

MOUNT ALLISON UNIVERSITY  
MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

September 14, 2021, 4:00pm  
via Microsoft Teams

Present via remote connection: N. Anthonisen, K. Bell, P. Berry, A. Beverley, B. Blakney, J-P. Boudreau (Chair), C. Burke, A. Comfort, H. Crouse, T-A. Dixon, B. Evans, A. Fancy, S. Fanning, N. Farooqi, S. Fleming, L. Garnett, A. Grant, D. Hamilton, L-D. Hamilton, M. Hamilton, J. Hennessy (Vice-Chair), R. Inglis, C. Ionescu, K. Johnston, J. Kalyn, D. Keeping, S. Keller, L. Kern, A. Koval, A. Kreuger, R. Lapp, A. LePage, M. Levesque, D. Lieske, M. Litvak, C. Lovekin, G. MacLean de Stecher, R. Majithia, C. Major, M. Maston, V. Meli, N. Milliea, R. Minocha-McKenney, R. Moser (Secretary), J. Mullen, G. Ouellette, R. Polegato, C. Pringle-Carver, B. Robertson, S. Runge, A. Solomon, V. St. Pierre, E. Steuter, J. Tomes, N. Vogan, A. Wilson, W. Wilson

Regrets: B. Clayton

01.09.14 Land Acknowledgement

J-P. Boudreau reminded Senate that Mount Allison is situated on the unceded Mi'kmaq land and that even our digital gathering is made possible by such space.

02.09.14 Approval of agenda

R. Moser proposed a modification to the agenda as circulated: that items #9 and #10 each concerning Motions by the Committee on Committees be folded into one agenda item.

**Motion (J-P. Boudreau/B.Robertson): that Senate adopt the agenda as modified.**

**Motion carried**

03.09.14 Introductions and note on the medium and culture of Senate, Fall 2021

J-P. Boudreau welcomed new and returning Senators. He reviewed some common Senate protocol and some protocol for remotely digital participation. He reminded Senators that discussions in the chat will continue not be part of the official record of Senate. He reminded Senators to use the hand-raising function in MS Teams to speak on record.

04.09.14 Approval of the minutes (13 May, 2021)

**Motion (C. Lovekin/K.Bell): that Senate adopt the minutes of the meeting of 13 May, 2021.**

**Motion carried**

05.09.14 Business arising from the minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

06.09.14 Chair's remarks

### *Welcome*

J-P. Boudreau welcomed Senators, students, staff, and faculty back to the new academic year.

### *COVID*

The Chair looks forward to Senate meetings which don't lead with COVID as an update item. He thanked the entire university community— faculty, staff, academic leaders, senior administration, the Board, MAFA, CUPE, MASA, and MASU—for the progress on readying the campus for in-person presence. He said 1,800 students were double vaccinated, which is 96.15% of the student body reported so far, and faculty and staff at 97%. He urged everyone to maintain compliance and vigilance, and cited the renewed commitment between the Town of Sackville, Mount Allison, and the student body to Protect the Bubble 2.0.

### *New semester*

Mount Allison has welcomed over 690 new and over 1500 returning students. Of these, about 100 are international students. 85 First Nations students now attending Mt.A. Presently there are 850 students in residence. These numbers are subject to change and final numbers will emerge after Oct 15. We had an excellent move-in day and a great orientation, day of learning, and a new tradition with the Pilei-nipi ceremony as an alternative welcome event for the traditional Commencement ceremony. Thank you to everyone who made the orientation and welcome events possible, especially Admission & Recruitment, to the Deans, to the Heads of Department, to the Provost and VPs, to Facilities Management, to Residence Life, to Advancement, the Registrar's Office, to MarComm, and to faculty and staff. Congratulations also to Rob Hiscock and the MarComm team on launching the new Mt.A website.

### *EDI & Strategic*

The Chair reported that it has been busy summer especially for initiatives concerning sexual violence prevention (SVP) and concerning equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI). A standing committee is being established to track and monitor progress on the external report on SVP. Vice-President Anne Comfort is establishing an advisory committee. Dr. Lisa-Dawn Hamilton is coordinating a final meeting of the SVP working group. Presently hiring procedures are underway for a Sexual Violence Prevention & Education coordinator, working closely with Dr. Jane Craighead of the Board of Regent's SVP ad hoc committee. A monthly communication update is in development, and HR is developing SVP support and training for staff and faculty. Thanks due to MASU and Student Affairs for a very successful orientation involving education on SVP and consent. The Chair expressed that a lot has been done, and acknowledged there is a lot to be done.

The Chair reported progress on establishing a new Elder(s) in Residence initiative, and will report back at October Senate. After a year of consultation, progress is being made on an updated Chaplaincy position that will allow us to hire into the position with a broader inclusive

category around spiritual advisory functions. President's Cabinet had a full day retreat in August concerning strategic sessions, and the Chair will keep Senate updated over the Fall. Expect to hear a lot in months and years ahead about the major capital project of the RP Bell Library & Archives renovation. The Chair thanked Advancement and Alumni for their combined efforts toward fundraising and philanthropy.

An ad hoc committee on Convocation 2022 recently concluded its work toward conceiving a plan for May Convocation, taking account of giving the classes of '20 and '21 the experience of 'walking across the stage'. Presently the plan is a pair of ceremonies for these recent graduates on May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022, and, Convocation as usual for the class of '22 on May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Action teams for planning the ceremonies will begin this Fall.

### *Events*

The Chair noted many events upcoming this Fall, including: the official opening of the Pierre Lassonde School of Fine Arts on Thursday, Sept 16; Homecoming; the President's Speaker Series and its unofficial theme of 'Moving Forward, Together'; a Week of Reflection on Truth and Reconciliation scheduled for September 27<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>; the Department of Music is once again offering a full schedule of in-person events; the Women's and Gender Studies program will hold Feminist Fridays, a monthly gathering for conversation about feminist life at Mt.A; and, SURF (the Summer Undergraduate Research Fair) will be held as a hybrid of in-person and virtual participation on September 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. The Chair also noted an Employee recognition event was held late in August for employees who had obtain service milestones ranging from 5 to 40 years of service. (2020 – 87 employees) and (2021 – 74 employees).

There were no questions or comments.

### 07.09.14 Report from University Planning Committee

J. Hennessy reported on the new policy for developing Faculty Unit and Academic Unit Plans to submit to the UPC. The UPC received 21 requests for positions and has been reviewing the Plans since late August to determine priority hires for the current cycle. By the October meeting he hopes to have searches authorized. He reported that three units have reviews scheduled in the present academic year: English, Physics (including the BSc in Aviation), and Women's and Gender Studies. He reported that the Strategic Academic and Creative Activities Plan is going well, with good conversations being had in 12 working groups. A draft is begun on some specific recommendations to discuss at Faculty Council and on track for eventual discussion at Senate.

### 08.09.14 Note from Admissions & Readmissions / Readmissions Appeals Committees

C. Major reminded Senators of the suspension of section 10.9.13 of the Academic Calendar for the 2020-21 academic year (approved at meeting of Senate, March 16, 2021). As a result, the committee received no applications for readmission nor appeals concerning these decisions.

09.09.14 Report from Committee on Committees

A. Koval indicated that the report consists of motions to staff committees for the current AY.

**Motion 1 (A. Koval/ S. Runge): The Committee on Committees moves that Senate acclaim Nancy Garon to the vacancy on the Research Ethics Board to commence immediately for a three-year term ending June 30, 2024.**

**Motion carried**

**Motion 2 (A. Koval/J. Hennessy): The Committee on Committees moves that Senate acclaim the following students to the following Senate Committees for terms to commence immediately and ending in May 2022:**

**Committee on Students with Disabilities:** Rosalie Halls, Elizabeth Hebert  
**Academic Matters (Regulations) Committee:** Rohin Minocha-McKenney  
**Academic Matters (Curriculum and Academic) Committee:** Toni-Anne Dixon

**Motion carried**

**Motion 3 (A. Koval/ S. Runge): The Committee on Committees moves that Senate acclaim the following nominee to the committee indicated for a term commencing immediately and ending June 30, 2024:**

**Academic Matters (Regulations) Committee:** Patricia Kelly Spurles (Arts)

**Motion carried**

J-P. Boudreau thanked A. Koval, the Committee on Committees, and the newly-elected committee members for their time and service.

10.09.14 Discover Mt.A

J-P. Boudreau invited any announcements of noteworthy events and achievements in the Mount Allison community.

J. Hennessy welcomed all new faculty, especially highlighting five new tenure-track faculty members. N. Farooqi echoed the Provost's welcome.

J. Tomes reminded everyone of the President's Speakers Series, beginning on September 29<sup>th</sup> with Elder William Nevin.

B. Evans spoke to the reinvigorating positivity of the corn boil and other orientation & welcoming events, noting that the Mayor and Town Councillors had also commented on how wonderful it is to have the students back in town for another Fall.

V. St. Pierre extended a welcome back to & from the Faculty of Arts, citing excitement and enthusiasm for lots of in-person events in happening in the coming term.

R. Minocha-McKenney reported that 'Learning Day' was a massive success with around 500 students in attendance in the morning at Convocation Hall, and he thanked everyone who made it possible, especially about 100 volunteers.

D. Keeping welcomed several new staff members in the Library and Archives.

11.09.14      Other business

There was no other business.

12.09.14      Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:18pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Robbie Moser  
Secretary