent suggestion that, instead of rewording the policy, the policy name be changed to reflect its intent. Once Senate approves the policy name change, it will be reformatted to the policy template and returned to Senate for further approval. The following motion was made:

      Moved by K. Blotnicky, seconded by I. Pottie, that the "Senate Policy on the Academic Implications of a Labour Dispute" be renamed "Senate Policy on the Academic Implications of a Labour Dispute Involving Any Bargaining Unit Other Than the Faculty Association." (Motion was tabled.)

      A discussion was held and it was agreed that, given the revised policy name would refer to the Faculty Association, the motion (above) should be tabled until such a time that the Faculty Association has the opportunity to review the possible implications of a change to the name of the policy and to ensure that any relevant changes made to the Faculty Collective Agreement in recent years are reflected in the policy. Once this has been undertaken, the policy will be reformatted to the approved template and return to Senate for approval.

   6.2. Academic Policy and Planning
      6.2.1. Report on Recommendations 14 and 15 in the Academic Plan (for information and discussion)
      P. Watts outlined and explained Academic Plan Recommendations #14 (Explore the potential of all programs to be offered online or in blended modes....and develop a strategy for increasing online education) and #15 (Incorporate learning and teaching technologies and approaches—online and on-campus—that can enhance learning). She noted that Distance Learning and Continuing Education is also in the process of an external review; this plays into the importance of discussion.

She gave a brief environmental scan of the current landscape of internal and external distance learning, programs and learners, spoke to the reasoning behind the two recommendations and the process undertaken in their development, outlined committee representation and what it would take to fulfill the two recommendations. The importance of collaboration and engagement from all stakeholders was expressed. Senators were invited to provide feedback and suggestions.

A. Humble questioned whether the tracking system (mentioned in the report) developed and used by institutions in other provinces to enable searching for distance courses would also be developed at the Mount; this system was, at some point in the past, expected to be developed by the Mount.   P. Watts responded that a sub-committee of the working committee, under the Innovation Strategy, is looking at the prospect of developing this searchable provincial database of online courses.
E. Church added that there is a province-wide database for summer sessions only. Resources used in other provinces were outlined.

A. Humble expressed concern about the statement on the multi-access mode learning. P. Watts provided a background on the initiation of multi-access mode learning, explained that concern is focused on how the mode can be made easier for faculty and students, and outlined how Distance Learning currently supports this mode of learning/teaching. Technology is also being evaluated to see if it is the best vehicle to support multi-access mode learning.

M. Forrest questioned whether the report/recommendations would come forward to Senate for adoption and where it would go from here. P. Watts explained that the report is for information only and that the actions under the recommendations would be addressed by those designated as responsible for outcomes.

M. Forrest then raised a concern about what impact naming all faculty as having a shared responsibility in the recommendation and actions (page 9 of the report) would have on the academic freedom of individual faculty members; she suggested that the word "faculty" be removed from the recommendation.

E. Church clarified that it is not suggested that every course and/or program within the University would be offered online and that the Academic Plan, approved by Senate, does recommend the development of a strategy for online education within the University. E. Church further

noted the recommendation does not say "all faculty"; however, it was recognized that it will only work with shared responsibility.

R. Gechtman expressed appreciation for the online courses listed in Appendix B and suggested that a recommendation be made to hire more permanent personnel to help faculty facilitate technology related to the online programs.   P. Watts outlined new joint support and processes between DLCE and IT&S in place to assist students and faculty with online courses. E. Church noted that the recommendation actions stress the importance of multi-access courses. A classroom has been dedicated to the initiative and new equipment sourced.

N. Kayhani referenced recommendation #1 (previously referenced by M. Forrest) and suggested that "Faculty and Deans" be replaced with "Academic Departments." P. Watts did not object to this. M. Forrest later reiterated that this is what she was alluding to in her earlier comments.

L. Steele questioned whether more classrooms dedicated to multi-access classes would become available; P. Watts agreed that as this kind of class grows, the University will need to ensure that space is available to accommodate them.

R. Nearing thanked P. Watts for her report and Senators for their hard work to ensure offerings are online; from a student's perspective, it is often the most marginalized students who stand to benefit most from these offerings.

R. Green questioned, in light of R. Nearing's comment regarding marginalized students, whether there would be consideration to removing the differential fee and whether resources required to support multi-access courses will expand at the same rate that the demand for multi-access courses does. P. Watts responded that the differential fee for multi-access courses is in the process of being reviewed. She suggested that there may be an opportunity to look at new resources to help support instructional development, technology support and collaboration with the Teaching and Learning Centre.

K. Ritchie expressed appreciation for the student voice and perspective and suggested that feedback be sourced from both on-campus students and marginalized students taking the multi-access courses. E. Church noted that CAPP, responsible for the Report, does include student representation. M. Atwater, member of CAPP, advised that this is a conversation CAPP is having and that CAPP will be meeting with P. Watts

and other colleagues to continue conversations on distance courses and will be engaging students, including marginalized students, on their experience.

J. Sawler questioned whether the Report conclusion alludes to a possible department restructure. P. Watts responded that DLCE is undergoing an external review process; a restructure could be a recommendation of the review.

D. Rodrigues questioned how the University might provide part-time faculty, paid by course, with better support and training. P. Watts acknowledged the challenges and agreed it is something to consider.

6.2.2. Report on External Review of Biology (for information and discussion)
E. Church presented the report from CAPP on the external review of Biology for information. There were no questions raised.

6.3. Graduate Studies Program and Policy
6.3.1. Women & Gender Studies (for information)
6.3.1.1 New Course Name for GWGS 6609, GWGS 6614, GWGS 6615 and GWGS 6616

For information purposes, K. Kienapple outlined the course name revisions for Women & Gender Studies courses GWGS 6609, GWGS 6614, GWGS 6615 and GWGS 6616. There were no questions raised.

6.4. Undergraduate Curriculum
6.4.1. Child and Youth Study (for approval)
6.4.1.1 Changes to Existing Program, Practicum requirements

Moved by K. Kienapple, seconded by K. Blotnicky, that Senate approve the changes to the practicum description and requirements for the Child and Youth Study program. CARRIED with one abstention.

6.4.2. English (for approval)
6.4.2.1 Changes to Existing Program
6.4.2.1.1 Concentration in English requirements
6.4.2.1.2 Minor in English requirements
6.4.2.1.3 Minor in Writing requirements

Moved by K. Kienapple, seconded by R. Green, that Senate approve the changes to the Concentration in English, Minor in English and Minor in Writing requirements. CARRIED

6.4.3. Psychology (for approval)
     6.4.3.1   Changes to Existing Program
          6.4.3.1.1   ENGL/WRIT requirements for Psychology majors and honours degree
          6.4.3.1.2   PSYC requirements for Psychology core program and majors

R. Green asked that "WRIT" be added to Bachelor of Science – Psychology (Core C – Humanities) so it reads "(Note: Core C is fulfilled by the 1.0 of ENGL/WRIT)" on page 90 of the meeting materials.

Moved by K. Kienapple, seconded by M. Eskritt, that Senate approve the changes to the description for the Psychology Program around the English/Writing requirements for Psychology majors and honours and the PSYC requirements for the Psychology Core Program and Majors, as amended. CARRIED

6.4.4. Student Services – International Education Centre (for approval)
     6.4.4.1   Exchange Agreement with University of Zurich, Switzerland

Moved by K. Kienapple, seconded by P. Barry, to approve the Exchange Agreement with the University of Zurich, Switzerland. CARRIED

6.4.5. Course Changes (for information)

     6.4.5.1   Business and Tourism
          6.4.5.1.1   New Prerequisites for BUSI 3338

     6.4.5.2   Child and Youth Study
          6.4.5.2.1   New Prerequisites for CHYS 1120
          6.4.5.2.2   Deletion of Prerequisites for CHYS 1130
          6.4.5.2.3   New Prerequisites for CHYS 3314

     6.4.5.3   Communication Studies
          6.4.5.3.1   Deletion of Prerequisites for COMM 3022

     6.4.5.4   Economics
          6.4.5.4.1   New Prerequisites for ECON 1102

     6.4.5.5   Modern Languages
          6.4.5.5.1   Deletion of Prerequisites for SPAN 2921

6.4.5.6 Psychology
    6.4.5.6.1 New Prerequisites and Revised Description for PSYC 3312
    6.4.5.6.2 New Course Name and Prerequisites for PSYC 4405 & PSYC 4406

6.4.5.7 Sociology/Anthropology
    6.4.5.7.1 New Course Name and Revised Exclusion for SOAN 1502
    6.4.5.7.2 New Course Name and Revised Exclusion for SOAN 1503

K. Kienapple presented the above course changes for information purposes; there were no questions or comments.

6.5. Information Technology and Services *(J. Mills)*

J. Mills reported on the new computers being distributed as part of the computer refresh program; the move to Windows 10 and Office 365; email problems faculty are reporting on behalf of students; concern about the lack of secure Wi-Fi and support for Apple computers on campus associated with the inability to print; recommendations for 3-D printing ability; and the redesign of MyMount to display properly on a wide array of devices.

M. Forrest raised concern about backup servers not being maintained within Canada; clarification was provided that the servers are now maintained in Canada.

G. MacDonald advised that faculty are always encouraged to use OneDrive to store research data, reference letters or any other significant data/correspondence to ensure its security and to avoid exploitation. She cautioned that email (and any attachments sent via email) is not always secure.

K. Ritchie raised the concern that some research teams (faculty members) endeavoring to use OneDrive and Office 365 do not have consistent access to online apps. A request sent to IT&S has not been addressed.

I. Pottie asked that his query regarding when Office 365 and SharePoint will be functional for researchers on campus be brought back to SCOITS.

K. Blotnicky questioned whether documents stored on OneDrive are the property of the faculty member or linked to one's University account. She wondered whether faculty members could possibly be blocked from documents stored on OneDrive in the event of a faculty strike or lockout.

M. Forrest suggested an action item to send an advisory to all faculty about security practices to follow on the various software platforms used.

J. Mills agreed to bring Senators' concerns back to SCOITS.

G. MacDonald advised Senators that A. McPhee, IT&S, is offering sessions on Office 365 on Fridays and is willing to conduct one-on-one training within faculty offices.

7. Other Reports

    7.1. Board of Governors

    R. Lumpkin provided an overview of recent Board meeting outcomes including a presentation on enrolment and recruitment, the Board's discussion and approval of the Social Responsibility Statement, an update on the Presidential Search, and a report from the Finance Committee that identified a shortfall of approximately $800K in budgeted tuition primarily due to a drop in course units for the winter term. Additional revenues from other areas and projected cost savings from departmental budgets will reduce the revenue shortfall to $350K. A portion of revenue from the tuition reset will be used to offset the budget shortfall.

    E. Church added that the Board also approved a request brought forward by the Finance Committee for an increase to the spend amount for the preliminary work on #2 Melody Drive.

    M. Forrest raised concern about the move of the Presidential Search Committee from an open to a closed format. R. Lumpkin advised that the report on the Search Committee activities came directly from the Board Chair who spoke at large at the Board meeting on the research and consultative process used before making the decision to move to a confidential search. R. Nearing encouraged Senate members to contact M. Whalen, Senate representative on the Presidential Search Committee, with questions or feedback.

    7.2. Students' Union

    R. Nearing provided highlights from Students' Union on four main areas of operation including governance, advocacy, services and student life initiatives. Updates included Students' Representative Council sub-committee activities, participation in the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) National Day of Action, attendance at the CFS General meeting, the planned hiring of a Pride Centre Coordinator, the status of the Wellness Pantry, the continuation of hosting a

diverse student life program, the hosting of an event during Open Campus Day, an "I'm Feeling" program and the success of the Students' Union Annual "Spooktacular" Haunted House. Over $1200 was raised and many in-kind donations received in support of Shelter Nova Scotia; appreciation was expressed for those who contributed to the success of the Annual Haunted House.

Questions were raised and clarification provided on the number and demographics of students accessing the Wellness Pantry, products most often requested and needed, and the types of donations received and/or accepted. R. Nearing will be giving a presentation at the Board/Senate reception later this evening; Senators were encouraged to attend.

7.3.   Mount 2017: Making a Difference
The quarterly report was posted to the Senate SharePoint site with the meeting material. There were no questions or comments raised.

8. New Business

8.1.   Presentation on Scholarly Publishing in Higher Education (T. Harrison)

T. Harrison presented on the evolution of scholarly publishing with a focus on journals, including top journal publishers; the Mount's collections budget and expenditures; challenges with current academic pricing models related to "bundle pricing"; the impact of the Internet on digital production, distribution, and collection management; where collection funds are spent; and the impact of the Canadian exchange rate on the cost of licenses and pricing tiers.

T. Harrison reviewed strategies that the University is using to manage and balance the Library budget with access to journals, publications and databases and suggested how the scholarly community can help.

Senators were encouraged to look to the Tri-Agency Open Access Policy on Publications and the Mount's OA policy, consider supporting alternative publishing models that prioritize open access, understand and demand fair author rights, and recognize open access publishing in the RPT process.

Postcards designed and shared at the recent Research Remixed by L. McCallum (University Humanities, Archives and Scholarly Communication Librarian) on open access initiatives and tools were distributed to Senators.

The University is looking to develop more sustainable models for research output and access in the future. Students and faculty were encouraged to participate in discussions with librarians about core collections and with the Research Office on

open access funds offered, to think about what kind of library the Mount wants and needs, where to draw the line in negotiations with publishers, and how to engage and communicate with stakeholders during negotiations. T. Harrison noted that she is willing to attend departmental meetings to speak on issues of copyright and open access.

G. MacDonald offered the Research Office's involvement in the advocacy of open access and outlined her own past involvement with Humanities and Social Sciences. She urged Senators to make open access an issue with their professional and disciplinary associations nationally and outlined her plans to raise awareness at upcoming national events. She updated Senators on Research Office initiatives, including reaching out to those support agencies who participated at the recent Research Remixed, to try to publicize and raise awareness of the issue. She offered to partner with the Library to provide faculty with workshop or training sessions on the subject.

A full and robust discussion was held where Senators expressed concern about:
- The perceived exploitation of the peer-review process and the corporatization and privatization of knowledge.
- The possible need to download PDF documents to a personal library to ensure continued access.
- The space requirements to maintain personal libraries of information/documents. (T. Harrison suggested that rather than download pdfs, faculty should search for and link to the resource within a database/library that the University is paying for).
- The significant cost of access to the journals (a large part of the Library's budget and 1.25% of the overall University budget).
- Downloading pdfs from Moodle (35 possible downloads) versus linking to a common pdf (1 download).
- Having to make sacrifices in the short term in determining what journals are needed next and determining how long term how to partner with other universities to negotiate with publishers.
- Moving to open access only or being forced to pay outrageous prices for access to publications.

J. Sawler questioned Sr. Administration on whether there is movement nationally to address the issue. R. Lumpkin responded that national organizations are looking at this issue and that it, as well as the copyright issue, are on the agenda of Universities Canada as both relate to the knowledge economy and the cost imposed upon knowledge.

It was suggested by several senators that when attending regional and national functions, they should raise awareness of the issue with others within their own associations.

T. Harrison outlined a concern with pirating and ways that some try to get documents to which they don't otherwise have access. She advised that due to an electronic break in at the Library, the barcode access has been changed to username format.

A. Grant advised that, from a student's perspective, having consistent access to resources is important. She outlined a situation where she received a link to an article from her professor only to have the link become unavailable to her later. She was asked to send an example of this to T. Harrison for investigation.

M. Forrest advised caution when looking for a journal to publish in and suggested boycotting those with incredibly excessive policies that pass the cost onto scholars. T. Harrison suggested that faculty approach University librarians for assistance locating open access journals.

T. Harrison thanked Senators for their feedback; she, in turn, was thanked for her presentation.

9. Items for Communication

    Senate approved:
    - Minutes of October 28, 2016, meeting
    - The Social Responsibility Statement
    - Undergraduate curriculum changes
    - Exchange agreement with the University of Zurich, Switzerland

    Senate received for information:
    - CAPP's report on Recommendations 14 & 15 of the Academic Plan
    - CAPP's report on the External Review of Biology
    - Several graduate and undergraduate curriculum changes
    - SCOITS report
    - Presentation on Scholarly Publishing in Higher Education

    Senate thanked outgoing senators Ian Pottie and Aine Humble for their service on Senate.

10. Adjournment

    Moved by R. Nearing, seconded by G. MacDonald that the meeting be adjourned.
    CARRIED