

**OPEN MINUTES
FOR THE SIXTH REGULAR MEETING OF THE 54th SENATE
HELD TUESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2022 @ 2:00 PM
BY ZOOM**

Present: David Docherty (Chair); Bernadette Ardelli; Edward Bach;
Kathryn Chachula; Kofi Campbell; Heather Duncan; Scott Forbes;
Joe Funk; Greg Gatien; Jane Karpa; Breanna Lawrence; Katie Gross;
Scott Lamont; Rory Lucyshyn-Wright; Mary Jane McCallum; Andrea McDaniel;
Eftihia Mihelakis; Kurt Noll; Simon Pattison; Linda Ross; Kim Ryan;
Curt Shoultz; Balfour Spence; Melanie Sucha; Mila Baqueiro Milosevic (BUSU);
Akech Mayuom-Deng (BUSU); Kathleen Servidad (BUSU);
Kim Fallis (Recording Secretary)

Regrets: Nancy McPherson; Olufunke Adeleye (BUSU); Saira Atif (BUSU);
Titilayo Omojowo (BUSU); Similoluwa Omotoye (BUSU); Iyiola Sanya (BUSU)

1. Approval of Agenda

MOTION 130.JAN22 Bach/Pattison

THAT the agenda be approved as distributed.

CARRIED

2. Closed Session

MOTION 131.JAN22 Gross/Pattison

THAT the committee move into CLOSED session.

CARRIED

3. Open Session

3.1. Approval of Minutes of 2021

MOTION 135.JAN22 Gross/Forbes

THAT the Open Session minutes of November 23, 2021 be approved as distributed.

CARRIED

3.2. Business Arising

3.3. Continuing Business

3.3.1. Call the vote on Motion 125.DEC21 Gatien/Chachula

MOTION 125.DEC21 Gatien/Chachula

THAT Senate approve the bylaw revisions as submitted by the Bylaw Review Sub-Committee of Senate
And

THAT the reference to Dean of Graduate Studies be removed from the list of General Faculty Council membership (Section VIII (E)).

CARRIED

3.4. New Business

3.4.1. Graduate Studies Committee (Sen. Campbell)

3.4.1.1. Faculty of Health Studies – Master of Psychiatric Nursing

3.4.1.1.1. Graduate Health Studies Curriculum & Program Changes

MOTION 136.JAN22 Ross/Duncan

THAT the Senate approve the revisions to section 7.4 Residency Requirements to the Graduate Calendar as submitted by the Department of Master of Psychiatric Nursing, Faculty of Health Studies.

CARRIED

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

3.4.2.1. New Awards

MOTION 137.JAN22 Gatien/Gross

THAT the Senate approve the new Terms of Reference for the following Scholarships.

- Manitoba Association of Mathematics Teachers Scholarship in Education
- Graduate Scholarship in Science
- Shaums' Psychiatric Nursing Bursary
- Elizabeth Clive Gibb Scholarship-Bursary
- William Gordon Memorial Scholarship

CARRIED

3.4.3. Senate Research Committee

3.4.3.1. Policy Revisions

MOTION 138.JAN22 Duncan/Campbell

THAT the Senate approve the Brandon University Biosafety Policy as attached.

CARRIED

The committee discussed whether the Biosafety Committee should fall under the purview of Senate or under Workplace Health and Safety. There will be further discussion at Senate on where this information should be housed.

3.4.4. Report from the Brandon University Students' Union (BUSU) President
(Sen. Milosevic reported on behalf of Senator Adeleye who was absent with regrets.)

Senator Milosevic reported on the following:

- BUSU held its annual holiday dinner Dec 9th, 2021, in person at Harvest Hall. The event was capped at 50 persons, and there were about 35-40 students and their families in attendance.
- BUSU has collaborated with Food Services to open a café in the KDC building called Bobbies' Bistro (where Forbidden Flavors used to be). It will be opening the first week of February 2022.
- BUSU 2022/2023 general elections will take place February 14th -25th 2022.

3.4.5. Reports from the Members of Deans' Council

Arts – Senator Spence

- They have completed the interview process for the Clerk 4 position in the Faculty of Arts office to replace a retiring colleague.
- Senator Spence expressed his concerns regarding the large number of departures from academic integrity by students. In approximately 70% of the cases, there was agreement between the student and instructor that these departures are not deliberate, but rather due to a lack of awareness by students as to what academic integrity means. International students make up approximately 60% of the instances even though only 15% of students in Arts programs are. Senator Spence wonders why there is such a significant number of departures from academic integrity despite the proactive efforts of the University on this topic.

Science – Senator Ardelli

- The Rural Interest Group (RIG) Mock Multiple Mini Interview (MMI) will be taking place on January 30th for students applying to medicine, occupational therapy, physiotherapy, and dentistry.
- Western Manitoba Science Fair (WMSF) has missed two years of an in-person fair; all are hopeful that a modified in-person fair will be possible this year.
- Dr. Pete Whittington, Geography & Environment, was granted a MITACS Globalink Research Internship. This is a program where students are given an internship and matched with a supervisor.

Education – Senator Duncan

- The Research Office is currently reviewing applications for the vacant Research Officer position.

Health Studies – Senator Ross

- The Province of Manitoba has approved an expansion of 12 seats for the B.N. program in Brandon and an expansion of 20 seats for the BScPN program in Winnipeg. This will require additional faculty, as well as renovations, at both sites, funding for which is coming from the provincial government.

Music – Senator Gatien

- An item that should have been reported to Senators in the late-Fall appeared in the Brandon Sun on January 17th. Senator Gatien apologized for timing discrepancies that led to Senators learning of this development from external sources rather than through its regular reporting mechanism.
 - The School of Music has expressed its interest in and intention to assume responsibility for organizing the Brandon Jazz Festival. This has been an annual event that had been organized by an external body since the 1980s, but had incorporated University ensembles and, on occasion, faculty. It has also been a meaningful experience for School of Music students, a significant recruiting opportunity for the School, and an important contributor to

regional music education, and our local cultural scene. The following planning conversations have already occurred:

- Music Office staff to discuss capacity.
 - Chair of the Applied Department (Eric Platz) to discuss the opportunities and challenges.
 - Provost and Academic Vice-President to discuss process and potential for the University.
 - School of Music Department Chairs, primarily for information and feedback.
 - Former Executive Director to discuss administration and budgeting of festival.
 - Full-time Members of the Jazz & Contemporary Popular Music faculty to discuss opportunities and challenges.
- In the near future, a 'jazz festival organizing committee' will be struck and begin planning for an event in 2023 that is intended to be of benefit to regional music students, the University, and the community.
- Ensembles and Aural & Keyboard skills courses are returning to fully vaccinated, physically distanced, and masked in-person instruction on the 19th, with other courses working their way back over the course of the next few days and weeks. The School of Music students, faculty, and staff continue to show great ingenuity and perseverance in the face of ongoing pandemic challenges. The School should also report that it has received generous assistance from our colleagues in Biology – particularly Professor Ellen Boudreau – with sourcing in-stock and affordable high quality masks for the School's in-person faculty.

Dean of Students – Senator Gross

- Student Services, IPC, and OIA hosted new Student Orientation on Tuesday, January 11th. Thanks to all of the staff and faculty to organized and participated.
- The Dean has sent reminders to students regarding acceptable online behaviours.

CIO – Senator Sucha

- The Library remains accessible to students this month for essential services such as holds pickup and main floor study spaces while classes are offered online. The Music Library is also open, with access from the Music Building. The Library will pivot services in line with class offerings.
- The Library and IT teams have compiled statistics on service delivery in Fall 2021 which will be shared on the website. The visual design of the infographic is credited to Jessi Robinson.
- IT is conducting self-phishing campaigns for both employees and students in this month, to instill cybersecurity awareness on campus. Phishing and spoofing attempts remain a concern, and students are demonstrating susceptibility to these fraud attempts. Employee accounts with multi-factor authentication (MFA) are much better protected when a password is compromised and IT is looking at plans to roll out MFA to all employees and students over the coming months.
- The Archives will be closed January 25 - March 9. Urgent Archives questions and requests can be forwarded to Melanie Sucha during this time period.

University Registrar – Ms. McDaniel

- Winter 2022 term course add/drop deadline is next Wednesday, January 26.
- Because this term started online, it is very important for teaching faculty to refresh their class lists regularly throughout the add/drop period so that they can

ensure students who have recently added their course can access course materials (Moodle key, Zoom/Teams links, etc.) in a timely fashion.

3.4.6. Report from the Provost and Vice-President (Academic) (Sen. Campbell)

Senator Campbell reported on the following:

- Senator Campbell was part of a three-person ad-hoc committee of Senate tasked with reviewing the processes that other institutions use for electing and rescinding Honorary Degree awards. He noted that the other two members of the committee are on sabbatical/study leaves, and he is now the only member of the committee. The committee was not tasked specifically with revising Brandon University's current process, but he will welcome further discussion at a future meeting of Senate.
- He thanked Chancellor McCallum for her engaging discussion with the members of Deans' Council earlier in the week and expressed how well it was received.

3.4.7. Report from the President (Dr. Docherty)

Dr. Docherty reported on the following:

- Report on the Joint Meeting of the Board and Senate of Brandon University

he meeting centered on the approach BU should take to respond to the Government's Skills Talent and Knowledge strategy. The general sentiment was that the meeting provided an opportunity for both the Senate and the Board to better understand the role of each governance body.

The following are some common themes that emerged from the break out rooms. Areas of the Skills, Talent and Knowledge Strategy that fall within the jurisdiction of Senate:

- Programming
- Developing numeracy and literacy skills
- Opportunities for partnership with community and beyond
- Fostering Entrepreneurial opportunities
- Concern over fate of programs that have high numbers of students but less obvious connections to immediate employment. Likewise concern over the push toward programs where the link to labour market may seem clearer but could lead to skills gap in the future.
- Opportunity to build new and exciting programs

Areas of the Skills, Talent and Knowledge strategy that fall within the jurisdiction of the Board:

- Resources to shift programming if required
- Resources to ensure students have access to programs – we remain a proud access university
- Participation rates that are lower than the national average – need to understand why

Is there a space for a common understanding of a strategy for BU in terms of Skills, Talents and Knowledge:

- Both governing bodies need to make a priority of sharing information so there are better understandings in place for decisions and processes
- Common interest in recognizing the special interest that BU serves in the region and province that differentiates us from universities in Winnipeg

- When measuring performance and outcomes we need to have a common cause across Senate and the Board and resist a cookie cutter approach to metrics
- Promoting BU should be the number one priority of both the Board and the Senate. A unified voice will be very important.

Things the Skills, Talents and Knowledge strategy did not address:

- Participation rates and the province's role in increasing participation
- First generation students and the resources required to make them successful
- The reality that Indigenous students face unique challenges and often have longer times to graduation
- No access funding (see above)
- Provincial health coverage for international students
- Onboarding support for first year international students

There were many other comments and suggestions. Perhaps the best encapsulation of our joint response to both the government and the public can be found in the following paraphrase:

“We need to be recognized for what we are: A Regional University – we provide excellent education and services to students who are leaving home for the first time – and often coming to a city that is daunting in size – Brandon.”

Both Senators and Governors agreed that our status as a regional university is paramount to our identity. Consistent with our Strategic Plan, this is our story to tell.

Finally, there were many suggestions for topics for future joint meetings. In particular there was interest from both the Board and the Senate to have sessions that were educational in nature. A Senator asked for a session on “Budgeting for Dummies” while a Board member wanted to know more about the program planning process. These comments were made with all good intention of learning the responsibility of the other bi-cameral body.

- The government named a new Minister of Advanced Education, John Reyes.
- He thanked the Chancellor for attending a number of meetings with faculty and students.
- He noted that they are continuing to review how classes will continue over the term.
- Due to the uncertainty of what the Spring Convocation will look like it has been decided that because there were no responses to the first call for Honorary Degrees, no further calls will be issued for this year.

4. Other Business

5. Correspondence

6. Adjournment

MOTION 139.JAN22 Campbell/Lamont

THAT the Senate adjourn at 3:30 pm.

CARRIED