

**OPEN MINUTES  
FOR THE SEVENTH REGULAR MEETING OF THE 57TH SENATE  
HELD TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2025 – 2:00 PM  
LOUIS RIEL ROOM**

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Present: David Docherty (Chair); Charles Adamu; Richard Adu; Bernadette Ardelli; Kofi Campbell; Kathryn Chachula; Chidimma Joy Chikezie; Matteo DiMuro; Sunday Frangi (Zoom); Ariane Hanemaayer; Kesha Haulder; Dominique Hétu; Bryan Hill; Gregory Kennedy; Christophe LeMoine; Michelle Magnusson; Christopher Malcolm; Linda Ross; Curt Shoultz; Deanna Smid; Melanie Sucha; Jackie Tran; Dion Wiseman; Etsuko Yasui; Britney McNamee (Recording Secretary).

Regrets: Alysha Farrell; Greg Gatién; Andrea McDaniel; Simon Pattison; Katie Whelpton; Leanne Zacharias.

Absent: Mabel Dzighbordzi; Peter Hickey; Chris Lagimodiere (non-voting); Mary Jane McCallum; Grant Prairie; Oluwatosin Salau; Beth Wilson.

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**1. Approval of Agenda**

**MOTION 159.FEB25 Shoultz/Wiseman**

THAT the Senate approve the Open Session agenda of the February 25, 2025, meeting as distributed.

**CARRIED**

**2. Closed Session**

**MOTION 160.FEB25 Wiseman/Ardelli**

THAT the Senate move into Closed Session.

**CARRIED**

**3. Motion(s) Raised from Closed Session**

3.1. Professor Emeritus/Emerita Recommendation – David Greenwood

**MOTION 163.FEB25 Wiseman/Hill**

THAT the Senate approve the granting of the designation “Professor Emeritus” to Professor David Greenwood, Department of Biology, Faculty of Science, and that the approval be forwarded to the Board of Governors for information once Greenwood is notified of the designation.

**CARRIED**

(7 in favour, 5 opposed, 9 abstentions)

3.2. Final list of the February 25, 2025, Graduands (President Docherty)

**MOTION 164.FEB25 Adamu/Adu**

THAT the Senate approve the final list of graduands of February 25, 2025,  
AND

THAT the list be forwarded to the Board of Governors *For Information*

**CARRIED**

#### **4. Open Session**

##### 4.1. Approval of Minutes of January 14, 2025

##### **MOTION 167.FEB25 Wiseman/Hétu**

THAT the Senate approve the Open Session minutes of the January 14, 2025, meeting as presented.

**CARRIED**

##### 4.2. Business Arising

##### 4.3. Continuing Business

##### 4.4. New Business

##### 4.4.1. Undergraduate Studies Committee (Sen. Campbell)

##### 4.4.1.1. Faculty of Science

##### Psychology

##### 4.4.1.1.1. Psychology Course Revisions

##### **MOTION 168.FEB25 LeMoine/Adamu**

THAT the Senate approve the following course revisions, as proposed by the Department of Psychology, Faculty of Science:

- 82:449 Undergraduate Honours Thesis

**CARRIED**

##### 4.4.2. Graduate Studies Committee (Sen. Ardelli)

##### 4.4.2.1. Faculty of Arts – Rural Development

##### 4.4.2.1.1. Rural Development Thesis and Thesis Defence Guidelines

##### **MOTION 169.FEB25 Ardelli/LeMoine**

THAT the Senate approve the following policy revisions as proposed by the Master of Arts (Rural Development), Faculty of Arts:

- Rural Development Thesis and Thesis Defence Guidelines

**CARRIED**

##### 4.4.3. Student Appeals Committee

##### 4.4.3.1. Student Appeals Committee Practice Principles & Considerations – *For Information*

The Senate requested a copy showing the revisions. The track-changes copy will be included for information in the March 18, 2025, meeting package.

4.4.4. Senate Research Committee (Sen. Ardelli)

4.4.4.1. BUACC Terms of Reference

**MOTION 170.FEB25 Ardelli/LeMoine**

THAT the Senate approve the following policy revisions as proposed by the Senate Research Committee:

- BUACC Terms of Reference

**CARRIED**

4.4.5. Indigenous Curricular Content Committee (Sen. Campbell)

4.4.5.1. Recommended Courses for the Indigenous Content Course Requirement

**MOTION 171.FEB25 Whelpton/Hill**

THAT the Senate approve the following course for the Indigenous Content Course Requirement as submitted by the Indigenous Curricular Content Committee:

- 02:381 Teaching of Indigenous Studies

**CARRIED**

4.4.6. Update: Ad-Hoc Committee to Review the Liberal Education Requirement (Sen. Kennedy)

Senator Kennedy noted the Committee circulated a draft of the revised policy to a few interdisciplinary programs for feedback. The proposed draft was not well received, and the committee is processing the feedback. The committee meets in March, and the next draft will be circulated widely for feedback.

4.4.7. Update: Ad-Hoc Committee to Review the Non-Credit Certificate Policy (Sen. Shoultz)

Senator Shoultz noted the Committee has started a draft of the revised policy, but more research is required prior to finalizing the draft.

4.4.8. Update: Ad-Hoc Committee to Review the Senate Awards for Excellence (Sen. Gatien)

Senator Gatien was absent with regrets. Senator Hétu, a member of the committee, noted the committee has made great progress on the policy revisions and is hopeful the committee will complete its work in a few more meetings.

4.4.9. Student Evaluations of Teaching – *For Discussion* (Sen. Campbell)

Senator Campbell noted the student evaluations of teaching instruments have not been updated in many years and opened the floor to the Senate for whether there is interest in creating a committee to review the evaluation method.

Senators expressed concerns about the phrasing of some questions and their susceptibility to abusive comments intended to hurt instructors rather than provide constructive

feedback. Senator Chachula noted the Department of Nursing has revised the instructor and program evaluation methods used in their department to remove the biased questions and focus more on the course, rather than the instructor.

Senator Shoultz reported he was asked to look at the evaluation questions in 2019 and found at least 5 variations in the evaluations used across campus. Senator Ardelli noted that in 2019 they discussed creating a pool of questions to choose from for institution-, faculty-, department-, and instructor-sections on the evaluations.

Senator Campbell emphasized the importance of educating students and faculty about how the evaluations are used. Student Senators noted it is currently unclear to students how the evaluations are used, and what happens with the data collected.

Senator Campbell noted that if a committee is struck, it would consult all faculties for feedback on the evaluation instrument.

Senator Campbell provided notice that he will move the following motion at the next Senate meeting on March 18, 2025:

THAT the Senate strike an ad-hoc committee to review the student evaluations of teaching survey.

#### 4.4.10. University Examinations Review Committee Recommendation Update (Sen. Campbell)

- Update on the Request for a Policy on Documentation

Senator Magnusson noted that her and Senator Whelpton have created a draft of a short-term absences policy and presented it to Deans' Council as an initial step in the creation of a policy on documentation.

- Update on the Request for a Testing Centre

Senator Whelpton and Senator Magnusson have identified the number of students using the Student Accessibility Services for invigilation and will continue to draft a vision of what the ideal testing centre at BU would look like.

#### 4.4.11. External Review of Programs & Units Policy – *For Discussion* (Sen. Campbell)

Senator Campbell reported the External Review of Programs & Units Policy has not been well implemented, and many departments have never been reviewed. Senator Campbell noted the review process is laborious and expensive, and opened the floor to the Senate for whether there is interest in reviewing the policy.

Senators expressed interest in reviewing the policy, highlighting the importance of improving the post-review follow-up process.

Senator Campbell provided notice that he will move the following motion at the next Senate meeting on March 18, 2025:

THAT the Senate strike an ad-hoc committee to review the External Review of Programs & Units Policy.

#### 4.4.12. Reports

##### 4.4.12.1. Brandon University Students' Union (BUSU) President (Sen. Adamu)

No report submitted.

4.4.12.2. Board of Governors Representative (Sen. Frangi)

No report submitted.

4.4.12.3. Members of Deans' Council (President Docherty)

- Faculty of Arts (Sen. Kennedy)
  - No report submitted.
- Faculty of Education (Sen. Farrell)
  - No report submitted.
- Faculty of Health Studies (Sen. Ross)
- Faculty of Science (Sen. LeMoine)
- School of Music (Sen. Gatien)
  - No report submitted.
- Dean of Student (Sen. Whelpton)

Senator Whelpton provided an update on the water damage in McMaster Hall caused by two burst radiators. She noted the water affected 16 dorm rooms, a tv room, and the Rural Development Institute. Senator Whelpton extended thanks to Physical Plant staff that helped save 98% of student belongings from water damage at 3:30am. All students affected have moved back into McMaster Hall.

- Chief Information Officer (Sen. Sucha)
- University Registrar (Sen. McDaniel)

4.4.12.4. Associate Vice-President (Indigenous Initiatives) (C. Lagimodiere)

No report submitted.

4.4.12.5. Vice-President (Administration & Finance) (Sen. Hickey)

No report submitted.

4.4.12.6. Vice-President (Research & Graduate Studies) (Sen. Ardelli)

No report submitted.

4.4.12.7. Provost & Vice-President (Academic) (Sen. Campbell)

No report submitted.

4.4.12.8. President (President Docherty)

**5. Other Business**

**6. Correspondence**

**7. Adjournment @3:27 pm**