

**OPEN MINUTES**  
**FOR THE SEVENTH REGULAR MEETING OF THE 56th SENATE**  
**Tuesday, February 13, 2024 – 2:00 pm**  
**Room 045 Health Studies Building**

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Present: Kofi Campbell (Acting Chair); Bernadette Ardelli; Edward Bach; Kathryn Chachula; Matteo DiMuro; David Docherty (Zoom); Alysha Farrell; Greg Gatien; Linden Haubrick; Bryan Hill; Taylor Holland; Chris Lagimodiere (non-voting, joined at 3:15pm); Scott Lamont; Christophe LeMoine; Rory Lucyshyn-Wright; Andrea McDaniel; Chukwuanugo Okudo; Doug Ramsey; Lisa Robson (left at 2:25pm); Linda Ross; Curt Shoultz (joined at 3:05pm); Balfour Spence; Melanie Sucha; Jens Watt; Katie Whelpton (Zoom); Beth Wilson (left at 2:56pm); Britney McNamee (Recording Secretary).

Regrets: Brody Burr; Chidimma Joy Chikezie; Michelle Magnusson; Pamela Rutherford.

Absent: Mabel Dzigbordzi; David Huberdeau-Reid; Mary Jane McCallum; Eftihia Mihelakis; Grant Prairie.

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**1. Approval of Agenda**

**MOTION 137.FEB24 Lamont/Okudo**

THAT the Senate approve the Open Session agenda of the February 13, 2024, meeting as presented.

**CARRIED**

**2. Closed Session**

**MOTION 138.FEB24 DiMuro/Bach**

THAT the Senate move into Closed Session.

**CARRIED**

**3. Motion(s) Raised from Closed Session**

**MOTION 141-1.FEB24 Haubrick/Spence**

THAT the Senate approve the final list of graduands of February 13, 2024  
AND  
THAT the list be forwarded to the Board of Governors *For Information*

**CARRIED**

**4. Open Session**

4.1. Approval of Minutes of January 16, 2024

**MOTION 143.FEB24 Okudo/Chachula**

THAT the Senate approve the Open Session minutes of January 16, 2024, as presented.

**CARRIED**

4.2. Business Arising

4.3. Continuing Business

4.3.1. Request for Senate Ad-Hoc Committee to Review the Brandon University Non-credit Certificate Policy

**MOTION 144-1.FEB24 LeMoine/Spence**

THAT the Senate approve Kofi Campbell's request for a Senate Ad-Hoc Committee to review the Brandon University Non-credit Certificate Policy with a view to encompassing digital badges.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION 144-2.FEB24 Chachula/Okudo**

THAT the Senate Ad-Hoc Committee to review the Brandon University Non-credit Certificate Policy be composed of one representative from each faculty, an undergraduate student, a graduate student, and the Director of the Centre for Teaching, Learning, and Technology, Curt Shoultz.

**CARRIED**

4.4. New Business

4.4.1. Curriculum & Academic Planning Committee (Sen. Campbell)

4.4.1.1. Faculty of Arts

Native Studies

4.4.1.1.1. Native Studies New Courses

**MOTION 145.FEB24 Spence/LeMoine**

THAT the Senate approve the following new courses as proposed by the Department of Native Studies:

- 68:201/INDG 2021 Indigenous Sport, Game and Play

**CARRIED**

4.4.1.2. Faculty of Education

Bachelor of Education (BED) Policies

4.4.1.2.1. BED Policies

**MOTION 146.FEB24 Farrell/Gatien**

THAT the Senate approve the following policy revisions as submitted by the Faculty of Education:

- Attendance Policy
- Credit for Field Experience Policy
- Criminal Records Check and Child Abuse Registry Check Policy
- Extended Program Absence Policy

**CARRIED**

#### 4.4.2. Provost & Vice-President (Academic)'s Office (Sen. Campbell)

- Minimum Contact Hours & Ending Term Early  
Senator Campbell noted the following:
  - There were concerns about whether classes were ending the fall term early due to the low volume of students and faculty members on campus in the last weeks of the term. Senator Campbell opened the floor for Senators to share their concerns.
  - There is concern that if faculty members are ending the term early, then they are unlikely to have met the required contact hours for their courses. However, some faculty members noted that faculty may have made alternate arrangements for their courses to meet the required contact hours. The Senate will continue to monitor this concern, and Senator McDaniel reminded Senators that the contact hours and academic dates are Senate mandated and must be respected.

#### 4.4.3. Report from the Brandon University Students' Union (BUSU) President (Sen. Okudo)

Senator Okudo reported on the following:

- BUSU is currently in election season and advertising all the BUSU vacancies.
- BUSU held B-Queer Bingo at Bailey's on February 10<sup>th</sup> and the event was well attended.
- BUSU and international students met with the Chancellor to discuss resources international students could be using on campus.

#### 4.4.4. Report from the Board of Governors Representative

Senator Huberdeau-Reid was absent. Senator Bach reported on the following:

- The Board of Governors met on January 27, 2024.
- Written reports were provided including financial reports, a report from the Vice-President (Administration & Finance), representatives on committees that report to the Board, and the President.
- In addition to his written report, the President shared information on the announcement from the federal government on their decision to implement caps on international student visas.
- The Board passed motions to approve the following:
  - Revisions to the BU International Undergraduate Scholarship as recommended by Senate.
  - Name change for the Brandon University Indigenous Education Program from Program for the Education of Native Teachers to PENT Indigenous Teacher Education as recommended by Senate.
  - Revisions to 7 research related policies to reflect the Vice-President (Research & Graduate Studies) as the authority and leadership for research and graduate studies at BU in place of the Provost and Vice-President (Academic). These included:

- Policy on Academic Integrity and the Responsible Conduct of Research, Scholarship and Creative Work
  - Brandon University Conflict of Interest in Research Policy
  - Disposition of Research Equipment Policy and Procedures
  - Brandon University Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) and Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) General Research Fund (GRF) Policy
  - Research Contract Policy
  - Residual Balances in Research Accounts Policy
  - Rural Development Institute (RDI) Research Affiliate Designation Policy
- Date change of the June Board of Governors meeting from June 22, 2024, to June 15, 2024, to meet the deadline to submit Board approved audited financial statement to the province.
  - Appointment of Quintin Pearce to the Human Resources Committee (of the Board).

#### 4.4.5. Reports from the Members of Deans' Council (Sen. Campbell)

##### Faculty of Arts – Senator Spence

- Last week, the Rural Development Department held the Winter 2024 Graduate Student Welcome & Welcome Back reception for returning and incoming students. The reception was a great opportunity to showcase the diversity in cultures within the program.
- Senator Spence noted that since the introduction of the IRCC's cap on international students last week, he has been inundated with visits and calls from international students seeking clarity on how the policy will impact them. Senator Spence noted he was unclear how faculties are to advise the students. Senator McDaniel noted all inquiries regarding the IRCC cap on international study permit applications should be forwarded to the Director of International Activities, David Rowland.

##### Faculty of Education – Senator Farrell

- Dr. Aloysius Anyichie, faculty member and Director of the non-profit organization, Loy Excellentia Initiative, (<https://loyexcellencia.org/>), will be hosting a mentorship event at BU in celebration of Black History Month. The event will take place on Saturday, February 24th, from 2:00 – 5:00 pm in EB 101.
- The Faculty of Education is in the process of developing a new Community-based teacher education program in partnership with Sapotaweyak Cree Nation. Approximately 25 students will enroll in the new program.
- The Faculty of Education received a donation to purchase some artwork for the Student Resource Room (SRR). The Education Student Society (ESS) decided to use the money to purchase supplies for an art-buddies project with students from Earl Oxford School. Grade 3 students will buddy-up with grade 8 students to make art for the SRR in response to the mentor text, "Kindness is My Superpower," by Alicia Ortego. Many thanks to Dr. Heather Duncan for her generous donation!

##### Faculty of Science – Senator LeMoine

- The Faculty of Science is thankful to their many colleagues involved in external grant reviews and grant review panels at a very busy time of the academic year.
- Dr. Pete Whittington was recently interviewed by CBC for an article about the acquisition of peatland property by Nature Conservancy of Canada in eastern Manitoba.

- A friendly reminder that everyone is welcome to attend, in person or online, the weekly Science Seminars Fridays at 2:30pm on Fridays, with a variety of fantastic speakers in the coming weeks.
- Honourable Renée Cable, Minister of Advanced Education and Training, visited the Brodie Building on Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>; the visit included some good discussions about plans for renovations with Senator LeMoine.

#### School of Music – Senator Gatien

- Senator Gatien thanked the IT Help Desk for their continued excellent support.
- Last week, the School of Music hosted the Westman Honour Bands composed of students from the Westman region.
- On January 20<sup>th</sup>, the Brandon University Student Music Educator’s Association (BUSMEA) held its 14<sup>th</sup> annual Da Capo Music Education Conference and hosted 9 presenters and over 90 attendees.
- On March 2<sup>nd</sup>, the School of Music is hosting Sonic Brilliance, showcasing their newest Steinway Concert D grand piano generously donated in memory of former BU President, Dr. Harold J. Perkins.
- Julia Stoneman-Sinclair, Director of the Indigenous Peoples’ Centre, will soon be reaching out to students who identify as Indigenous who were admitted to the School of Music but chose not to pursue their studies at BU. This data will inform the School of Music of areas for improvement.
- James Campbell will perform at Clarinetfest on March 10<sup>th</sup>.
- The Brandon University Jazz Festival will be held March 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> and will host many incredible teachers.
- The School of Music will be hosting a solstice feast on March 21<sup>st</sup>, in cooperation with the IPC.
- On March 26<sup>th</sup>, the School of Music and Brandon Chamber Players will be hosting the Horse Creek Drum Group.

#### Faculty of Health Studies – Senator Ross

- Last week, as part of the approvals process for the Bachelor of Science in Psychiatric Nursing program by the College of Registered Psychiatric Nurses of Manitoba (CRPNM), focus groups with students, faculty members, and employers were conducted by the external evaluator.
- In the February 13, 2024, edition of the Brandon Sun, there was an article about Trevor Hurst and his work as a Psychiatric Nurse in a Dakota community. Trevor is a graduate of Brandon University’s Psychiatric Nursing program, and is also the lead singer for Econoline Crush, a Canadian rock band.

#### Dean of Students – Senator Whelpton

- Lidia Lohr started today as the Administrative Assistant in Student Services, replacing Suzanne Letain who retired after more than 35 years of service.
- Leanne Barcellona and her recruitment team are busy offering admissions on-site at local schools, including Dauphin and Portage, encouraging more domestic students to attend Brandon University. The recruitment team is also hosting Student for A Day on campus, allowing prospective students to tour campus and experience what it’s like to be a student at BU.
- There are currently many students of concern, and many students dealing with a lack of funding are trying to work full time and attend school. The high grocery prices are leading to students not eating.

#### CIO – Senator Sucha

- Senator Sucha would like to offer warm congratulations to Laura Jacyna who was granted tenure in January 2024. In her previous four and a half years at BU, Laura has brought forth her academic expertise as both a librarian and a musician to the

Library and School of Music Units. In times of resource scarcity, it is increasingly common for post-secondary institutions to divest from their branch libraries, but just as the School of Music injects rich artistic talent into the University and surrounding community, the Music Library is a uniquely special space for all BU students, as not just an intellectual hub, but an artistic one. Recently, a student shared with Senator Sucha, “The Music Library is my favorite place in Canada.” Laura’s professional work on optimizing space, collection development, research support, and programming are critical factors to this measure of success.

- The Music Library has continued with a robust set of programming through the winter term, with emphasis on Black History Month throughout February, where Laura has curated a recorded concert series in the library showcasing works of Sarah Vaughn, McCoy Turner, and Christian McBride. Most recorded concerts shown are available through the library’s subscription to the medici.tv platform – a platform that Laura selected and has proven highly valuable due to its licensing allowance for sharing of content at BU outside the classroom setting (this licensing term does not apply to all streamed content).
- Further, Laura will be piloting a new program for students this month, a Wikipedia Edit-A-Thon on February 26. This exercise will focus on updating articles on Black composers, imparting research, and information literacy skills to students, while celebrating diversity in the music discipline, in a novel and engaging way. Again, Senator Sucha sends her warmest thanks to Laura in this work.
- In collaboration with Student Services, the Main Library has brought forward new physical and virtual displays on Sexual Health – Senator Sucha sends thanks to Natasha Ofwono, Library Assistant, for her ongoing support of high quality and engaging display work in the library.

#### University Registrar – Senator McDaniel

- Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) has made a number of significant changes to the international student admissions process, including the added requirement for provincial governments to issue attestation letters to accompany institutional offers of admission. The provincial governments have until the end of March 2024 to implement the attestation letter process. Senator McDaniel and the Director of International Activities, David Rowland, will continue to meet with the provincial government to discuss this process.
- Senator McDaniel noted the \$10,000 undergraduate and \$5,000 graduate deposits for international students BU implemented for students applying for Fall 2024 will help identify international students genuinely intending to attend BU which is vital since the cap on international students implemented by the IRCC is not on the number of study permits issued, rather the number of study permit applications they will review.
- Admission applications overall are down 11% from this point last year; however, they are still the second highest of the last 5 years. The overall admission offers made are currently higher than last year.

#### 4.4.6. Report from the Associate Vice-President (Indigenous Initiatives) (C. Lagimodiere)

##### C. Lagimodiere reported on the following:

- C. Lagimodiere reminded Senators that breaks and leaves from school, such as the winter holiday or reading weeks, are not always good or healthy for all students; the break in student routines can be isolating. C. Lagimodiere reminded Senators to be mindful that next week is reading week and the IPC is there to support students with Knowledge Keepers, Elders, and supportive programming.
- C. Lagimodiere invited Senators, their faculties, and departments to join this week’s celebration of Indigenous Excellence. The celebration week started on Monday, February 12<sup>th</sup>. February 14<sup>th</sup> will honour Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, and Louis Riel Day will be celebrated on February

15<sup>th</sup> with fiddling and jiggling to celebrate Métis culture. Julia Stoneman-Sinclair will continue to send updates about the events.

- The Indigenous Education Committee's work is ongoing and the faculty working groups are at various stages in determining how to include Indigenous knowledge and perspectives in their disciplines and academic life.
- C. Lagimodiere has been working with national forums and attending conferences devoted to protecting Indigenous spaces, jobs, and bursaries in the face of fraudulent Indigenous identities. The next step will be to consult with the BU community for more feedback on the issue.

#### 4.4.7. Report from the Vice-President (Research & Graduate Studies) (Sen. Ardelli)

Senator Ardelli reported on the following:

- A recent email from Kerri Murkin summarized The Sensitive Technology Research and Affiliations of Concern (STRAC) Policy that will be implemented soon by the Government of Canada and the Tri-Agency. Researchers with projects that fall under a Sensitive Technology Research Area are asked to contact the Office of Research Services (ORS).
- The Senate Research Committee met yesterday, and Senator Ardelli noted the meetings had previously been ad-hoc; however, Senator Ardelli has regularized the meetings of the Senate Research Committee to ensure a timely output of work from the committee. Faculty reports have also been added to the Committee's agenda.
- One of the major tasks of the Senate Research Committee is to review the Strategic Research Plan. Senator Ardelli has requested for a representative from each faculty to partake in the Strategic Research Plan Committee.
- A motion was put forward last year to dismantle the BioSafety Committee from Senate and Senator Ardelli is committed to bringing the matter forward at next month's Senate meeting.
- The ORS has been busy and has reviewed at least two faculty grants each week.
- Senator Ardelli chaired her first Graduate Studies Committee meeting last month and the committee aims to work on the Strategic Plan for graduate programming in concert with the University's Academic Plan.

#### 4.4.8. Report from the Provost & Vice-President (Academic) (Sen. Campbell)

Senator Campbell reported on the following:

- Senator Campbell extended thanks to Acting Dean of Arts, Senator Balfour Spence, for his willingness to take on the role as Acting Dean two years ago and the contributions he has made as the Acting Dean of Arts. This meeting was Senator Spence's last Senate meeting, and the new Dean of Arts, Gregory Kennedy, will start March 1, 2024.

#### 4.4.9. Report from the President (Dr. Docherty)

Dr. Docherty reported on the following:

- On January 20<sup>th</sup>, Jill and Warren Watt donated \$200,000 to support future BU Bobcat Basketball student-athletes.
- Dr. Docherty attended an online forum in late January on leading public regional universities. Dr. Docherty noted it was interesting to hear from the universities in the states – with regional universities ranging from those with hundreds of millions of dollars in endowed funds, to those that are barely getting by.
- Dr. Docherty attended the City of Brandon 2024 Budget presentation at the Riverbank Discovery Centre. Manitoba's Minister of Finance, Adrien Sala, was present at the event. Dr. Docherty pressed the Minister of Finance for long-term

stable funding. Dr. Docherty has a couple upcoming meetings to speak with the Minister of Finance.

- Dr. Docherty attended the Westman Honour Bands & BU Symphonic Band in Concert on February 10<sup>th</sup>, where Nora Wilson conducted BU's Symphonic Band.
- Dr. Docherty and Senator LeMoine met with the Minister of Advanced Education and Training, Renée Cable, and toured the Brodie Building.
- Dr. Docherty will be hosting the President's Honour Society tomorrow afternoon for a meet and greet and to discuss how BU can further help these students in their future endeavours.
- Dr. Docherty will be attending the President's Circle event this Thursday, where donors from the last calendar year are thanked for their generous contributions.

**5. Other Business**

**6. Correspondence**

**7. Adjournment**

**MOTION 147.FEB24 Okudo/Shoultz**

THAT the Senate adjourn at 3:07pm.

**CARRIED**