

**MINUTES  
OF THE SECOND MEETING OF THE 44<sup>th</sup> SENATE  
HELD TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2011 @ 2:00 P.M.  
LOUIS RIEL ROOM, McMASTER CONCOURSE**

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Present            Dr. Deborah Poff (Chair); Dr. Scott Grills; Dr. Sal Badali; Dr. Di Brandt; Dr. Dean Care;  
Dr. Patrick Carrabré; Mr. Greg Coates; Dr. Glenn Cockerline; Dr. Robin Enns;  
Dr. Phillip Goernert; Mr. Chris Hurst; Dr. Patrick Jackson; Ms. Bea Jolly; Dr. Michael Kim;  
Dr. Jacqueline Kirk; Mr. Scott Lamont; Mr. Alan Levy; Ms. Michelle Magnusson;  
Dr. Susan Roddy; Mr. David Rowland; Ms. Kimberly Ryan-Nicholls; Dr. Etsuko Yasui;  
Student Senators; Ms. Sara Hallikas; Mr. Mustafa Hussain; Mr. Jonathan Keen; Ms. Natalie Ore;  
Ms. Carissa Taylor; Ms. Deandra Tousignant;  
Ms. Kim Fallis (Recording Secretary).

Regrets            Dr. Helen Armstrong; Dr. Ann Bowman; Dr. Bruce Strang; Ms. Jenna Clinton; Ms. Krista Weir;

1.0        **Approval of Agenda**

**MOTION 0022.SEP11 Tousignant/Brandt**

      THAT the agenda be approved as circulated.

**CARRIED**

2.0        **Closed Session**

**MOTION 023.SEPT 11 Jackson/Enns**

      THAT the committee move into CLOSED session.

**CARRIED**

3.0        **Open Session**

3.1        **Approval of Minutes of June 14, 2011**

**MOTION 026.SEP11 Magnusson/Enns**

      THAT the minutes of June 14, 2011, be approved as circulated.

**CARRIED**

4.0        **Business Arising**

4.1        **Executive Committee**

**For information only** – Senate Executive met on June 29, 2011, as Senate to approve changes to “The Senate Policy on Adjunct Professors at Brandon University”. A copy of the new policy is attached for your information.

4.2        At the meeting of June 15, 2011 the alternate position to the Senate Scholarship committee was not filled. A Senator is required for this position.

      No Senator volunteered to fill this position.

5.0        **New Business**

5.1        **BUSU – Academic Amnesty on October 4, 2011** (Sen. Keen)

Dear Senators,

On behalf of the Brandon Student's Union, I would like to formally request that October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011 be considered a date for which academic amnesty applies to all students across all faculties and programs of the university. This will entail that no assignments, class participation marks, tests or examinations be given for which students would be penalized for being absent for part or all of any class during this day.

By granting students' academic amnesty during the day of the provincial election, we are hopeful that we can maximize voter turnout and increase our capacity to influence what will be a critical democratic decision for all of us. As students often have hectic schedules -- trying to balance both classes and shift work-- a lack of time to vote has often been cited as one of the primary reasons why students do not participate in municipal, provincial, or federal elections. Currently, there is legislation in effect which requires employers to allow for up to three hours of time for employees to go and vote (at the employer's discretion) and we feel it would be fair to extend a similar courtesy to students. Although students may not be in classes from 8AM until 8PM during regular voting, in order to vote students will be required to go to various areas within the city. If a student is aware that going to go vote may make them a couple of minutes late for class due to queues at polling stations, it is important that we, as a senate, and as a university, encourage them to prioritize voting.

Provided that faculty are given due notice, there should be minimal impact on their ability to conduct their classes. Of course, we expect lectures will be presented as per usual with students being encouraged to attend. Furthermore, if a student misses a portion of class, they will still be responsible for gathering any missed notes from fellow classmates.

We very much appreciate your consideration on this matter,

Sincerely,

Jonathan Keen, Vice-President Internal, BUSU

**MOTION: 027.SEPT11 BUSU KEEN/HUSSAIN**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Senate Declares October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011 to be a day for which Academic Amnesty applies to all students across all faculties and programs and that no student shall receive an academic penalty for not attending classes or labs;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT members of the academic staff be required to not schedule tests, assignments or other demands utilized for grading purposes on October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate formally recognizes the significance of the upcoming Provincial Election and all subsequent Elections for all matters related to Post-Secondary Education and, furthermore, that the Senate endorses all reasonable efforts to increase voter participation both on and off campus.

**WITHDRAWN**

Senators had a lengthy discussion regarding the question of academic amnesty for students on October 4, 2011.

**MOTION 028.SEP11 Care/Enns**

THAT the Brandon University Student Union's motion regarding a day of Academic Amnesty on October 4, 2011, be separated into three separate motions.

**AND**

THAT the friendly amendments as accepted by the mover and seconder of the original motion be incorporated into the new motions.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION 029.SEP11 BUSU Keen/Tousignant**

THAT the Senate Declares October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011 to be a day for which Academic Amnesty applies to all students across all faculties and programs and that no student ~~shall~~ should receive an academic penalty for not attending classes or labs.

**DEFEATED**

**MOTION 0030.SEP11 BUSU Keen/Tousignant**

THAT members of the academic staff be ~~required to~~ asked not to schedule tests, assignments or other demands utilized for grading purposes on October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION 031.SEP11 BUSU Keen/Tousignant**

THAT Senate formally recognizes the significance of the upcoming Provincial Election and all subsequent Elections for all matters related to Post-Secondary Education and, furthermore, that the Senate endorses all reasonable efforts to increase voter participation both on and off campus.

**CARRIED**

5.2 **BUSU – Academic Amnesty on February 1, 2012 (Attached) (Sen. Keen)**

On February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012 students across Canada will be participating in the Canadian Federation of Students National Day of Action. CFS is made up of over 90 Students' Unions representing more than 600,000 students across the country. The goal of this year's National Day of Action is to promote the idea of education as a right by pressuring our provincial and national governments to reinvest in quality, affordable education for all Canadians.

**MOTION 032.SEP11 BUSU Keen/Tousignant**

WHEREAS the Senate acknowledges the usefulness of a strong student effort to increase financial support for post-secondary education,

WHEREAS the Brandon University Students' Union has been planning activities, rallies and events for the week of February 1, 2012 to raise awareness about the importance of post-secondary education and to pressure governments to reinvest in affordable, high quality education;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Senate declares February 1, 2012 to be a penalty free day for which no student shall receive an academic penalty for not attending classes or labs;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT members of the academic staff, through the deans, be asked not to set exams, assignments or other academic demands utilized for grading purposes on February 1, 2012.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the senate endorses all reasonable efforts to increase awareness regarding the need for our Provincial and National governments to reinvest in affordable, high-quality education at the post-secondary level.

**CARRIED**

5.3 **Review of Academic Units 2011 – 2012** (Sen. Grills)

Appointment by Senate of **ONE person from outside the unit/program.**

Motion 141.FEB11 PC, the following units/programs were approved for review in 2011 – 2012.

- Business Administration Fall 2011
- Anthropology Fall 2011
- Psychology (Sen. P. Jackson was elected Jan. 2010) Fall 2011
- Environmental Science Winter 2012
- Music Education (Undergrad and Graduate) Winter 2012

Business Administration – Senator Enns Volunteered and was Elected by Acclamation

Anthropology – Senator Ryan-Nichols Volunteered and was Elected by Acclamation

Psychology – Senator Jackson Volunteered and was Elected by Acclamation

Environmental Science – Senator Cockerline Volunteered and was Elected by Acclamation

Music Education (Undergrad and Graduate) – Senator Kirk was nominated by Senator Kim seconded by Senator Badali and was Elected by Acclamation

5.4 **Deans' Reports** Dr. Poff called on the Deans for verbal reports

5.5 **Vice-President's (Academic & Research) Report** (Sen. Grills)

Dr. Grills reported on the status of research grants the University has received from NSERC and SSHRC.

5.6 **President's Report** (Dr. Poff)

Dr. Poff distributed a copy of the 'Proposal for a Feasibility Study' for Brandon University's proposed Medical facility.

Dr. Poff also gave a verbal report of some of the activities/meetings that she has attended in recent months.

5.7 **Questions**

6.0 **Other Business**

6.1 **Announcements**

7.0 **Correspondence**

8.0 **Adjournment**

**MOTION 033.SEPT11 Magnusson/Yasui**

THAT the Senate adjourn.

**CARRIED**