

MINUTES

Present: E. Church (Acting Chair), S. Badali, C. Blayney, I. Blum, M. Bowen, A. Cole, J. Corcoran, S. Drain, F.X. Eygun, J. Fraser-Arsenault, R. Gechtman, R. Green, M.J. Harkins, T. Harrison, J. Hollett, A. Humble, K. Kienapple, S. King, B. MacInnes, J. MacLeod, L. Mann, J. Mills, P. Mombourquette, I. Pottie, L. Steele, B. Taylor, P. Watts, M. Whalen.

Regrets: B. Jessop, M. Eskritt, J. Grant, R. Lumpkin

E. Church presented the Senate Award for Service in University Governance to Dr. Deborah Norris. D. Norris humbly and gratefully accepted the award.

1. Approval of Agenda

Moved by J. Hollett, seconded J. MacLeod, to approve the agenda as amended. CARRIED

2. Approval of Minutes of April 24, 2015

Moved by R. Green, seconded by J. Hollett, to approve the meeting minutes of April 24, 2015 as presented. CARRIED

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

3.1. Dashboard update

B. MacInnes reported that K. Smyth and the IT team are currently undergoing testing with the updated Dashboard application. She noted that the updated software will look very much the same for the end user and that IT is hopeful that it will be completely rolled out by the end of the summer.

R. Green had a suggestion regarding a calendar entry amendment for the Transfer Admissions Policy from the last meeting, suggesting that the 50% requirement in the degree and in the components of a degree be repeated as appropriate for clarity.

B. MacInnes accepted the friendly amendment.

4. President's Announcements

E. Church mentioned the National Survey on Student Engagement (NSSE). She also mentioned the recent convocation ceremonies and the opening of the Margaret Norrie McCain Centre and the grand opening event of the Centre on May 29, 2015.

E. Church expressed thanks to Senators who will not be returning to Senate in the upcoming academic year: Dr. Ilya Blum, Ms Judy Fraser Arsenault, Prof. Linda Mann, Dr. Ardra Cole, and Mr. Jeff Hollett.

5. Question Period

None.

6. Committee Reports (Standing and Ad Hoc)

6.1. Academic Policy and Planning

6.1.1. Graduate Certificates and Diplomas, Policy and Procedures

Moved by B. Taylor, seconded by I. Blum, that Senate approve the Policy and Procedures for Graduate Certificates and Diplomas. CARRIED

6.1.2. Academic Standing

Moved by B. Taylor, seconded by M. Whalen, that Senate approve the modifications to the Calendar entry on academic standing. CARRIED

6.1.3. Implementation of the Academic Plan, Progress Report

B. Taylor presented the Progress Report on the Implementation of the Academic Plan for information.

6.1.4. Presentation on the National Survey on Student Engagement (NSSE)

J. Hollett presented the National Survey on Student Engagement (NSSE). He reviewed the NSSE process (and the three comparator groups – 70 Canadian universities, 11 Atlantic Canadian universities, and Canadian universities of a similar size). He reviewed the demographics of the participating students such as age, profile (transfer students, international students, and first generation students), the number of courses taken, and rates of student employment.

B. Taylor presented data on academics (student engagement in the classroom, student preparation when coming to class, collaborative learning and diversity) and on the quality of interactions with faculty, other administration, student services/staff, academic advisors and other students. He also reviewed data on experiences with faculty and effective teaching practices, noting that we are trending well on these various types of interactions. He did note that faculty-student interactions outside the classroom are not quite as strong. He also noted positive numbers in the contribution to knowledge, skills and personal development (in writing, speaking, analyzing statistical information and diversity). He noted low scores in the contribution of knowledge through critical and analytical thinking. He added that the data reflected low numbers regarding students working with faculty on a research projects and the completion of a capstone courses/senior project/thesis. He mentioned positive numbers in the connection of what students are learning in a social context.

E. Church noted that we are unable to compare to previous years as NSSE changed the questions. She then opened the floor to questions.

L. Mann wondered if a summary or analysis will be presented.

E. Church responded that a campus presentation will be announced at a later date.

Certain questions will be looked at in more depth and focused on from an improvement perspective.

R. Green made comment on the economic situation of many of our students, they are older and have to work which means it will take longer for them to finish their degrees. She also commented that student research assistance depends on the availability of research grants.

In response to a question from I. Pottie, E. Church responded that a breakdown of the data by disciplines is not readily available.

In response to a question from A. Cole, E. Church responded that more information is available about learning styles in addition to collaborative learning.

J. MacLeod noted that the data could be used as a possible rebuttal to the O'Neill report.

In response to a question from L. Mann, E. Church replied that access to the full list of questions was possible, and added that she welcomed additional comments and commentary.

6.2. Undergraduate Curriculum

6.2.1. Changes in program requirements

6.2.1.1. Department of Business and Tourism

Moved by S. Badali, seconded by C. Blayney, that Senate approve the changes in course requirements for the Department of Business and Tourism. CARRIED

6.2.1.2. Department of Child and Youth Study

Moved by S. Badali, seconded by J. MacLeod, that Senate approve the changes in course requirements for the Department of Child and Youth Study. CARRIED

6.2.1.3. Department of Communication Studies

Moved by S. Badali, seconded by I. Pottie, that Senate approve the changes in course requirements for the Department of Communication Studies. CARRIED

6.2.2. Memorandum of Understanding with University College of the Cayman Islands

Moved by S. Badali, seconded by M. Whalen, that Senate approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the University College of the Cayman Islands. CARRIED

6.2.3. CHYS: New prerequisite for CHYS 4421

S. Badali presented CHYS: New prerequisite for CHYS 4421 for information.

6.3. Nominations

6.3.1. Nominations for Senate-elected Committees

Moved by C. Blayney, seconded by B. MacInnes, that Senate elect the following faculty members to the designated Senate-elected committees or positions for their respective terms. CARRIED

Committee	Nominee	Term Begins	Term Ends
Secretary of Senate	Prof. Paula Crouse	1 January 2016	30 June 2018
Senate Executive	Dr Karen Blotnick	1 July 2015	30 June 2018
Academic Appeals	Dr Cornelia Schneider	1 July 2015	30 June 2018
Academic Appeals	Prof. Ned Kelleher	1 July 2015	30 June 2018
Academic Appeals	Dr Tess Laidlaw	1 January 2016	30 June 2018
Grad. Studies Program & Policy	Dr Tina Harriott	1 July 2015	30 June 2018
Grad. Studies Program & Policy	Dr Donna Varga	1 July 2015	30 June 2018
Undergraduate Curriculum	Dr Fred French	1 July 2015	30 June 2018
Undergraduate Curriculum	Dr Adriana Benzaquen	1 January 2016	30 June 2018
Undergraduate Curriculum	Dr Nancy Chesworth	1 January 2016	30 June 2018
Information Tech. & Services	Dr Christine Doe	1 July 2015	30 June 2018
Information Tech. & Services	Dr Juliette Valcke	1 July 2015	30 June 2018
Information Tech. & Services	Mr Kevin Shaughnessy	1 July 2015	30 June 2018
Information Tech. & Services	Ms Terri Milton	1 July 2015	30 June 2018
Senate Library Committee	Prof. Elsie Henderson	1 January 2016	30 June 2018
Research and Publications	Dr Corey Slumkoski	1 July 2015	30 June 2018
Research and Publications	Dr Aibing Xia	1 January 2016	30 June 2018
Student Experience	Dr Jonathan Roberts	1 January 2016	30 June 2018
Teaching and Learning	Ms Kelly Resmer	1 July 2015	30 June 2018
Teaching and Learning	Dr Allan Neilsen	1 January 2016	30 June 2018
Writing Initiatives Committee	Dr Steven Perrott	1 July 2015	30 June 2018

Undergraduate Admissions & Scholarships	Dr Nargess Kayhani	1 July 2015	30 June 2018
Graduate Scholarships, Assistantships & Awards	Dr Susie Brigham	1 July 2015	30 June 2018
Graduate Scholarships, Assistantships & Awards	Dr DeNel Rehberg Sedo	1 July 2015	30 June 2018
Univ. Research Ethics Board	Dr Helen Mallette	1 July 2015	30 June 2018
Univ. Research Ethics Board	Dr Allan Neilsen	1 July 2015	30 June 2018
Univ. Research Ethics Board	Dr Dan Seguin	1 July 2015	30 June 2018
Nancy's Chair Committee	Dr Susie Brigham	1 July 2015	30 June 2018
Student Judicial Committee	Dr Derek Fisher (alt)	1 July 2015	30 June 2018
Student Discipline Appeals	Dr Corey Slumkoski	1 July 2015	30 June 2018
Student Discipline Appeals	Dr Derek Fisher (alt)	1 July 2015	30 June 2018

6.3.2. Report on Elections by the Faculty Complement

C. Blayne presented the Results of Election for Senate, URC, and URC-LI and calls for nominations for Senate and the Committee on Academic Policy and Planning.

6.3.3 Writing Initiatives

P. Watts brought forward a notice of motion regarding the proposed changes to the Terms of Reference of the Writing Initiatives Committee.

J. Hollett brought forward a friendly amendment which was accepted.

7. Other Reports

7.1. Students' Union

J. Corcoran reported on the Students' Union visioning retreat held prior to end of term. He noted that the SU Storage room will be renovated as a Boardroom over the summer months; this space will be used by the Union Executive and will be opened up as a bookable space for Student Society meetings. He mentioned the student/tutor database, the 35th Anniversary of Vinnie's Pub and the re-opening of the Seton Info Desk in the fall of 2015.

8. Items for Communication

Senate approved the following:

- Minutes of April 24, 2015
- New Policy and Procedures for Graduate Certificates and Diplomas
- Changes to the Undergraduate Calendar Entry on Academic Standing (effective September 2015: see the Calendar)
- Undergraduate Curriculum changes
- A slate of nominees for standing committees of Senate and other committees

Senate received for information

- An update on Dashboard
- A progress report from CAPP on the implementation of the Academic Plan
- A report on the Mount's results in the National Survey of Student Engagement 2014
- Minor undergraduate curriculum changes
- A report of the results of elections by the Faculty Complement

- Notice of motion for a change to the terms of reference of the Writing Initiatives Committee
- A report from the Students' Union

9. Adjournment

Moved by I. Blum, seconded by J. Hollett, that the meeting be adjourned. **CARRIED**