

**OPEN MINUTES
FOR THE SECOND REGULAR MEETING OF THE 58TH SENATE
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2025 – 2:00 PM
LOUIS RIEL ROOM**

Present: Greg Gatien (Acting Chair); Nora Ahmad; Bernadette Ardelli; Rick Baker; Danil Buzhor; Ravi Dwivedula; Alysha Farrell; Marsha Harris; Dominique Héту; Peter Hickey; Bryan Hill; Gregory Kennedy; Christophe LeMoine; Christopher Malcolm; Andrea McDaniel; Linda Ross; Curt Shoultz; Melanie Sucha; Katie Whelpton; Pete Whittington; Michelle Williams Joel; Dion Wiseman; Etsuko Yasui; Leanne Zacharias; Temi Ojogiwa (Recording Secretary).

Regrets: Charles Adamu; Kofi Campbell (Acting Chair); Matteo Di Muro; Ariane Hanemaayer; Chris Lagimodiere (non-voting); Michael Uwa-Omoregha.

Absent: Cory Dysart-Moody; Rebecca Jimoh; Mary Jane McCallum; Grant Prairie.

1. Approval of Agenda

MOTION 015.SEP25 Héту/Kennedy

THAT the Senate approve the Open Session agenda of the September 16, 2025, meeting as distributed.

CARRIED

2. Welcome and Orientation

Sen. Gatien welcomed Senators to the second meeting of the 2025-26 Senate cycle. He acknowledged the absence of the new President and the Acting President with their regrets and noted his own absence from the June meeting.

3. Motion to Move into Closed Session

MOTION 016.SEP25 Ross/Whittington

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 June 17, 2025

MOTION 020.SEP25 Héту/Wiseman

That the Senate approve the Open Session minutes of the June 17, 2025, meeting as presented.

CARRIED

5.2. Business Arising

5.3. Continuing Business

5.4. New Business

5.4.1. Elections

5.4.1.1. Senate Research Committee Clarification

Sen. McDaniel provided clarification on the accidental election of Sen. Héту to serve on the Senate Research Committee. A mix-up was confirmed related to one of the terms of office of one of the positions of the Committee, and the incumbent was actually entering the final year of their term. Sen. McDaniel thanked Sen. Héту for their willingness to serve and apologized for the error.

5.4.1.2. Election of the 2025-26 Senate Executive Committee

- One Senator from the School of Music

Senator Zacharias volunteered to serve in this position.

ACCLAIMED

5.4.1.3. Elections for Representatives to the Library Committee

- One member of Senate

Senator Malcolm volunteered to serve in this position.

ACCLAIMED

- One undergraduate student Senator

Senator Buzhor volunteered to serve in this position.

ACCLAIMED

5.4.1.4. Elections of a Senator to the Board of Governors (2-Year Term)

Sen. Dwivedula volunteered to serve in this position.

ACCLAIMED

5.4.1.5. Bylaws Revision Committee

- One representative from each Faculty/School, two of whom must be Senators.

Senator Whittington volunteered to serve in this position as the representative from the Faculty of Science.

Senator Gatien volunteered to serve in this position as the representative from the School of Music.

ACCLAIMED

The Senate Office will reach out to the Faculties of Education, Health Studies, and Arts to solicit their representatives.

- One student Senator elected by Senate

Senator Williams Joel volunteered to serve in this position.

ACCLAIMED

Discussion on the Bylaws Review Committee included the following:

- Sen. McDaniel remarked that the Committee should start its work within the next month, and the Committee typically meets a handful of times with a goal of submitting its recommendations to Senate early in the new year.
- It was underlined that the committee is a time-limited Committee with meetings between 1 – 2 hours.

5.4.2. Undergraduate Studies Committee (Sen. Gatien)

5.4.2.1. Faculty of Education

Bachelor of Education (BED) Courses & Programs

5.4.2.1.1 BED Curriculum & Program Revisions

MOTION 021.SEP25 Farrell/Héту

THAT the Senate approve the following Curriculum and Program revisions, as submitted by the Faculty of Education.

- Admission Deadlines & Requirements

CARRIED

5.4.2.2. Faculty of Health Studies

Nursing

5.4.2.2.1 Nursing Course Revisions

MOTION 022.SEP25 Ross/LeMoine

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

- 71:452 Clinical Practicum IV – Care of the Palliative Client

CARRIED

Discussion on the motion included the following:

- Sen. McDaniel noted that, as an exception, Senate will approve this proposed change to take effect immediately in the 2025-26 calendar to prevent students from paying for 2 credit hours extra and to avoid creating unusual student records.

5.4.2.3. Faculty of Science

Biology

5.4.2.3.1 Biology Course Revisions

MOTION 023.SEP25 LeMoine/Whittington

THAT the Senate approve the following Biology Course revisions, as submitted by the Department of Biology, Faculty of Science.

- 15:462 Environmental Animal Endocrinology
- 15:454 Applied Biomedical Science

CARRIED

Psychology

5.4.2.3.2 Psychology Curriculum & Program Changes

MOTION 024.SEP25 LeMoine/Ross

THAT the Senate approve the following Psychology Curriculum & Program changes, as submitted by the Department of Psychology, Faculty of Science.

- Clinical/Counselling Block Revision for Psychology Majors

CARRIED

5.4.3. Graduate Studies Committee (Sen. Ardelli)

5.4.3.1. Faculty of Health Studies – Master of Psychiatric Nursing

Graduate Health Studies Course Revisions

MOTION 025.SEP25 Ross/Héту

THAT the Senate approve the following Graduate Health Studies Course revisions, as submitted by the Department of Psych Nursing – Graduate (75), Faculty of Health Studies.

- 75.656 Advanced Readings in Psychiatric Nursing

CARRIED

5.4.4. Indigenous Curricular Content Committee

5.4.4.1. Revision to Indigenous Course Content Requirements of the BU Undergraduate Calendar

MOTION 026.SEP25 LeMoine/Héту

THAT the Senate approve the Section 3.11 – “Indigenous Content Course requirement” of the BU Undergraduate Calendar revisions, as submitted by the Indigenous Curricular Content (ICC) Committee.

CARRIED

5.4.5. Indigenous Education Committee

5.4.5.1. Motion for Abeyance

MOTION 027.SEP25 LeMoine/Hill

THAT the Senate approve the Indigenous Education Committee be put into abeyance until the Bylaws Review Committee has completed its work.

CARRIED

5.4.6. Scholarships & Awards Committee of Senate (Sen. Gatien)

5.4.6.1. New Awards

MOTION 028.SEP25 Whelpton/Zacharias

THAT the Senate approve the following new awards, as proposed by the Scholarships & Awards Committee of Senate:

- Macpherson Scholarship in Piano Chamber Music

CARRIED

5.4.7. Ad-Hoc Committee Updates

5.4.7.1. Non-Credit Certificate Policy Review Committee (Sen. Shoultz)

MOTION 029.SEP25 Shoultz/Malcolm

THAT the Senate approve repealing the current Non-Credit Certificate Policy and adopting the Not for Credit Credential Policy as a pilot program for a period of three years beginning from January 2026, as submitted by the Non-Credit Certificate Policy Review Committee.

WITHDRAWN

Discussion on the motion covered the following points:

- There were questions about how existing not-for-credit credentials, including the Student Leader Certificate would be brought under the new policy umbrella.
- Concerns were raised regarding available resources to support implementation of a project of the proposed scope (inclusive of all not-for-credit credentials offered by any department/unit of the University, including those outside of the Faculties/School), even on a pilot basis.
- The mover and seconder withdrew the motion in order to give the ad-hoc committee an opportunity to revise the submission, restricting the proposed pilot project scope to not-for-credit credentials in the Rural Development Institute and reducing the pilot project duration to two years.
- Clarification was sought regarding a policy governing for-credit certificates. Sen. McDaniel confirmed that an ad-hoc committee had previously been working on such a policy but that the work of that committee was not completed. Sen. McDaniel confirmed they will seek to reactivate the committee.

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

MOTION 030.SEP25 Héту/Whelpton

THAT the Senate approve revisions to the Senate Awards for Excellence in Research Policy and the Senate Awards for Excellence in Teaching Policy, as submitted by the Senate Awards for Excellence Review Committee;

AND

THAT the Senate recommend to the Board of Governors, the creation of a Senate Awards for Excellence in Teaching for Contract Academic Staff Policy and Senate Awards for Excellence in Service Policy, as submitted by the Senate Awards for Excellence Review Committee.

WITHDRAWN

Discussion on the motion covered the following points:

- The need for specificity of factors pertaining to EDI in research for the last paragraph of the Eligibility section of the Senate Awards for Excellence in Research. It was suggested to include an appendix including some examples of what is intended by the EDI phrase in the policy.
- There was inquiry regarding the rationale for requiring the recipient to access their award within two years of receipt of the award. Sen. Gatien noted that this restriction is not new and is intended to give the recipient's department time to plan.
- The omission of Administrative Associates is to be addressed under the eligibility criteria of the different awards.
- A question was raised about the absence of professional staff awards.
- There are possible revisions required on the Criteria section of the Senate Awards for Excellence in Research: perhaps there is too narrow a framing of research assessment. It is suggested to look at research on its own merit and not just based on publication; there is some movement away from assessing merit on the basis of journals' impact factors and peer-reviewed value and towards a broad perspective of performance-based research activities. It was agreed that this is the direction intended, and the Committee should review the award policy comprehensively with this lens.
- A Senator recommended that the Committee review the eligibility requirements to address the fact that reference letters can be hard to get and could be an obstacle to nominating someone. For the research award, it would be good to have the letters as research-focused and to have a global perspective on the individual's research.
- Section G of the research award policy highlights that the runner-up may have their application carried forward to the future year. It was suggested that this provision be reviewed by the Committee given that candidates may have unrealistic expectations of future award outcomes if their application is automatically carried forward but into a fresh pool of candidates. This provision could be replaced by a notice of the possibility of reapplication in future years.
- Feedback was well-received. The mover and seconder agreed to withdraw the motion to allow the Committee time to revise the policies in light of feedback with a goal of resubmitting for the October Senate meeting.

5.4.7.3. Lifetime Achievement Award Policy Review Committee (Sen. Kramer)

Written report provided to Senate.

5.4.7.4. External Review of Programs & Units Policy Review Committee (Sen. Campbell)

Written report provided to Senate.

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

Written report provided to Senate.

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

Written report provided to Senate.

5.4.8.Reports

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

Written report provided to Senate.

5.4.8.2. Board of Governors Representative (TBE)

5.4.8.3. Members of Deans' Council

- Dean of the Faculty of Arts (Sen. Kennedy)

No written report submitted.

- Dean of the Faculty of Education (Sen. Farrell)

Written report provided to Senate.

- Acting Dean of the Faculty of Health Studies (Sen. Ross)

No written report submitted.

- Dean of the School of Music (Sen. Gatien)

No written report submitted.

- Dean of the Faculty of Science (Sen. LeMoine)

Written report provided to Senate.

- Dean of Students (Sen. Whelpton)

Written report provided to Senate.

- Chief Information Officer (Sen. Sucha)

No written report submitted.

- University Registrar (Sen. McDaniel)

Written report provided to Senate.

- 5.4.8.4. Associate Vice-President (Indigenous Initiatives) (C. Lagimodiere)
No written report submitted.
- 5.4.8.5. Vice-President (Administration & Finance) (Sen. Hickey)
No written report submitted.
- 5.4.8.6. Vice-President (Research & Graduate Studies) (Sen. Ardelli)
Written report provided to Senate.
- 5.4.8.7. Acting Provost & Vice-President (Academic) (Sen. Gatien)
No written report submitted.
- 5.4.8.8. Acting President (Acting Pres. Campbell)
No written report submitted.

6. Other Business

7. Correspondence

8. Adjournment

MOTION 031.SEP25 Héту

THAT the Senate adjourn at 3:16 pm.