

MOUNT ALLISON UNIVERSITY
MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

December 6, 2022, 4:00pm
Windsor Grand Room & Microsoft Teams (hybrid format)

Present: N. Anthonisen, F. Antonelli, K. Bell, J-P. Boudreau (Chair), G. Briand, A. Comfort, S. Chun, B. Clayton, K. Crosby, S. DeWolfe, J. Dryden, B. Evans, S. Fanning, A. Francis, L. Garnett, M. Hamilton, J. Hennessy (Vice-Chair), R. Inglis, C. Ionescu, K. Johnston, J. Kalyn, K. Keleher, A. Koval, A. Kreuger, R. Lapp, A. LePage, I. Lirette, C. Lovekin, C. MacDougall, C. Major, R. Minocha-McKenney, A. Morash, R. Moser (Secretary), T. Nelson, G. Ouelette, T. Reiffenstein, B. Robertson, R. Rubin, S. Runge, S. Park, S. Sarkar, V. St. Pierre, J. Tomes, N. Vogan, B. Walters, W. Wilson

Guests: O. Griffiths, M. Maston, J. Riley

Regrets: A. Fancy, V. Meli

01.12.06 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.

02.12.06 Approval of agenda

Motion (J-P. Boudreau / T. Reiffenstein): that the Report from the Honourary Degrees Committee (item 6) be moved to become a new item 11, prior to Other Business, to facilitate ease of transition in camera in the hybrid format.

Motion carried

03.12.06 Consent Agenda

Approval of the minutes (1 Nov, 2022)
Report from Academic Matters, Curriculum & Academic (J. Hennessy)
Report from Committee on Committees (S. Runge)

The Chair briefly explained the new-this-term consent agenda format. There was no discussion.

04.12.06 Business arising from the minutes

No business arising.

05.12.06 Chair's remarks

The Chair congratulated students, faculty, and staff for getting us close to the finish line of 2022. He signaled that today is National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women and indicated that a drop-in memorial is taking place on campus from 4:30-6:30pm in Tweedie Hall, with a moment of silence planned for 6:10pm.

The Chair reported that the Sexual Violence Prevention Policy draft has been approved by the Board of Governors' Student Affairs Committee. Thanks to all who have contributed time and energies to this.

06.12.06 Report from University Planning Committee (J. Hennessy)

The Provost indicated that the program review site visits for Psychology and Modern Language and Literatures have been moved to the Winter term. Other Winter business for the Committee includes these and the reviews for Biology and Economics, and continuing implementing aspects of the Strategic Academic Plan. The Chair invited questions on the Provost's written report.

B. Walters asked if any searches have been green-lighted to begin. J. Hennessy said a few have been approved, including English, Chemistry/Biochemistry, and 2 positions from last year, one in VMCS/INDG, and one in Marketing, that had been approved but not yet conducted. Some position requests listed as 'high priority' are still in consideration and will develop as the budget develops.

B. Clayton asked if the Provost would elaborate on the consideration of high-priority but not-yet-approved. J. Hennessy replied that, in general, replacement positions and term positions expiring this year are considered for approval ahead of 'net new' additions to units, which would need Board approval.

J. Dryden asked about a timeline for knowing about these positions. J. Hennessy acknowledged the urgency in determining approvals as we progress later into the hiring cycle. There are lots of sabbaticals on deck for next AY—18.5 FTEs, the highest number of sabbaticants we've seen in years—and the Provost gave priority to people needing rest after some extraordinarily challenging months in higher education. That has a big impact on the current budget, which itself continues to pose challenges. The cost of doing business has increased, and our enrollment targets have become more conservative.

M. Hamilton asked what 'long-term priority' means. J. Hennessy said it was the result of considering how to term the categories to indicate that no one's ask is not a priority, since no request was outlandish, and everyone demonstrated need.

07.12.06 Report from Committee on Students with Disabilities

MOTION: (V. St. Pierre / C. MacDougall): That Senate approve the changes to Policy 1201 as set out in the Report from the Committee on Students with Disabilities.

Motion carried

The Chair invited M. Maston to discuss the Policy. M. Maston indicated that the last updates were 2016. The current updates make the policy more linear, get rid of some redundancies, and some items that no longer make sense (e.g. students bringing printed forms to professors for their signatures is a defunct practice).

B. Walters thanked Maston and everyone who worked on the changes for a good job with the revisions. He drew attention to the language of §2.4—that the university will ‘ensure’ accommodations—and expressed concern that since the policy extends to physical as well as learning disabilities, this will hold the institution liable to ensure all space is accessible. Walters added he is in favour of this, but wanted to signal the language since it has strong implications. Maston agreed, and replied that the university needs to be more accessible. He said the committee considered ways of striking a balance between writing an implementable policy and writing a policy that commits us to what we want to achieve.

A. Comfort added that the institution is bound by the NB Human Rights Act, and as such we must provide accommodations and services to students and staff. Comfort agreed with Walters and Maston that the wording is strong, but this is not reason for us to dial it down.

J-P. Boudreau thanked Maston, Comfort, and the committee, and indicated that this past summer’s resurfacing work also was geared toward accessibility to the Chapel.

08.12.06 Report from International Programs Committee (V. St. Pierre)

MOTION (V. St. Pierre / C. Major): That Senate approve the establishment of a student exchange partnership with the University of Bristol, Faculty of Geographical Sciences.

Motion carried

B. Walters said the proposal looks good all around. British-based universities have a strong tradition in geographical sciences. This is good for the university as a whole.

V. St. Pierre added that the Bristol representatives are very excited about sending students to Sackville.

09.12.06 Discover Mt.A

The Chair invited members to signal events.

J. Tomes congratulated Matt Betti (Math and Computer Science) on the publication of his new book *Mathematics and Statistics for the Quantitative Sciences* (CRC Press), and to Sarah Fanning on the publication of her co-edited volume *Serial Killing on Screen* (Palgrave MacMillan). V. St. Pierre signaled that a book launch for each will be held at 4pm on December 14th at the University Club.

V. St. Pierre congratulated the cast and crew of ‘An Inspector Calls’ which finished this past weekend at the Motyer-Fancy Theatre. Congratulations to the Jazz Ensemble, Symphonic Band, Chamber Orchestra, and Choral Ensembles for concerts. Congratulations to Stephen Runge on a stunning piano recital on November 26th. The Estate of Alice Adams gifted \$1m to the History Department to support visiting scholars and student scholarships and research support. Congratulations to Commerce students Hugo Power, Alysha Walker, and Jaden Belanger who placed 3rd at the Molson Sport Conference case competition in Montreal. The Dean is excited to see some students give class presentations in Commerce and Geography later this week.

R. Lapp congratulated English student Tess Casher on becoming Mount Allison’s 56th Rhodes Scholar. Senate responded with applause.

A. Comfort signaled the next meeting of Gratitude, Intention, Concerns, Wednesday, 4:30pm in the Chapel. J-P. Boudreau thanked Rev. Elie for hosting and facilitating these events.

R. Rubin signaled an upcoming Evening of Poetry and Disharmony with Geordie Miller and Marilyn Lerch, reading from their co-authored book of poems *Disharmonies* (Hardscrabble Press, 2022).

A. Francis signaled the last sweat lodge ceremony of this term upcoming on Thursday at 4pm. Winter schedule will depend on weather, and please contact Patty Musgrave with any questions.

10.12.06 Report from the Honourary Degrees Committee (J-P. Boudreau) (*in camera*)

Ahead of moving *in camera*, the Chair thanked the committee for their work with the list of candidates for consideration by Senate. He reported that the committee suggested we need more nominations from students, and encouraged everyone to spread the word to students.

J-P. Boudreau moved that Senate move *in camera* for discussion of the list of candidates for Honourary Degrees. B. Robertson seconded.

Senate moved *ex camera*.

11.12.06 Other business

There was no other business.

12.12.06 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:36pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Robbie Moser
Secretary