

OPEN MINUTES
THE EIGHTH REGULAR MEETING OF THE 53rd SENATE
HELD TUESDAY, MARCH 16, 2021 @ 2:00 PM
BY ZOOM

Present: Dr. David Docherty (Chair); Dr. Bernadette Ardelli; Dr. Edward Bach;
Dr. Heather Duncan; Dr. Derrek Eberts; Dr. Scott Forbes; Mr. Greg Gatien;
Dr. Jane Karpa; Dr. Breanna Lawrence; Ms. Katie Gross; Mr. Scott Lamont;
Ms. Stacey Lee; Dr. Lynn MacKay; Ms. Andrea McDaniel; Ms. Nancy McPherson;
Ms. Susan Medd; Dr. Serena Petrella; Mr. Grant Prairie; Dr. Doug Ramsey;
Dr. Steve Robinson; Dr. Linda Ross; Ms. Melanie Sucha; Dr. Candy Skyhar;
Dr. Gautam Srivastava; Ms. Olufunke Adeleye (BUSU); Mr. James Maxon (BUSU);
Ms. Sophia Rivera (BUSU); Ms. Alexia Walters (BUSU);
Ms. Kim Fallis (Recording Secretary)

Regrets: Dr. Lisa Robson; Ms. Tami Rourke; Ms. Valentina Eigbiremonien (BUSU);
Mr. Max Kemp (BUSU); Ms. Christina Keshane (BUSU)

1. Approval of Agenda

MOTION 179.MAR21 Bach/Skyhar

THAT the agenda be approved as distributed.

CARRIED

2. Closed Session

MOTION 180.MAR21 Bach/Forbes

THAT the committee move into CLOSED session.

CARRIED

3. Raise Motions(s) from Closed Session

3.1. The following motions were raised from Closed Session

3.1.1.1. THAT the Senate approve Dr. Rick Baker, Department of Political Science, as recipient of the Senate Award for Excellence in Teaching for 2021.

3.1.1.2. THAT the Senate approve Dr. Doug Ramsey, Department of Rural Development, as recipient of a Tier I Senate Award for Excellence in Research for 2021.

3.1.1.3. THAT the Senate approve Dr. Rachel Herron, Department of Geography and Environment, as recipient of a Tier II Senate Award for Excellence in Research for 2021.

4. Open Session

4.1. Approval of Minutes of February 23, 2021

MOTION 187MAR21 Forbes/McPherson

THAT the minutes of February 23, 2021 Open Session be approved as amended.

Amendment:

Report from the CIO – Senator Sucha: Bullet three should read “Manitoba Pool Elevator”.

CARRIED

4.2. Business Arising

4.2.1. Special Motions Passed by Senate Executive on Behalf of Senate *for information*

The Senate received the summary of special motions passed by Senate Executive on behalf of Senate for information.

4.3. Continuing Business

4.4. New Business

4.4.1. Ad-Hoc Committee on Skills, Talent and Knowledge (Dr. Docherty)

MOTION 188MAR21 Duncan/Lawrence

THAT the Senate strike an Ad Hoc Committee to review Manitoba's Skills, Talent and Knowledge Strategy, a report recently issued by the Manitoba Provincial Government;
AND

THAT the Ad Hoc Committee provide a written report on the following to the Senate in advance of its meeting on May 18, 2021:

- Recommendations in the report where Brandon University has the opportunity to excel;
- Recommendations in the report that might improve the quality of education at BU;
and
- Recommendations in the report that might challenge the quality of education at BU.

CARRIED

The following individuals were elected by acclamation to this ad-hoc committee of Senate:

- Faculty of Science – Senator Ardelli
- School of Music – Senator Gatien
- Faculty of Education – Senator Forbes
- Undergraduate student – Senator Adeleye

No individual from the Faculty of Arts volunteered at the Senate meeting. The Senate Office will contact the Administrative Assistant for the Faculty of Arts to seek an individual to represent that Faculty. It was suggested that Ms. Denise Hardy from the Faculty of Health Studies may be interested in serving on the committee. Senator Ross will contact Ms. Hardy to confirm. It was also suggested that a graduate student be invited to sit on the committee. The Senate Office will contact BUSU to seek the name of an appropriate individual.

4.4.2. Bookstore Review (Sen. Robson)

MOTION 189.MAR21 Petrella/Ross

THAT the Senate review the Bookstore's operations regarding textbooks **supplies** and **course material**.

This motion was subject to friendly amendment.

CARRIED

- Members of the Senate shared their concerns with the bookstore and Follett processes.
- Some individuals are no longer using the university bookstore and are instead suggesting that students order the needed books from Amazon or other sources or

are preparing custom course packs and posting materials to Moodle in respect of copyright law.

- Any ad-hoc committee should solicit students' experiences at the bookstore.
- The current contract with Follett will expire in two years.
- It was suggested that Senator Robinson and Senator Gross work together to form this ad-hoc committee and that its membership should include but not be limited to the following: graduate and undergraduate students, instructors who have had issues and others who have not had issues with receiving books from the bookstore, instructors from both large classes and smaller classes.

4.4.3. 2021-22 Academic Program Delivery Planning (Sen. Robinson)

There was discussion regarding course delivery for this coming fall, including the following points:

- Senator Gross gave a short synopsis of the result of a student survey undertaken recently to assess student experiences related to remote learning and preferences for next year.
- British Columbia has announced that post-secondary students should return to on-campus studies in the fall.
- There will be a meeting next week of Manitoba post-secondary presidents, the Minister of Education, and Public Health to discuss the direction that the government is considering related to Fall 2021 post-secondary classes.
- The decision regarding Fall 2021 course delivery needs to be made sooner rather than later so that students, faculty, and staff can plan appropriately.
- Resistance to blended course delivery was expressed by some.
- At this time, Manitoba Public Health is suggesting that physical distancing will continue into the fall; BU does not have sufficient space in many classrooms to accommodate current physical distancing regulations.
- There were questions about whether international and out-of-province students will be eligible to receive COVID-19 vaccination once in Manitoba.

4.4.4. In-Person Course Approval Process (Sen. Robinson)

MOTION 190.MAR21 Robinson/Eberts

THAT, in the interest of efficiency, the Senate empower the Course Scheduling Working Group to make decisions on in-person, course-related academic activity requests rather than making recommendations to the Senate;

AND

THAT the Senate Executive serve as an appeal body for decisions made by the Course Scheduling Working Group.

CARRIED

4.4.5. Curriculum & Academic Planning Committee (Sen. Robinson)

4.4.5.1. Faculty of Arts

Native Studies

MOTION 191.MAR21 CAP Robinson/Petrella

THAT the Senate approve new course 68:260 Issues in Teaching Native Languages, as submitted by the Faculty of Arts, Department of Native Studies.

CARRIED

4.4.5.2. Faculty of Education

Physical Education Studies

MOTION 192.MAR21 CAP Robinson/Duncan

THAT the Senate approve the Physical Education new course 05:455 Sport Nutrition, as submitted by the Faculty of Education, Department of Physical Education.

CARRIED

MOTION 193.MAR21 CAP Robinson/Duncan

THAT the Senate approve revision of the following courses, as submitted by the Faculty of Education, Department of Physical Education:

- 05:399 Seminar in Physical Education I: title change to Topics in Physical Education Studies I
- 05:499 Seminar in Physical Education II: title change to Topics in Physical Education Studies II

CARRIED

4.4.5.3. School of Music

MOTION 194.MAR21 CAP Robinson/Gatien

THAT the Senate approve revision to the jury policy for Winter 2021, as submitted by the School of Music.

CARRIED

MOTION 195.MAR21 CAP Robinson/Bach

THAT the Senate approve revision of admission regulations for the BMus Performance Major for the 2021-22 academic year, as submitted by the School of Music.

CARRIED

MOTION 196.MAR21 CAP Robinson/Bach

THAT the Senate approve revision to the recital policy for Winter 2021, as submitted by the School of Music.

CARRIED

MOTION 197.MAR21 CAP Robinson/Gatien

THAT the Senate approve revision to the advanced placement regulations for Music Theory courses, as submitted by the School of Music, Department of Music Research.

CARRIED

4.4.5.4. Student Services

MOTION 198.MAR21 CAP Robinson/Gross

THAT the Senate approve that if the Fall/Winter 2021-2022 Registration Guide is released later than May 15, 2021 then section 3.9.2 of the Undergraduate Calendar regarding mandatory advising for the Faculty of Arts, Faculty of Science, and Faculty of Education (Department of Physical Education) become optional for this year only.

CARRIED

4.4.6. Scholarships, Bursaries, Medals, and Awards Committee of Senate (Sen. Gatien)

MOTION 199.MAR21 SS Gatien/Ross

THAT the Senate approve the following new awards:

- Dr. Gervan Fearon & Dr. Kathy Moscou Bursary
- Cole Ediger Memorial Jazz Scholarship

CARRIED

MOTION 200.MAR21 SS Gatien/Scott

THAT the Senate approve the revisions to the Tommy and Beryl McLeod Scholarships as noted.

CARRIED

Senator Gatien acknowledged the hard work put in by Carolyn Vodon, Andrea McDaniel, Paige Cuvellier, and Shawna English related to establishment of new awards and revision of existing awards.

4.4.7. Senate Research Committee

MOTION 201.MAR21 SR Duncan/Ross

THAT the Senate approve the new policy for the Oversight of Animal-based Activities and Community Outreach.

CARRIED

MOTION 202.MAR21 SR Duncan/Skyhar

THAT the Senate approve the revised Brandon University Animal Care Committee (BUACC) Terms of Reference.

CARRIED

4.4.8. Report from the Brandon University Students' Union (BUSU) President (Sen. Sophie Adeleye)

Senator Adeleye reported on the following:

- No report at this time

4.4.9. Report from the Board of Governors Representative (Sen. Rourke)

Senator Rourke was absent with regrets, but she supplied the following written report regarding the Board meeting of January 23, 2021:

- \$283K was raised for the annual fund (goal was \$300K) with strong support from alumni and community.
- Foundations Committee – Updates on the foundation’s investments were discussed as well as strategies moving forward.
- Revised Terms of Reference changed for International Undergraduate Student Scholarship – the requirement that the students must apply for the scholarship was removed as the University was building too much money in the fund.

4.4.10. Reports from the Members of Deans’ Council

Arts Faculty – Sen. Robson

- Senator Robson was absent with regrets.

Science Faculty – Sen. Ardelli

- The faculty in Science have held several discussions regarding what the Fall term will look like.
- They have a number of initiatives underway to welcome student back on campus.
- They are renovating spaces for new faculty members and Honours thesis students, as well as a multidisciplinary clubroom for students.

School of Music – Sen. Gatien

- Faculty searches are currently underway.
- Student recitals are being rehearsed and recorded per pandemic protocols.
- Faculty remain busy:
 - Two pro series concerts coming up (Cathy Wood on April 6 and Nancy Hennen on April 20).
 - Caroline Ehman just gave a brilliant talk on the notions of maternity in modern opera as the last lecture in our Out of Bounds Lecture Series
- Former student, current doctoral candidate at the University of Utah, Daniel Tselyakov performed last Tuesday night in a pro series concert. On our two platforms, we had over 1,300 people attend the livestream.
- Music Enrichment program has about 60 students registered; it offers enhanced opportunities for Conservatory scholarship recipients, provides teaching experience for recommended BU students and a few alumni, and will feature some exciting online group classes delivered by our faculty.

Education Faculty – Sen. Duncan

- At the last EFC, there were presentations of some of the work that students are doing.
 - These presentations were so exceptional, Education will be developing a web page dedicated to showcasing student work.
- Education is currently undertaking four faculty searches, and the committees have shortlisted for three of the positions.

Health Studies – Sen. Ross

- Congratulations to Brandon University Bachelor of Nursing students, Hannah Friesen and Jennifer Harrison, for completing the research for PMH Palliative Care team’s “[Death Education for Children and Young People in Public Schools](#)”. This article was published in the International Journal of Palliative Nursing (IJPN). Melissa Peters, Regional Palliative Care Coordinator, was the student mentor for the project. Hannah Friesen and Melissa Peters also presented this article at the International Online Summit on Palliative Care and Medicine on December 17, 2020. The Palliative Care team has also accepted an offer to become article reviewers for the IJPN.

- Darlene Paquette was appointed to the Brandon Urban Aboriginal Peoples Council (BUAPC) as one of two citizen-at-large appointments. (Brandon Sun March 4, 2021)

Dean of Students – Sen. Gross

- Student Services is currently searching for a part-time Academic Advisor and a Director of Recruitment and Retention (one-year term).
- Four outbound and two inbound students are scheduled to participate in the National Student Exchange program. Thanks to David Rowland for his work.
- Activities and workshops are being held for celebrating Indigenous Excellence Month. Thanks to Michelle Bessette, Deidre Gregory, and Chris Lagimodiere.

CIO – Sen. Sucha

- Operations continue per BU's Phase Blue protocols and government health orders. The Library and IT are prepared to scale operations for the Fall term in line with the University's plan and approach.
- The Library continues with its deselection and shifting work to right-size its collection and physical spaces. Creation of an accessibility corridor in the second level stacks is underway, in line with accessibility legislation. Additional space is being opened in the Solarium workspace at the south end, in keeping with original space design and allowing for greater access to electrical outlets and natural light sources. Later in the spring/summer, we will aim to create greater access to the Curve Gallery at the north-west area of the second floor. Deselection lists will be posted campus-wide in line with Senate Policy.
- The Senate Library and Archives Committee will convene on March 19 to discuss by-laws review and preliminary findings of the Budget Allocation Implementation Project. Next steps through spring/summer will include Committee feedback to the updated Collection Development Policy, which is then brought to Senate for approval.
- The Library developed a virtual display of the First Nation Communities READ Program and provided this material to IPC to reference in Indigenous Excellence celebrations.
- The ERP Project launched its new website and held a Town Hall event on March 2, explaining the first roll out of the ERP system focused on Student Lifecycle.
- Working with Shared CISO, we have submitted our cybersecurity assessment which is being analyzed in conjunction with assessment of the other partner universities, with report-back in early April. In light of ransomware attacks that have impacted some K-12 school boards in the province in various ways, and a recent and severe cyberattack at Lakehead University, the strategic work of the Shared CISO becomes increasingly important in helping us to manage cybersecurity risk.
- On tactical IT security, Microsoft released an emergency patch week of March 8, to address unexpected vulnerabilities in on-premise Exchange email Server. We applied this patch same day as we were notified. BU has plans to update our Exchange environment, migrating it from a physical server to the Microsoft 365 cloud service. This will reduce the need for BU's NetOps to apply security patches and mitigations directly.
- With Research Support Funds, the Library and Archives are proceeding with digitization of: Manitoba Pool Elevator Pool Fonds; the Brandon Sun; microfilming and digitization where copyright clearance obtained for Indigenous Community newspapers, video materials from the Brandon University fonds and the Westman Coalition on Equality Rights in the Canadian Constitution fonds; audio materials from the Westman Oral History collection and the Brandon University 75th Anniversary concert.

Registrar – Ms. McDaniel

- Admission applications are down about 6% overall compared to the same point last year

- Domestic applications are stable, but international applications, particularly those from Nigeria, are down significantly
- The Convocation planning team continues to work diligently to determine what this year's Spring Convocation will look like
 - A survey is out to students to gauge their desire and ability to participate in limited in-person elements as part of the Convocation celebration
 - There will be a robust virtual offering given that many graduating students are not in Brandon and would be unable to participate in any in-person activities
- ERP implementation work is ongoing
 - The project is hiring a new team member to assist specifically with configuring Registrar's Office elements and processes
 - Detailed curriculum configuration will begin shortly, so the project team will be reaching out to individual academic areas as needed over the coming months

4.4.11. Report from the Vice-President (Academic & Provost) (Sen. Robinson)

Sen. Robinson reported on the following:

- On March 4th he attended the virtual book launch of Beverly Hicks' book, *Politics, Personalities and Persistence – One Hundred Years of Psychiatric Nursing Education in Manitoba*.
- He noted that Dr. Docherty will be the guest speaker at the Chamber of Commerce luncheon on March 18th where there will be an announcement regarding Brandon University's Co-Operative Education program.

4.4.12. Report from the President (Dr. Docherty)

Dr. Docherty reported on the following:

- A draft of the University's strategic plan will be going to the next Board meeting. The plan will focus on value added and what BU adds to the system of education.
- The motions passed by Senate at the January meeting recommending that the President pursue changes to the University Act regarding the composition of both the Board and Senate. The recommendation was to have one seat on both committees be designated reserved for an Indigenous member.
- The budget will be going to the Board this week.
- On Friday, he attended a workshop hosted by the McConnell Foundation based in Montreal. The foundation is working with 11 universities in Canada, one of which is BU. The theme of the workshop is "Building Back Better": how do we build back from COVID in terms of community engagement and social impact? There were individuals from many different areas including but not limited to the Chamber, Labour Council, the Mayor, and social service agencies.
- Once physical distancing rules allow for more individuals to gather, an event will be planned to raise a number of Indigenous flags on the new flag poles.

5. Other Business

6. Correspondence

7. Adjournment

MOTION 203.MAR21 Duncan/Gatien

THAT the Senate adjourn at 4:33.

CARRIED