

MOUNT ALLISON UNIVERSITY  
MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

May 11, 2023, 4:00pm  
Windsor Grand Room & Microsoft Teams (hybrid format)

Present: N. Anthonisen, F. Antonelli, K. Bell, A. Beverley, B. Clayton, A. Comfort, S. Dewolfe, A. Fancy, S. Fanning, D. Hamilton, M. Hamilton, J. Hennessy (Chair), C. Ionescu, K. Johnston, K. Keleher, L. Keliher, A. Kreuger, R. Lapp, M. Levesque, A. Lepage, C. Lovekin, C. MacDougall, C. Major, V. Meli, R. Moser (Secretary), G. Ouellette, T. Reiffenstein, R. Rubin, S. Runge, S. Park, C. Pringle-Carver, S. Sarkar, V. St. Pierre, J. Tomes, N. Vogan, B. Walters

Guests: M. Hashemi, J. Liefer, A. Nurse, R. Pascoe Deslauriers, L. Pearce, G. Sandala, S. Strong

Regrets: L. Garnett, J. Kalyn, B. Robertson, W. Wilson

01.05.11 Territorial Acknowledgement

J. Hennessy read the official territorial acknowledgment written by Elders and the Indigenous Advisory Circle as follows:

We would like to acknowledge that we are located within the territory of Mi'kma'ki, the unceded, ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq. Our relationship and our privilege to live on this territory was agreed upon in the Peace and Friendship Treaties of 1752. Because of this treaty relationship it is to be acknowledged that we are all Treaty people and have a responsibility to respect this territory.

02.05.11 Approval of agenda

**Motion (V. St.Pierre / A. Fancy): that Senate adopt the agenda as presented.**

**Motion carried**

- 03.05.11
- a. Approval of the minutes (14 March, 2023)
  - b. Reports for information:
    - i. Academic Appeals Committee
    - ii. Research and Creative Activities Committee
    - iii. Experiential Learning Committee

There was no discussion.

04.05.11 Business arising from the minutes

No business arising.

## 05.05.11 Chair's remarks

J. Hennessy expressed his gratitude to everyone for their hard work this year. He noted that the Board will meet on May 16 to pass the budget. He reminded Senate of some of Robert Inglis's presentation at the April meeting, namely, that the budget is based on a conservative estimate of 700 new entering students. Application numbers to date suggest a higher number than that for the new cohort. The Chair confirmed provincial funding of a 2% increase to the operating budget, which is well below inflation. There can be a top-up of 1.5% pro-rated to 2% enrollment growth, which in real numbers is about 49 FTE students to get a net increase from last October 1. There will be a 3% increase to tuition, and some increases to residence and meal plan costs to bring Mt.A. in line with schools in the region. This budget has no cuts and has provided inflationary increases to many departments including academic departments of \$100K, and the Provost and Deans will discuss how best to use those funds. For example, some will be allocated to account for the provincial increase in minimum wage, some for accessibility, some for digital marketing and CRM upgrade, which should increase enrollment. The last 'immediate priority' item to Planning—a Drama Instructor—was funded. We are working on updates to our recruitment software, funded by PETL. We project a deficit of approximately \$1M in the operating fund (not including internal loan payments). The Board is likely to approve this budget, and has asked for a plan to get a balanced budget back within two cycles following this one.

Hennessy confirmed that one of our internal Canada Research Chair nominations – Dr. Linda Pearse, for a Chair in Music, Contact, and Conflict – is approved by the Chair Program and now accepted. Also, an external CRC in Racial Justice and African Diaspora Migration in Atlantic Canada has been approved by the program, we have an accepted contract from the candidate, and are now waiting for the candidate to accept the Chair, and the individual's name will be released following that acceptance. A Chair application for Dr. Jill Rourke is in progress. Huge thank-yous to Greg Sandala for his work with Dr. Pearse and the external, and to Maria Thistle for her work with Dr. Rourke.

Hennessy noted that Mt.A. cleaned up in the Annual 3M competition, with Dr. Susie Andrews and Dr. Toni Roberts each being named 3M National Teaching Fellows. It is unusual to get 2 of the available 10 from one institution—unless you are Mt.A., as this is the 2<sup>nd</sup> time we have done this. Also for the second year in a row, a Mount Allison Student—Sun Min Park— has been awarded a 3M National Student Fellowship. That makes 3 of the available 10 3M NTFs from Maple League Universities this year, and 14 of the available 40 in the last 4 years from Maple Leaguers.

Hennessy thanked Robbie Moser for his work as Secretary. He said the position is open, so please don't be shy in volunteering. Hennessy thanked those Senators who won't be returning to Senate next year. Senate is one of the two bicameral governing bodies of the university, and performs crucial functions of governance over the academic enterprise. Hennessy expressed his gratitude for everyone's collegial work together at Senate.

06.05.11 Candidates for degrees, May 2023 (*in camera*)

V. St. Pierre moved and A. Fancy seconded that Senate move *in camera* to review and discuss the list of candidates for degrees. The list is made available on screen for remote viewers and on the overhead screen for those present in the Windsor Grand Room. The list is approved.

07.05.11 Discussion: Honorary Degree Recipients (*in camera*)

08.05.11 Discussion: Honorary Degrees Committee TOR (K. Johnston)

**Motion (K. Johnston / K. Bell): That the joint committee on honorary degrees propose a revised process for nominating, vetting, and awarding honorary degrees in accordance with the rationale here given.**

**Motion carried**

Prior to the vote the Chair noted that the rationale was given in the short statement provided with the Senate materials package, and he invited discussion on the motion. Senator A. Krueger read the following statement:

We support a revised process for nominating, vetting, and awarding honorary degrees. We feel that the university's current rationale for awarding honorary degrees to "individuals who are nationally or internationally recognized within their fields, those who have demonstrated service to Mount Allison or the wider community, or prominent public persons" does not provide sufficient criteria for awarding the university's top honor. We also believe that the university must ensure there are measures for governing bodies to properly vet candidates. We feel that the current process for awarding honorary degrees does not grant sufficient oversight to representative groups, namely the senate, who reflect the interests of faculty, students, and the legacy and reputation of Mount Allison University.

Signed: Senator [L.] Clark-Black, Senator [K.] Keleher, Senator [A.] Krueger and Senator [S.] Park

The Chair thanked everyone for their attention to this matter.

09.05.11 Report from University Planning Committee (J. Hennessy)

J. Hennessy apologized to Senate for not having a written report ready. He cited the unusual circumstances of his taking over as interim President and Transition Officer during the past few weeks. He said a written report for the period will be presented to Senate in due course. He reported that the UPC considered formal responses to external reviews from BIOL, ECON, and an informal response from MLLC. He noted also that the Planning Committee continues its examination of the midterm review process, planning to consult with MPHEC about streamlining the Academic Unit Review Policy procedures.

10.05.11 Report from Academic Matters, Curriculum & Academic (J. Hennessy)

**Motion (V. St. Pierre / J. Tomes): To take as omnibus the changes proposed to programs by the Academic Matters, Curriculum & Academic report for this meeting.**

**Motion carried**

**MOTION (J. Hennessy / V. St. Pierre): The Academic Matters, Curriculum & Academic Committee moves that Senate approve the changes to Geography and Environment, Health Studies, English – Arts, Religious Studies, Community Engaged Learning, Politics and International Relations, and Screen Studies as described in the report for the 2023-24 academic calendar.**

**Motion carried**

B. Clayton noted a typo in the RELG proposal on p. 13 of the Academic Matters report proper. A course appears in the report as RELG 3671 but it should be approved for the Calendar as RELG 3681. The Registrar acknowledged the needed minor change.

11.05.11 Report from the Committee on Committees (S. Runge)

S. Runge read the following statement:

Robbie Moser begins a sabbatical on July 1, 2023, ending his term as Secretary of Senate. As of yet, no faculty member or librarian has stepped forward to succeed Dr. Moser in this role.

The Committee on Committees will therefore seek nominations from the floor for a faculty member or librarian to serve as Secretary of Senate for a five-year term beginning July 1, 2023. The resulting nomination(s) will result in either an acclamation by Senate or an election by Senate if more than one nomination is received.

If no nominations are received, faculty should contact [committeeoncommittees@mta.ca](mailto:committeeoncommittees@mta.ca) ASAP should they be interested in serving in this position.

The statement was followed by a moment of silence. Then, with startling abruptness, that moment was followed by many other such moments.

There was some discussion to put an omnibus motion forward for all the changes proposed in the report from Committee on Committees. This resulted in the following motion:

**Motion (J. Hennessy / C. Ionescu): To approve the changes proposed by the Committee on Committees and to staff committees with faculty and students as in the report for this meeting.**

**Motion carried**

Prior to the vote there was some discussion of an item concerning a minor change to the TOR for the Research Ethics Board.

There was some discussion of one student (I. Lirette) who is graduating, and so may not be able to fulfil the roles to which they're here acclaimed. S. Runge indicated he would follow up on that.

With the omnibus motion the following changes were thereby approved:

The following faculty and librarians were acclaimed to the following Senate Committees for three- year terms beginning July 1, 2023:

**The Academic Appeals Committee**

1 faculty member or librarian who is not on the Academic Integrity Committee  
Andrew Inkpen

**The Academic Information Technology Committee**

1 faculty member from the Faculty of Science  
Liam Keliher  
1 librarian  
Elizabeth Stregger

**The Academic Matters (Regulations) Committee**

1 faculty member from the Faculty of Social Sciences  
Erin Steuter

**The Admissions and Readmissions Committee**

1 faculty member or librarian  
Justin Liefer

**The Committee on Emeriti Appointments**

1 faculty member or librarian  
Kathleen Lord

**The Committee on Students with Disabilities**

1 faculty member from the Faculty of Arts  
Leslie Shumka  
1 faculty member from the Faculty of Social Sciences  
Carla VanBeselaere

**The Graduate Studies Committee**

1 faculty member from the Department of Biology  
Julia Riley  
1 faculty member from the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry  
Andrew Grant  
1 faculty member from the Faculty of Science  
Glen Briand  
1 faculty member from the Faculty of Arts  
James Kalyn  
1 faculty member from the Faculty of Social Sciences  
Joshua Kurek

**The Graduation Review Committee**

1 faculty member from the Faculty of Science  
Jeffrey Waller

**The International Programs Committee**

3 faculty members of librarians, at least one of whom is a Faculty Contact for International Programs

Ilaria Battiloro (*faculty contact*)  
Sarah Fanning (*faculty contact*)  
Justin Liefer

**The Readmissions Appeals Committee**

1 faculty member or librarian who is not on the Admissions and Readmissions Committee  
Kiera Galway

**The Research and Creative Activity Committee**

1 faculty member from the Faculty of Arts  
Erik Edson  
1 faculty member (from any Faculty)  
Tyson MacCormack  
1 librarian

Elizabeth Stregger

**The Research Ethics Board**

2 faculty members or librarians

Doruk Uysal Irak

Alison O'Connor

**The Scholarships and Bursaries Committee**

2 faculty members or librarians

Danielle Inkpen

David Rogosin

**The Teaching and Learning Committee**

1 librarian

Gavin Goodwin

**The University Planning Committee**

1 librarian

Elizabeth Millar

**The Honorary Degrees Committee**

1 faculty member or librarian

Andrew Inkpen

The following individuals with Emeriti appointments were acclaimed to the Committee on Emeriti Appointments for three-year terms beginning July 1, 2023:

Anita Cannon

Elaine Naylor

The following students were acclaimed to the following Senate Committees for terms beginning immediately and ending April 30, 2024:

**The Academic Appeals Committee**

Spencer Scott

Isabella Lirette

**The Academic Information Technology Committee**

Isabella Lirette

*(one vacancy remaining)*

**The Academic Integrity Committee**

Yuanhao Ma

*(one vacancy remaining)*

Spencer Scott (alternate)

**The Academic Matters (Curriculum and Academic) Committee**

Rajan Minocha-McKenney

**The Academic Matters (Regulations) Committee**

Yuanhao Ma

**The Admissions and Readmissions Committee**

Isaac McCardle

**The Committee on Emeriti Appointments**

*(one vacancy remaining)*

**The Committee on Students with Disabilities**

Mathilde Christjansen

Sam Walsh

*(one vacancy remaining)*

**The Experiential Learning Committee**

Isaac McCardle

**The Graduate Studies Committee**

Ryan Wahl

**The Graduation Review Committee**

*(one vacancy remaining)*

**The International Programs Committee**

Ainsley Baillie

**The Research and Creative Activities Committee**

Olivia Hart

Rajan Minocha-McKenney

**The Scholarships and Bursaries Committee**

Olivia Hart

**The Senate Agenda Committee**

Spencer Scott

**The Teaching and Learning Committee**

Yuanhao Ma

Rajan Minocha-McKenney

**The University Planning Committee**

Olivia Hart

Isaac McCardle

**The Honorary Degrees Committee**

*(one vacancy remaining)*

The following changes to the Terms of Reference of the committees as indicated:

**Experiential Learning Committee:**

Before October 1 of each year, **the Dean serving as ex-officio member will call a meeting of the Committee, at which** the Committee will elect one of its members to be chair of the Committee, and the Chair of the Committee on Committees will be informed.

**Graduate Studies Committee:**

Before ~~September~~, **October, the Dean of Graduate Studies will call a meeting of the Committee, at which** the Committee will elect one of its elected members to be chair of the committee, and the Committee on Committees will be informed.

**International Programs Committee:**

Before October of each year, **the Dean serving as ex-officio member will call a meeting of the Committee, at which** the Committee will elect a chair, and the Committee on Committees will be informed.

**Research Ethics Board:**

Before ~~the start of the next academic year~~ **October**, the Committee will elect one of the faculty or librarians to be chair of the Committee, and the Committee on Committees will be informed.

[...]

The ~~Director~~ **REB Coordinator**, Office of Research Services, attends meetings as a resource person to the committee.

**Teaching and Learning Committee:**

Before October 1 of each year, **the Director of the Purdy Crawford Teaching Centre will call a meeting of the Committee, at which** the Committee will choose one of its elected members to be Chair of the Committee, and the Committee on Committees will be informed.

12.05.11 Election to the Committee on Committees (R. Moser)

**Motion (R. Moser / J. Tomes): That Senate acclaim the following faculty members to the Committee on Committees each for a three-year term beginning July 1, 2023:**

Sacha Dewolfe  
Danielle Inkpen

**Motion carried**

13.05.11 Discover Mt.A

R. Rubin noted put a link in the MS Teams chat of R. Lapp reading poetry to the plants that had been left by students for ‘Summer Plant Camp’ at the library.

M. Levesque thanked everyone who supported and attended the Marshall Workshop conference.

A. Fancy noted that Tintamarre was filming video of this year’s productions, and was distributing them to schools as a learning guide. This was a paying gig for the 17 student participants with the help of a generous gift from Mt.A. and the Friends of Tintamarre.

S. Dewolfe thanked students who were enrolled in the newly developed courses '*Learning to Desire*' and '*Social Aspects of Place*,' who collaborated with members of First Nation communities to develop and implement community engagement projects. These projects challenged deficit and damaged narratives and aimed to foster place attachment. Over 180 First Nation community members attended the engagement events.

B. Clayton noted that the RPEACE lab with Echo grant funding was set to work again this summer on the green roof, the vegetable beds, and was planning on revitalizing the Mt.A. farm.

14.05.11          Other business

There was no other business.

15.05.11          Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Robbie Moser  
Secretary