

**OPEN MINUTES  
OF THE SECOND REGULAR MEETING OF THE 54<sup>rd</sup> SENATE  
HELD TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2021 @ 2:00 PM  
BY ZOOM**

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Present: David Docherty (Chair); Bernadette Ardelli; Kathryn Chachula;  
Kofi Campbell; Heather Duncan; Cora Dupuis; Derrek Eberts;  
Scott Forbes; Greg Gatien; Jane Karpa; Katie Gross; Scott Lamont;  
Rory Lucyshyn-Wright; Andrea McDaniel; Nancy McPherson; Kurt Noll;  
Simon Pattison; Grant Prairie; Linda Ross; Curt Shoultz; Balfour Spence;  
Melanie Sucha; Olufunke Adeleye (BUSU); Saira Atif (BUSU);  
Mila Baqueiro Milosevic (BUSU)

Regrets: Edward Bach; Kim Fallis; Breanna Lawrence; Tami Rourke;  
Akech Mayuom-Deng (BUSU); Iyiola Sanya (BUSU); Kathleen Servidad (BUSU)

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Several Senators were not in attendance at the June meeting so introductions were conducted.

**1. Approval of Agenda**

**MOTION 013.SEPT21 Gross/Noll**

THAT the agenda be approved as distributed.

**CARRIED**

**2. Closed Session**

**MOTION 014.SEPT21 Chachula/Pattison**

THAT the committee move into CLOSED session.

**CARRIED**

**3. Open Session**

**3.1. Approval of Open Minutes of June 15, 2021**

**MOTION 019.SEPT21 Gross/Chachula**

THAT the Open Session minutes of June 15, 2021 be approved as amended.

Amendments:

- Senator Ardelli and Senator Sucha were absent with regrets.
- 3.5.8 Vice President's report, third bullet, should read "Office of Research Services"

**CARRIED**

**3.2. Appointment of Committees**

**3.2.1. Election of the Science Representative for the 2021 – 2022 Senate Executive Committee**

Senator Pattison volunteered to serve as the Science representative.

**ELECTED BY ACCLAMATION**

3.2.2. Election of a Senate Representative to the International Activities Committee  
(According to the Bylaws, this representative is the Chair of the Committee)

There was no nomination for this position.

3.2.3. Election of three (3) Senators to the Indigenous Education Committee of Senate (IEC) (one member must be a Student Senator)

The following Senators volunteered to serve as the Senate representatives on the IEC:  
Senator McCallum, Senator Gatien, and Senator Sanya.

**ELECTED BY ACCLAMATION**

3.3. Business Arising

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

**SPECIAL MOTION NO. 001.AUG 21 Noll/Bach**

THAT the Senate Executive, acting on behalf of the Senate, grant a one-time special dispensation allowing courses scheduled for September 30, 2021, which has recently been declared a federal statutory holiday (National Day for Truth & Reconciliation), to complete the term with fewer than the minimum required contact hours (normally 36 contact hours per 3 credit hour course).

**CARRIED**

3.4. Continuing Business

3.5. New Business

3.5.1. Repository for Items Required in Course Outlines (Sen. Eberts)

After speaking with some new instructors, Senator Eberts noted that they could not find a listing of the approved wording for items that are required in a syllabus, such as the statements on accessibility and accommodation, academic integrity, and mental health supports. Senator Shoultz noted that this information is located on the Centre for Teaching, Learning and Technology webpage under Teaching at BU, Required in Syllabus section.

3.5.2. Faculty of Arts Optional Teaching Day: December 9, 2021 (Sen. Spence)

At a recent Arts Faculty Council meeting, there was discussion regarding the loss of a Thursday teaching day due to the new September 30<sup>th</sup> holiday. A number of three-hour Arts courses are delivered on Thursdays; because instructors completed preparing their course outlines to announcement of the new holiday, instructors may need an additional day to complete their course.

The Faculty of Health Studies may also require additional time for instruction, especially in clinical practice and laboratory, as certain requirements are set out by the Health Studies regulatory bodies.

Ms. McDaniel noted that December 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> have been held for Music student juries (applied final examinations). Music students are required to complete Arts or Science courses for their degrees, and if some instructors choose to use those days for make-up

classes, these students may have to choose between attending a course or completing their jury.

**MOTION 020.SEP21 Noll/Spence**

THAT instructors, in the Faculty of Arts, if deemed necessary to complete their course material, be permitted to use December 9, 2021 as an additional teaching day to accommodate for the loss of a Thursday due to the recently announced Day of Truth and Reconciliation holiday on September 30<sup>th</sup>.

After much discussion, Senator Noll withdrew the motion.

The direction from Senate was that Senator Campbell will speak to the Deans at the next Deans' Council and provide feedback to Senate Executive.

3.5.2.1. Faculty of Education

Bachelor of Education (BED) Courses & Programs

3.5.2.1.1. BED Course Revisions

**MOTION 021.SEPT21 Campbell/Duncan**

THAT the Senate approve the following course revision as submitted by the Faculty of Education:

- 02:342 Student Literacy Intervention (EY-MY): title change to Foundations of Literacy Learning and Teaching and description change

**CARRIED**

3.5.2.2. Registrar's Office

3.5.2.2.1. Undergraduate Policy/Regulation Revisions

**MOTION 022.SEPT21 Campbell/Spence**

THAT the Senate approve the removal of Section 3.18.1 Service Learning from the Undergraduate Calendar.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION 023.SEPT21 Campbell/Karpa**

THAT the Senate approve the revised PLAR and Challenge for Credit policy as presented.

**CARRIED**

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

3.5.3.1. New Awards

**MOTION 024.SEPT21 Gatien/Gross**

THAT the Senate approve the following new awards:

- Lorin Woodrow Matheson Scholarship-Bursary
- The Minnedosa Valley Scholarship-Bursary

**CARRIED**

Senator Gatien removed the Gender & Women's Studies Bursary for 2SLGBTQIA+ Students from the agenda, as the required Request for Exception information was not included in the Senate package. This award will be presented at the next Senate meeting with all required supporting documentation.

#### 3.5.3.2. Revised Awards

##### **MOTION 024.SEPT21 Gatien/Gross**

THAT the Senate approve the following revised awards:

- English Speaking Union Scholarship
- Dr. Bruce and Jane Forrest Scholarships for Honours/Majors Chemistry

**CARRIED**

#### 3.5.4. What is Senate Business? (Sen. Eberts)

Discussion was held regarding how Senate Executive determines what is Senate business and, therefore, appropriate to appear on Senate agendas and what should be done in cases of disagreement. General understanding was that Senate is responsible for "academic matters", but how is "academic matter" defined?

Section 20(1) of the BU Act, quoted in the Senate Bylaws, indicates that Senate is responsible for "academic policy". Senators were also encouraged to review Section 20(2) of the Bylaws (Powers of the Senate). Many Senators were unaware of the specific wording of the Bylaws and welcomed the information. It was suggested that there be an orientation for new Senators each year.

#### 3.5.5. Senate Ad-Hoc Committee: Review of Senate Awards for Excellence

##### 3.5.5.1. Senate Awards for Excellence in Research

##### **MOTION 025.SEPT21 Gatien/Shoultz**

THAT the Senate accepts the attached amended policy documents governing the Senate Excellence in Research, as devised by the Senate ad-hoc committee;

AND

THAT Senate recommends that the Board of Governors of Brandon University accept the monetary portion of the Awards as a significant element in recognizing, celebrating, and supporting excellence in research at Brandon University, in partial fulfilment of the Brandon University Strategic Research Plan, and as a way to increase the standing of Brandon University.

**CARRIED**

3.5.5.2. Senate Award for Excellence in Teaching

**MOTION 026.SEPT21 Gross/Gatien**

THAT the Senate accepts the attached amended policy documents governing the Senate Excellence in Teaching, as devised by the Senate ad-hoc committee;

AND

THAT Senate recommends that the Board of Governors of Brandon University accept the monetary portion of the Awards as a significant element in recognizing, celebrating, and supporting excellence in teaching at Brandon University, in partial fulfilment of the Brandon University Strategic Research Plan, and as a way to increase the standing of Brandon University.

**CARRIED**

3.5.6. Report from the Brandon University Students' Union (BUSU) President  
(Sen. Olufunke Adeleye)

Senator Adeleye had to leave the meeting and will provide her report at the next meeting of Senate.

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

Senator Rourke was absent with regrets.

3.5.8. Reports from the Members of Deans' Council (Dr. Docherty will call on these individuals for reports)

Arts – Senator Spence

- In his new role as Acting Dean of Arts, he has met with Department Chairs to get a sense of what the immediate emerging needs of the faculty are and their vision for the faculty.
- At the most recent Arts Faculty Council, there was discussion regarding the safety of classrooms and surroundings areas in a COVID-19 environment, including concerns about airflow. Physical Plant has assured instructors that this item has been addressed.
- The Faculty welcomed five new faculty members: two tenure track positions and three one-year assignments in Business Administration, Drama, and Native Studies.
- Given Bill Ashton's upcoming retirement, they are looking to have a new director for the Rural Development Institute (RDI) in place by November 1<sup>st</sup>.

Science – Senator Ardelli

- Senator Ardelli extended welcome to the new members of the Faculty of Science:
  - Tammy McCormick, Administrative Assistant to the Dean of Science
    - Tammy brings extensive experience in private and public sectors with transferable administrative and customer service skills from progressive municipal operations and private administrative leadership. Tammy is known for her data systems management innovation and customer relations engagement.
  - Dr. Marysia Lazinski, tenure-track position in applied developmental psychology, Department of Psychology:

- Dr. Lazinski is a clinical psychologist with a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from the University of Victoria. Her research interests are understanding family processes and engineering resilience in youth and their families, including influence of family factors on youth development.
  - Dr. Susan Chang Su, two-year term position, Department of Psychology:
    - Dr. Su has a Ph.D. in Social/Personality Psychology from York University. Her community-based research program is on the effects of traditional cultural beliefs and social factors on mental health issues of Chinese immigrant mothers of children with developmental disabilities and cross-cultural studies about perfectionism, mattering, resilience and mental health on students.
  - Dr. Barry Madison, five-year term position in toxicology, Department of Biology:
    - Dr. Madison has a Ph.D. in Zoology from the University of Guelph. Dr. Madison's research is in areas of environmental concern, contaminants, aquatic eutrophication, and ecological impacts of a rapidly changing climate. Dr. Madison plans to engage local communities, fostering interest in citizen science programs and training opportunities, and acting to bridge knowledge and cultural perspectives on environmental and ecotoxicology research.
  - Dr. Mizhar Mikati, two-year term position in human/cultural geography, Department of Geography & Environment:
    - Dr. Mikati has a Ph.D. in Geography from York University. Dr. Mikati's research is on the political economy of food access in relation to economic crises and availability of food at multiple scales, including the economic conditions defining people's access to food, the intersections between agricultural production techniques, economic conditions, and food justice, and questions regarding the current limits of international trade relations for constructing sustainable food networks.
  - Dr. Eva Urquia, one-year term position in Chemistry:
    - Dr. Urquia has a Ph.D. in Medical Sciences (Biomaterials & Tissue Engineering) from Radboud University, The Netherlands. Her research is in chemical engineering and biomaterials science.
  - Dr. Sheika Henry, two-year term position in disaster studies and emergency management, in the Department of Applied Disaster and Emergency Studies (ADES):
    - Dr. Henry has a Ph.D. in Geography from the Federal University of Parana, Brazil. Dr. Henry's research program utilizes hydrologic and hydraulic models, GIS, remote sensing, statistical tools and a conceptual approach to analyze environmental monitoring; geomorphic surface process analysis; flood hazard risk and vulnerability assessment; climate variability and change assessment; disease mapping, health systems and planning to aid decision support systems.
  - Additionally, a search was conducted for a tenure-track position in computer science. That was a failed search. The Faculty searched for a one-year term in computer science to compensate for teaching while filling the tenure-track position. That was also a failed search. Senator Ardelli will re-engage the search for the tenure-track position this month.
- Research News:

- Dr. Pete Whittington, Department of Geography and Environment, received an NSERC Alliance Grant, worth \$250,000 over five years. The project will allow the researchers to learn more about restoring peatlands.
- Drs. Cassone and Ardelli, Department of Biology, received \$251,957 over two years from the Public Health Agency of Canada's Infectious Disease and Climate Change (IDCC) Program. The project is on Surveillance of Neglected Mosquito- and Tick-Borne Pathogens in the Canadian Prairies.
- Dr. Alexander Koiter, Department of Geography and Environment, received a Manitoba Industry-Academia Partnership Grant.
- Due to the remote nature of current work, a number of faculty have been conducting interviews about their research for CTV Winnipeg, CBC, City News, CJOB, Research Manitoba, and CHVN.
- Community Service:
  - NSERC's success in supporting university research in science and engineering depends on the voluntary participation of members of the research community in its peer review process. The process is highly regarded by the research community. Its credibility is linked to the participation of some of the best and busiest researchers in the country. I am pleased to report that two more colleagues in the Faculty of Science have been made members of NSERC – Dr. Eric Bushnell (Chemistry) has been appointed to the Chemistry Evaluation Group and Dr. Gautam Srivastava (Mathematics & Computer Science) has been appointed to the Computer Science Evaluation Group.

#### Health Studies – Senator Ross

- Senator Ross reported that they have been successful in finding instructors for all courses. Staffing has been very challenging this year due to the number of sessional instructors required and the current climate in the health care sector.
- Senator Ross welcomed three new staff in the department of Psychiatric Nursing:
  - Winnipeg site: Carleigh Grenier and Carla Navid
  - Brandon site: Juanita Aitken-Harasymchuk
- Research – Candice Waddell-Henowitch was the principal investigator with a SSHRC Individual Partnership Engage Grant on a project titled Connecting Indigenous Men to Culture through Teaching Ceremony and Land Based Activities. There were a number of co-investigators on this project: Jonathan Allan and Rachel Herron from Brandon University; Frank Tacan from the Brandon Friendship Center; Jason Gobeil from Dakota Ojibway Child and Family Services; and Martha Ford from the Frontier School Division.

#### Music – Senator Gatien

- Three searches were completed over the summer, and Senator Gatien welcomed the Faculty's new members:
  - Melody McKiver, tenure track composer position; Melody has recently received an award from the Canada Council as one of Canada's foremost young composers.
  - Ken Gold, who is a long-standing renowned western Canada jazz musician, has been hired in a three year term position in Jazz.
  - Marika Galea, an up-and-coming bassist, has been hired into a one-year term to take on teaching responsibilities from retired Senator Cain.
- He extended his condolences to the family of Professor Emeritus Ken Nichols in light of his recent passing. Ken Nichols was someone who shaped the curriculum for BU students and who continued to take part in events in the School of Music.
- The E-Gré National Music Competition will be held from September 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>. Ariel Carrabré from Brandon will be performing. Senator Gatien noted that the artistic director for the competition is Megumi Masaki. He also mentioned the work of Senator Chachula who is a member of the Board.

- Senator Gatien thanked the following for extra work done over the summer: the Music office support staff (Bobbi White, Terry McMaster, and Joyce Burba), department chairs, Senators Gross and Sucha, and Ms. McDaniel. He also thanked the staff in IT services, Dr. Robinson and Dr. Campbell, as well as other Music Deans across the country who have helped get things ready for students this year.

CIO – Senator Sucha

- The Library completed significant shifting this summer, allowing for expanded user spaces and accessibility on the second floor. Education, K-12 study and teaching materials, and children's and teen literature have been brought together on the main floor. This work is continuing into October to expand user spaces in the North Stacks.
- The Library and IT Services have resumed regular in-person services to BU students, faculty and staff while maintaining adherence to Health Orders and BU Health Protocols. Virtual service delivery remains available.
- The Library will be recognizing National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day through physical and virtual collection displays.
- Library and IT Services have been partnering with Indigenous Peoples' Centre, building capacity for online and in-person hybrid events this academic year using BU facilities and technology.
- In partnership with the BU Public History Program, the Library is displaying Walking Through Westman: Uncovering Our Past in the Curve Gallery. This display was created by students of the Public History program and covers various interesting events, people, and locations in Brandon and surrounding area.
- IT HelpDesk is offering evening services Mondays thru Thursdays until 8:00 pm. This will provide support capacity for urgent IT problems encountered during evening classes. In-person and electronic HelpDesk service requests follow the same triage and queue.

Dean of Students – Senator Gross

- Student Services has hired a one-year term sabbatical replacement in counsellor-therapist Jeff Smith.
- Orientation began last week and will continue for the month of September. It is hybrid format with some activities in person and others virtual. Student Services is working with BUSU who have been doing a great job as well welcoming students back on campus.
- Erin Mills, Director, Recruitment and Retention has been sending emails weekly to all first year students about tips and tricks and some of the workshops that are happening in Student Services.
- Last week, Student Services gave out Pass Kits to students who stopped by the table that was setup outside.
- Live chat on the Student Services website, which began last year during the pandemic, is still available.
- Senator Gross thanked Senator Sucha and her team for the laptop loan program that is running again this year.
- Student Services is continuing to partner with Prairie Mountain Regional Health Authority to have a Nurse Practitioner on campus every other week.
- Fifty-nine students attended the vaccine clinic that was held on campus last week.
- Student Services has partnered with Prairie Mountain Regional Health Authority for a five-week Survive to Thrive program. The program helps students build resilience and grit and coping strategies for anxiety.
- There is a new web page to help students find accommodations in Brandon: [places4students.com](https://places4students.com)
- IPC, Residence, and the Office of International Activities are all offering in-person events to help students reconnect with spaces on campus.



- This is year two of the Al and Bee Wagner Indigenous Student Transition Program. There are 26 new students in the program as well as the continuing students from last year. Deidre Gregory has been doing an amazing job with the help of Michelle Bessette, Chris Lagimodiere, and Barb Blind.
- Erin Mills will be reaching out to Faculty reminding them of the Early Alert program.
- Senator Gross is receiving a number of questions from students and parents regarding the vaccine policy. Counsellors are available to help students navigate their way through the process.

University Registrar – Ms. McDaniel

- Enrollment at September 1 was pretty much stable over the same point last year. We have a slightly lower head count (number of students is down 2%), but they are registered in a higher number of credit hours (up 2%).
  - Enrollment is still lower than at the same point in 2019 (head count is down 4.8% and credit hours registered are down 3.1%).
- Fall 2020 term course add/drop deadline for Education After Degree courses is September 17 and for other courses is September 22.
- RenewBU ERP project work is ongoing, mostly behind the scenes, but many foundational pieces are being configured and tested
  - Moving from a legacy system as old and with as much history as BU's to a current, cloud-based system is incredibly complex, but progress is steady, and the project team hopes to be able to share more detailed updates in the coming months!

3.5.9. Report from the Provost & Vice-President (Academic) (Sen. Campbell)

- Senator Campbell offered thanks to everyone for the welcome he has received. He also thanked members of PEC and Deans' Council for the help they have given him as the community works through COVID-19 planning and moves towards January.
- He noted that an email has been sent out with his name on it, but he did not send it, so he advised BU community members to not click on the link.
- Senator Dupuis reported that the Co-op program had a 90% employment rate, which was 12% higher than the national average. There were 38 students employed in small, medium, and large organizations; some were with the Federal and Provincial Governments, not-for-profit organizations and some at BU. Students were employed in Brandon, northern Manitoba, and Saskatchewan. She also reported that 100% of the employers stated that they would hire Co-op students again. The program is currently recruiting students, and she noted that applications close on September 17<sup>th</sup>. This year is special; because of the RBC Future Launch dollars they are able to reduce the cost to students identifying as Indigenous, international, having disabilities, LGBTQ2S+, and/or being from rural and remote locations.

3.5.10. Report from the President (Dr. Docherty)

- Dr. Docherty welcomed Chris Lagimodiere to the President's Office on an 18-month secondment as the Acting Indigenous Advisor to the President. Mr. Lagimodiere will be working closely with the Indigenous Education Committee and implementing its recommendations.
- The BU Vaccine Policy will be going to PAC and then it will be shared with the BU community.

**4. Other Business**

**5. Correspondence**

**6. Adjournment**

**MOTION 027.SEP21 Noll/Ross**

THAT the Senate adjourn at 4:42 pm.

**CARRIED**