

**OPEN MINUTES
FOR THE FIRST REGULAR MEETING OF THE 58TH SENATE
TUESDAY, JUNE 17, 2025 – 2:00 PM
LOUIS RIEL ROOM**

Present: Kofi Campbell (Chair); Charles Adamu; Nora Ahmad; Faith Akinbode; Danil Buzhor; Bernadette Ardelli; Rick Baker; Ravi Dwivedula; Alysha Farrell; Sunday Frangi (left at 3:35 pm); Dominique Hétu; Gregory Kennedy; Chris Lagimodiere (non-voting); Christophe LeMoine; Andrea McDaniel; Linda Ross; Melanie Sucha; Michael Uwa-Omoregha; Katie Whelpton; Pete Whittington; Dion Wiseman; Michelle Williams Joel; Etsuko Yasui.

Regrets: Matteo Di Muro; Cory Dysart-Moody; Greg Gatien; Ariane Hanemaayer; Marsha Harris; Peter Hickey; Bryan Hill; Rebecca Jimoh; Rendy Kwayke; Christopher Malcolm; Simon Pattison; Curt Shultz; Leanne Zacharias.

Absent: Rebecca Jimoh; Mary Jane McCallum; Grant Prairie.

1. Approval of Agenda

MOTION 001.JUN25 Whelpton/Hétu

THAT the Senate approve the Open Session agenda of the June 17, 2025, meeting as distributed.

CARRIED

2. Welcome and Orientation

Sen. Campbell provided welcoming remarks, facilitated Senator introductions, and provided a high level explanation of the Senate. He indicated that a full orientation to bicameral governance at Brandon University will be provided at the September meeting.

3. Motion to Move into Closed Session

MOTION 002. JUN25 LeMoine/Kennedy

THAT the Senate move into Closed Session.

CARRIED

4. Motion(s) Raised from Closed Session

No motions were raised from Closed Session.

5. Open Session

5.1. Approval of Open Session Minutes of May 13, 2025

MOTION 006. JUN25 Adamu/Wiseman

That the Senate approve the Open Session minutes of the May 13, 2025, meeting as presented.

CARRIED

5.2. Business Arising

5.3. Continuing Business

5.4. New Business

5.4.1. Election

5.4.1.1. Election of the 2025-26 Senate Executive Committee

Faculty of Arts

Senator Whelpton nominated Senator Baker to serve in this position.

ACCLAIMED

Faculty of Education

Senator Farrell nominated Senator Di Muro to serve in this position.

ACCLAIMED PENDING ACCEPTANCE

Follow-up note: Senator Di Muro communicated acceptance of this position to the Senate Office by email on June 30, 2025.

Faculty of Health Studies

Senator Ross nominated Senator Ahmad to serve in this position.

ACCLAIMED

Faculty of Music

No representatives from the School of Music were in attendance at the meeting.

DEFERRED TO SEPTEMBER MEETING

Faculty of Science

Senator Wiseman self-nominated to serve in this position.

ACCLAIMED

- One student Senator

Senator Adamu self-nominated serve in this position.

ACCLAIMED

5.4.1.2. Election of THREE Senators including a BUSU representative to the Indigenous Education Committee

C. Lagimodiere provided a brief history of this committee and indicated that, in 2024-25, its work was largely taken over by a University-wide committee called the Indigenous Initiatives Committee, which is able to make recommendations to any University body, not just Senate.

Several Senators wondered whether a notice of motion should be made to close this committee. Sen. McDaniel indicated that 2025-26 is a Senate Bylaws Review year, and the Senate Bylaws Review Committee could consider such a closure as part of its work in light of the context provided by C. Lagimodiere.

NOTICE OF MOTION: Kennedy

To put the Indigenous Education Committee into abeyance until the Bylaws Review Committee has completed its work.

5.4.1.3. Election of a Student Senator to the Committee to Administer the Stanley Knowles Distinguished Visiting Professorship

Michelle Williams Joel volunteered to serve in this position.

ACCLAIMED

5.4.1.4. Election of a Senate Representative to the Library Committee

No nominations raised from the floor.

DEFERRED TO SEPTEMBER MEETING

5.4.1.5. Election of a research-active Senator to the Senate Research Committee

Senator Héту volunteered to serve in this position.

ACCLAIMED

5.4.1.6. Election of a Senate Representative to the Scholarships and Awards Committee

Senator Gatien volunteered to serve in this position.

ACCLAIMED

5.4.1.7. Election of a Senator to the Board of Governors (2-Year Term)

No nominations raised from the floor.

DEFERRED TO SEPTEMBER MEETING

5.4.2. Undergraduate Studies Committee (Sen. Gatien)

FACULTY OF HEALTH STUDIES

Nursing & Psychiatric Nursing

5.4.2.1 Nursing & Psychiatric Nursing Policy Revisions

MOTION 007. JUN25 Ross/Adamu

THAT the Senate approve the following policy revisions, as submitted by the Departments of Nursing & Psychiatric Nursing, Faculty of Health Studies:

- Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Policy

CARRIED

Discussion occurred regarding the duration of certification. Sen. Ross and Sen. Ahmad confirmed that, at the time of application, the student must have a currently active CPR certification (regardless of whether the expiry date falls one or two years into the future).

Nursing

5.4.2.2. Nursing Course Revisions

MOTION 008. JUN25 Ross/Ahmad

THAT the Senate approve the following course revisions, as submitted by the Department of Nursing, Faculty of Health Studies:

- 71:280 Intermediate Nursing Skills

CARRIED

5.4.2.3. Nursing Curriculum & Program Changes

MOTION 009. JUN25 Ross/Ahmad

THAT the Senate approve the following program revisions, as submitted by the Department of Nursing, Faculty of Health Studies:

- LPN-BN Admission Requirements

CARRIED

5.4.2.4. Nursing Policy Revisions

MOTION 010. JUN25 Ross/Ahmad

THAT the Senate approve the following program revisions, as submitted by the Department of Nursing, Faculty of Health Studies:

- Senior Practicum Placement Policy

CARRIED AS AMENDED

Friendly amendment: include reference to the University's Conflict of Interest Policy in point 5.

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

5.4.2.5. New Music Policies

MOTION 011. JUN25 Ross/Whelpton

THAT the Senate approve the following new policy, as submitted by the School of Music:

- Retroactive Credit for Ensemble Policy

CARRIED

Discussion included the following points:

- Ideally, it would be made explicitly clear in the policy language that the ensembles must have been completed at BU (and can't be equivalents from elsewhere)
- There was a question regarding whether there is a challenging power dynamic in asking students to participate in ensembles that are not needed for their program (and that may put them in an overload position or a challenging personal situation).

FACULTY OF SCIENCE

Psychology

5.4.2.6. Psychology Course Revisions

MOTION 012. JUN25 Whittington/Ross

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

- 82.449 – Undergraduate Honours Thesis

CARRIED

Discussion included the following points:

- Question of what happens when there are more students interested in completing an Honours major than there is supervisor capacity. Sen. LeMoine indicated that the interest of the student, expertise of the instructor, and interaction between student and instructor will be used to distinguish between students and determine who will be accepted. He also indicated that there will be some responsibility on department advisors to ensure that students understand the capacity limitations and how decisions will be made.
- There is a concern that students are unable to complete available programs due to staffing constraints. It seems reasonable to increase entry standards to ensure that the most capable students are the ones accepted, but it seems challenging to not accept students due to staffing limitations.
 - One Senator offered the analogy of applying to graduate school where there are always fewer places available than there are qualified interested candidates.
- Does this apply to the Honours BA option in Psychology as well? Sen. LeMoine indicated that it would even though the language is not explicit on this point.
- Question of how important the thesis is to an Honours major in Psychology.
 - Several Senators confirmed that a thesis is essential in this discipline for further graduate/professional study.
- While student Senators share concerns outlined above, they are supportive of the department making the situation transparent and communicating it up front so that students have appropriate expectations.

REGISTRAR'S OFFICE

5.4.2.7. University Policy/Regulation Revisions

MOTION 013. JUN25 Whittington/Farrell

THAT the Senate approve the following Policy/Regulation revision, as submitted by the University Registrar:

- University Examinations Policy

CARRIED

Discussion points included the following:

- Some departments have robust internal contingency plans to address unforeseen emergencies; this policy does not preclude such pre-planning but adds a layer to ensure a minimum standard of consistency across the University.

5.4.3. Ad-Hoc Committees of Senate

5.4.3.1. External Review of Programs & Units Policy (Acting Pres. Campbell)

Written report provided to Senate.

5.4.3.2. Grade Appeal Policy Review Committee (Sen. LeMoine)

Written report provided to Senate.

5.4.3.3. Liberal Education Requirement Review Committee (Sen. Kennedy)

Written report provided to Senate.

5.4.3.4. Non-Credit Certificate Policy Review Committee (Sen. Shultz)

Written report provided to Senate.

5.4.3.5. Senate Awards for Excellence Review Committee (Sen. Gatien)

Written report provided to Senate.

5.4.4. Reports

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

- Written report provided to Senate.

5.4.4.2. Board of Governors Representative (Sen. Frangi)

- No written report submitted.

5.4.4.3. Members of Deans' Council (Acting Pres. Campbell)

- Faculty of Arts (Sen. Kennedy)
 - No written report submitted.
- Faculty of Education (Sen. Farrell)
 - No written report submitted.

- Faculty of Health Studies (Sen. Ross)
 - No written report submitted.
- School of Music (Sen. Gatien)
 - No written report submitted.
- Faculty of Science (Sen. LeMoine)
 - Written report provided to Senate.
- Dean of Students (Sen. Whelpton)
 - Written report was not included in the Senate package by administrative error. Oral report provided with summary below:
 - Eight members of the Student Services team will be attending the Canadian Association of College and University Services Annual Conference in Halifax June 8-11th.
 - Counsellor Therapist, Marsha Harris, has received a \$750 grant from the Suicide Prevention Implementation Network (SPIN) to cover the costs of offering a Mindful Self-Compassion group for students this fall.
 - Student Accessibility Services will welcome Erica Brown to fill the six-month term position of Student Accessibility Specialist.
 - May is a heavy advising month for Student Success Officers.
 - The Recruitment team attended a few Westman career fairs in Souris and Virden, as well at Sioux Valley High School. We also participated in the large Winnipeg Career Fair, Futures Now.
 - We had a new initiative this year to bring advising and course registration help to the students! The team attended the three large high schools in Brandon, each for 2 days in May. Students in eligible programs had advising on-site, as well as help navigating the registration system and student portal, and they became familiar with some of the resources here on campus. 52 students were advised and registered, as well as 15 students assisted who had questions (but were not there for advising/registration). It was well received by school staff and students alike. This was a successful event, and we plan to do this again next year.
 - In May we offered our first Student Study Night for the PENT session – very well received! We took some notes and plan to incorporate some changes for the next event to be held in June.
 - The University will be welcoming 11 exchange students for the 2025/2026 academic year:
 - 4 inbound National Exchange Students this Fall - Puerto Rico, Nebraska and Wisconsin
 - 5 ELAP students - Jamaica, Paraguay and Brazil

- 2 ELAP graduate research students (Supervisors Dr. Patti Harms in Arts and Dr. Aloy Anyichie in Education)
- Chief Information Officer (Sen. Sucha)
 - Written report provided to Senate.
- University Registrar (Sen. McDaniel)
 - Written report provided to Senate.
- 5.4.4.4. Associate Vice-President (Indigenous Initiatives) (C. Lagimodiere)
 - No written report submitted.
- 5.4.4.5. Vice-President (Administration & Finance) (Sen. Hickey)
 - No written report submitted.
- 5.4.4.6. Vice-President (Research & Graduate Studies) (Sen. Ardelli)
 - Written report provided to Senate.
- 5.4.4.7. Acting Provost & Vice-President (Academic) (Sen. Gatien)
 - No written report submitted.
- 5.4.4.8. Acting President (Acting Pres. Campbell)
 - No written report submitted.

6. Other Business

No other business noted.

7. Correspondence

No correspondence received.

8. Adjournment

MOTION 014.JUN25 Hétu

THAT the Senate adjourn at 3:52 pm.