

MOUNT ALLISON UNIVERSITY
MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

November 1, 2022, 4:00pm
Windsor Grand Room & Microsoft Teams (hybrid format)

Present: N. Anthonisen, K. Bell, A. Beverley, J-P. Boudreau (Chair), S. Chun, B. Clayton, K. Crosby, S. DeWolfe, J. Dryden, B. Evans, A. Fancy, S. Fanning, D. Fleming, A. Francis, L. Garnett, M. Hamilton, J. Hennessy (Vice-Chair), R. Inglis, C. Ionescu, K. Johnston, E. Jollimore, J. Kalyn, K. Keleher, A. Koval, A. Kreuger, R. Lapp, I. Lirette, C. Lovekin, C. MacDougall, C. Major, V. Meli, R. Minocha-McKenney, A. Morash, R. Moser (Secretary), J. Mullen, T. Nelson, G. Ouelette, B. Robertson, R. Rubin, S. Runge, S. Park, S. Sarkar, V. St. Pierre, E. Steuter, J. Tomes, N. Vogan, B. Walters

Regrets: F. Antonelli, A. Comfort

01.11.01 Territorial Acknowledgement

J-P. Boudreau 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.

The Chair thanked everyone for keeping in mind Indigenous principles of seeing, doing, and knowing.

02.11.01 Approval of agenda

Motion (K. Bell / J. Kalyn): that Senate adopt the agenda as presented.

Motion carried

03.11.01 Consent Agenda

Approval of the minutes (11 Oct., 2022)

Report from Academic Matters, Curriculum and Academic (J. Hennessy)

M. Hamilton asked whether substantive changes to programs would ever appear on the consent agenda. The Chair said no, the consent agenda is meant only for reasonably uncontentious, minor matters of business at Senate. He added that anyone may move to take any item off the consent agenda and add it to the agenda for discussion.

V. Meli noted some minor corrections to the minutes and sent them via email to R. Moser for incorporation into the corrected minutes.

04.11.01 Business arising from the minutes

No business arising.

05.11.01 Chair's remarks

Support Services

The Chair drew attention to the many support services that exist for our students, notably study skills support, Meighen Centre support, and counselling services.

Open House

Open House was a success, the first in-person event in a couple of years. Mount Allison hosted 512 guests, 320 prospective students, and 147 on-the-spot offers were made.

Sexual Violence Prevention Policy

The consultation process ended on Sept. 21, and VP A. Comfort's team has incorporated feedback into the Policy draft. The cabinet team reviewed the updated policy and is due to give it a final, careful read before submitting it to the Board of Governors. The Chair noted that R. Minocha-McKenney had said MASU is developing a summary of the policy for distribution to students.

Enrollment

The Province offered incentive to grow enrollment by 2% of the previous year's number, and Mount Allison's enrollment grew by 1.2% (including part-time students: by 1.4%). The Province has promised a prorated amount for the 1.2% increase. This amounts to \$138k, which is 87k short of what would have been granted at the full 2%. This is helpful, but the Chair reminded Senate of the \$825k shortfall in the university's operating budget reported at last meeting.

COVID protocols

The Chair informed Senate that the university will maintain its existing COVID protocols for the coming Winter term. He said it was an easy decision to make for the COVID working group, acting out of an abundance of caution. The Chair had spoken with R. Minocha-McKenney about the impact on students of the decision, especially continuing with masking for all campus events.

Events around the world

The President drew attention to major events of tragic loss in recent days, including the Seoul crowd crush at Halloween, the Morbi bridge collapse, and the ongoing conflict in Ukraine. He reminded Senate that these events have direct impact on family and friends of members of our community, and to be mindful of these stressors. He drew attention to a weekly event offered by multifaith chaplain Elie Hummel, a space to be with gratitude, intentions, and concerns, at the Chapel, Wednesdays at 4pm.

VP International & Student Affairs

The Chair informed Senate that VP A. Comfort is taking a brief leave effective October 31. The President will take over as interim VP International & Student Affairs.

Events

Mount Allison will acknowledge Remembrance Day and will have a presence at the service in Sackville at the Centennial Memorial Park.

There will be a university-wide call for Honorary Degree Candidates coming out tomorrow. The candidates for Honorary Degrees are considered by a joint committee of Senate and the Board of Governors. The list will come back to Senate, hopefully in time for the December meeting.

The Argosy student newspaper celebrates its 150th anniversary of operation this year. Watch for special events to be communicated.

A Sacred Fire will be held on November 25th, 12pm-5pm, to mark the 10th anniversary of the disappearance of Mount Allison student Chris Metallic.

Local elections are scheduled for November 28th, and the Chair noted that the voting site has been moved from the arena to a site up near Silver Lake. The Chair has communicated with R. Minocha-McKenney to make plans ensuring students have easy access to the voting site.

The Chair closed his remarks and invited discussion.

J. Kalyn asked about the updated enrollment trends in the regional universities. The President said the information is now public, and reviewed some highlights. At one extreme a regional institution had a 30% increase; at the other extreme another institution had a 7.5% decrease. Most were neutral or hovering around a 1% to 2% increase. Of NB universities, Moncton, UNB, and Mt. Allison all had a slight increase, and St. Thomas had a slight decrease. The President expressed his enthusiasm for renewed efforts at recruiting and retaining Francophone students, including the MarCom team's creation of a Mt. Allison landing webpage for Francophone students.

A. Beverley asked whether the Sexual Violence & Prevention Policy would come to Senate. The Chair clarified that it would not.

06.11.01 Report from University Planning Committee (J. Hennessy)

The Chair reported on behalf of J. Hennessy, who was away from the meeting on business in Ottawa. The Chair said positive program review reports were received after the site visits with ECON and BIOL. The Provost's once-a-term written report to Senate will appear at the December meeting of Senate.

07.11.01 Discover Mt.A

The Chair invited members to signal events.

J. Tomes signaled the following items of note from the Faculty of Science:

Chemistry & Biochemistry is hosting Dr. Johanna Blacquiere, from Western University, for the first Steve Westcott Memorial Lecture on Dec. 2.

Dr. Diana Hamilton from Biology has received grants from the New Brunswick Wildlife Trust Fund, the Clean Tech Internship, and Environment and Climate Change Canada.

Dr. Jeff Ollerhead from Geography and Environment has recently been interviewed by CBC about dunes and the impact of climate change.

Dr. Julia Riley from Biology has been interviewed by the New York Times about the social behaviour of reptiles.

The MATH/CS department ran a very successful Science Atlantic Conference. First Place in the Computer Science contest went to the Mount Allison student team of Logan Pipes, Crystal Sharpe, and Stanley Sawyer. In the Math Talks, Mount Allison students won all the prizes.

The Dean thanked Dr. Riley and Dr. Ollerhead in particular, but also other researchers at Mount Allison, for willingness to share their research with the general public, which is increasingly important in an age of misinformation.

V. St. Pierre signaled the following from the Faculty of Arts and the Faculty of Social Sciences:

Book Launch -Philosophy (Dr. Drew Inkpen co -authored book - "Can Microbial Communities Regenerate?") Nov 14th 5pm in Con Hall Foyer

Music - Bragg Artist in Residence -Composer Missy Mazzoli - Nov 14-18 - all sorts of events - check music website

Drama - next show in MFT - Nov 30 - Dec 3 "An Inspector Calls" Directed by Paul del Motte and Sarah Fanning (featuring performers from all across campus!)

English - Book launch (virtual) November 4th - Renee Belliveau's "The sound of fire" based on the Dec 1941 fire destroying the men's residence at Mt A. The link can be found on the English website.

Indigenous Studies - Dr. Karl Hele, whose book for which he was co-editor, won best French language book in the field of educational history for the years 2018-2020. This award was given by the Canadian History of education association. (Title - "La Blessure qui Dormait a Poings Fermes: L'heritage des pensionnats autochtones au Quebec)

Geography and Environment - Dr. Corrine Cash - Book Launch Event on Nov 25th - 12-2pm Windsor Grand Room - Celebrating two of her recent, co-edited books (with Larry A. Swatuk) "The Political Economy of Climate Finance: Lessons from International Development" and "The Political Economy of Urban Water Security under climate change"

A. Beverley signaled the Stanley Lecture in Canadian Studies by Dr. Karl Hele, Thursday December 1st, 4:30pm in the Winsor Grand Room.

A. Fancy noted the extraordinary reviews for the most recent offering at the Motyer Fancy Theatre, "The Wolves"—written by Sarah Delappe and directed by Valmai Goggin ('06).

B. Clayton signaled that Rev. John Perkin gave the Ebbutt Lecture on October 24th, in belated acknowledgment of his 27 years of service as University Chaplain, and noted that the Board of Governors granted him the status of Emeritus Chaplain.

A. Francis noted that sweat lodges would be held on November 10 and 24. The Chair highly recommended these events as very well-run by organizers and well-received by participants.

08.11.01 Other business

There was no other business.

09.11.01 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:59pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Robbie Moser
Secretary