

MOUNT ALLISON UNIVERSITY
MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

January 9, 2025, 4:00pm
Windsor Grand Room & Microsoft Teams (hybrid format)

Present: N. Anthonisen, C. Brett (Secretary), P. Brown, R. Bruening, B. Clayton, G. Desmarais, J. Devine, S. Dewolfe, J. Dryden, E. Edson, B. Evans, A. Fancy, S. Fanning, C. Forstall, A. Francis, D. Hamilton, M. Hamilton, O. Hart, M. Hashemi, R. Inglis, C. Ionescu, B. Jewett, L. Landon, Y. Ma, R. MacKinnon (Chair), R. Majithia, C. Major, I. McCardle, L. Michaelis, R. Minocha-McKenney, C. Pringle-Carver, T. Reiffenstein, S. Runge, S. Scott, V. St. Pierre (Vice-Chair), E. Steuter, J. Tomes, N. Vogan, B. Walters, A. Warr, W. Wilson

Guests: L. Decker Hawthorne, G. Sandala

Regrets: R. Inglis, L. Keliher

01.01.09 Territorial Acknowledgement

R. MacKinnon 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.

02.01.09 Approval of agenda

Motion (S. Scott/ L. Landon): that Senate adopt the agenda as presented.

Motion carried

03.01.09 Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of the minutes (December 5, 2023)
- b. Discover Mount Allison

Approved without discussion

04.01.09 Business arising from the minutes

There was no business arising.

05.01.09 Chair's remarks

R. MacKinnon wished senators a Happy New Year. He thanked everyone who attended the Holiday Social.

The President noted that the Vice Presidents Advancement and International and Student Affairs met recently with officials from the Government of New Brunswick to discuss funding initiatives in experiential learning.

The Chair informed Senate that the subcommittee of the Honorary Degrees Committee has met to start its review of criteria and processes for awarding honorary degrees.

Finally, the President thanked senators who attended the presentations by the candidates for the position of Dean of Social Sciences and Business and invited them to attend the presentation of the final candidate, held on January 10.

06.01.09 Report from University Planning Committee

V. St. Pierre gave an oral report. She noted that committee met on December 15 to review Policy 5900 on Academic Unit Reviews. The committee expected to meet again on January 12 to continue updating the academic review process.

07.01.09 Report from the Academic Matters (Curriculum) Committee

Motion (V. St. Pierre/C. Major): that Senate approve the changes to courses, academic regulations, and academic programs as outlined in the Academic Matters Committee Report for Senate, January 9, 2024.

Motion carried

W. Wilson noted that the Department of History has a recent submission to the committee that recommended deletion of one of the courses listed in the proposal. L. Michaelis and V. St. Pierre agreed that necessary adjustments will be made should the submission from the Department of History be brought to Senate.

08.01.09 Report from the Academic Matters (Regulations) Committee

Motion (V. St. Pierre/C. Major): that Senate approve of the 2024/25 Calendar of Events as presented by the Academic Matters Committee (Regulations).

Motion carried (1 nay, 2 abstentions)

D. Hamilton asked for clarification about the various last days of classes in Fall 2024, especially with regards to December 3 and December 9. V. St. Pierre answered that the committee would re-count the number of teaching days in each type of class before publishing the calendar.

P. Brown and A. Fancy asked for the rationale behind keeping the Fall Break in November considering December's straw poll showing a majority of senators in favour of an October break. V. St. Pierre answered that the committee interpreted the closeness of the vote, combined with the arguments given for both October and November breaks at the December meeting of Senate, as not providing overwhelming support for moving the Fall Break. In the absence of a strong motive for change, the committee opted to recommend the status quo.

R. MacKinnon noted that the proposed Calendar of Events deletes the Day of Learning. He suggested that the university monitor the effects of this deletion on Orientation activities.

09.01.09 Election to the Committee on Committees

Motion (C. Brett /S. Runge) that Senate acclaim William Lundell to serve on the Committee on Committees for a term commencing immediately and ending June 30, 2026, or until a sabbatical or other leave.

Motion carried

C. Brett reported that there is still one vacancy on the committee. He will re-issue the Call for Nominations.

10.01.09 Other Business

There was no other business.

11.01.09 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 pm, as moved by M. Hamilton.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig Brett
Secretary