

**OPEN MINUTES
OF THE EIGHTH REGULAR MEETING OF THE 56th SENATE
Tuesday, March 19, 2024 – 2:00 pm
Room 045 Health Studies Building**

Present: David Docherty (Chair); Bernadette Ardelli; Edward Bach; Kofi Campbell (joined at 2:03pm); Kathryn Chachula (recused for Motion 152.MAR24); Chidimma Joy Chikezie; Matteo DiMuro; Alysha Farrell; Greg Gatien; Linden Haubrick; Bryan Hill; Taylor Holland; Gregory Kennedy; Chris Lagimodiere (non-voting; joined at 2:09pm); Scott Lamont; Christophe LeMoine; Rory Lucyshyn-Wright; Michelle Magnusson (Zoom); Andrea McDaniel; Eftihia Mihelakis (Zoom) (joined at 2:15pm); Chukwuanugo Okudo; Lisa Robson; Linda Ross; Pamela Rutherford; Curt Shoultz; Melanie Sucha; Kevan Sumner (Zoom); Katie Whelpton; Britney McNamee (Recording Secretary).

Regrets: Brody Burr; Doug Ramsey; Jens Watt; Beth Wilson.

Absent: Mabel Dzigbordzi; Mary Jane McCallum; Grant Prairie.

1. Approval of Agenda

MOTION 148.MAR24 Campbell/Shoultz

THAT the Senate approve the Open Session agenda of the March 19, 2024, meeting as amended.

CARRIED

2. Closed Session

MOTION 149.MAR24 Whelpton/Bach

THAT the Senate move into Closed Session.

CARRIED

3. Motion(s) Raised from Closed Session

MOTION 152.MAR24 Gatien/Shoultz

THAT the Senate bestow the 2024 Tier 1 Senate Award for Excellence in Teaching upon Dr. Kathryn Chachula.

CARRIED

4. Open Session

4.1. Approval of Minutes of February 13, 2024

MOTION 154.MAR24 Campbell/Chachula

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

CARRIED

4.2. Business Arising

4.3. Continuing Business

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

4.3.1.1. Membership of the Committee

Senator Campbell presented an opportunity for members of the Senate to volunteer to serve on the committee. Receiving no volunteers, he indicated that his office would be reaching out to Faculties shortly to solicit their appointed representatives to this committee.

4.3.1.2. Motion for when the Committee will report to Senate

MOTION 155.MAR24 Campbell/Kennedy

THAT the Senate Ad-Hoc Committee to Review the Brandon University Non-credit Certificate Policy will report back to the Senate at its meeting on September 17, 2024.

CARRIED

4.4. New Business

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

4.4.1.1. Faculty of Arts

Francophone Studies & Languages (FS&L)

4.4.1.1.1. FS&L Course Revisions

MOTION 156.MAR24 Campbell/Whelpton

THAT the Senate approve the following course revisions, as submitted by the Department of Francophone Studies & Languages, Faculty of Arts:

- 58:155 Intermediate French
- 58:263 Francophone Indigenous Literature
- 58:353 French in the Workplace
- 58:399 Topics in French and Francophone Studies
- 58:452 Emerging Lines of Thought in the Francophone World

CARRIED

4.4.1.2. Faculty of Education

4.4.1.2.1. Faculty of Education Policies

MOTION 157.MAR24 Farrell/LeMoine

THAT the Senate approve the following policies submitted by the Faculty of Education:

- Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Education Integrated Program Transfer Student Admissions Policy

- Out of Province Field Experience Placement
- Process for Removal from Practicum
- Student Records Policy

CARRIED

4.4.1.3. Faculty of Health Studies

Nursing & Psychiatric Nursing Policies

4.4.1.3.1. Nursing & Psychiatric Nursing New Policies

MOTION 158.MAR24 Ross/Chachula

THAT the Senate approve the following new policy as submitted by the Department of Nursing & the Department of Psychiatric Nursing, Faculty of Health Studies:

- Admissions Policy

CARRIED

4.4.1.3.2. Nursing & Psychiatric Nursing Policy Revisions

MOTION 159.MAR24 Ross/Chachula

THAT the Senate approve the following policy revisions as submitted by the Department of Nursing & the Department of Psychiatric Nursing, Faculty of Health Studies:

- Grade Requirements & Progression Policy

CARRIED

4.4.2. Graduate Studies Committee (Sen. Ardelli)

4.4.2.1. Faculty of Education – Master of Education

4.4.2.1.1. Graduate Education Policy Revisions

MOTION 160.MAR24 Farrell/LeMoine

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

- Advising Graduate Students
- Attendance at Lectures and Practical Work
- Course Transfer Policy
- Ethics Review Process at Brandon University

CARRIED

4.4.3. Approval of Meeting Dates for the 2024 – 2025 Senate

MOTION 161.MAR24 Whelpton/Lamont

THAT the Senate approve the following Senate meeting dates for the 2024-2025 year:

- June 18, 2024
- September 17, 2024
- October 15, 2024
- November 19, 2024
- December 17, 2024
- January 14, 2025
- February 25, 2025
- March 18, 2025
- May 13, 2025
- June 17, 2025 (first meeting of the 58th Senate)

CARRIED

4.4.4. Senate Executive Committee

4.4.4.1. Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient

The Senate received, for information, notification that Dr. Nancy Stanley has been selected by the Senate Executive Committee to receive a Lifetime Achievement Award at the Brandon University Spring 2024 Convocation.

4.4.5. Bylaws Review Committee

4.4.5.1. Recommendations from the Bylaws Review Committee of Senate

This item was removed from the agenda as several late-notice revisions were submitted to the Senate Office. Full recommendations from the Bylaws Review Committee will be presented at the next Senate meeting.

4.4.6. What Does a Better Classroom Need? (Sen. Shoultz) – for discussion

Senator Shoultz called upon the BUSU representatives on the Senate to report what they would like to see in a better classroom. The BUSU representatives suggested the following improvements:

- Brighter learning spaces with more natural light; comfortable chairs; more room for learning materials on desks; increased availability of projectors for learning spaces; holding classes in learning spaces suitable for the class enrollment; learning spaces feasible for dividing the classes into learning groups.

Senator Shoultz called on Senators to provide recommendations. Senators suggested:

- Classrooms should all have a standard package of facilities, such as a computer, projector, boards, etc. Some classrooms may benefit from additional features. The facilities of all classrooms should be documented in a central information system.

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

Senator Okudo reported on the following:

- BUSU celebrated Black History Month in February with numerous events planned in collaboration with Celebrated black history month and planned that with Diversity and Human Rights Advisor, Cheryl Fleming. Events included an event at Bailey's discussing *Black Mental Health & Black Excellence*, a presentation from

Dr. Christopher Schneider on *Understanding Systemic Racism in Policing and the Failed Promise of Body Cameras*, and a showing of the movie, *Black Panther*.

- BUSU recently held elections for BUSU positions, and voter turn out was significantly higher than years prior.
- BUSU representatives met with the President's Executive Council to discuss many things, including food insecurity, student engagement, and offering courses on academic integrity.

4.4.8. Report from the Board of Governors Representative

Senator Sumner reported on the following:

- Senator Sumner extended apologies for the lack of attendance on Senate by the previous Board of Governors representative.
- The Board of Governors met on Saturday, January 27th.
 - Dr. Docherty delivered a report to the Board regarding the cap on international student visas.
 - The Board of Governors passed the following motions:
 - BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors approve the revisions to the BU International Undergraduate Scholarship as recommended by the Senate.
 - BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors approve the proposed 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 the Senate.
 - BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors approve the proposed revisions to the following policies as an omnibus motion, as recommended by the Governance and Nominating Committee:
 - 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 Science and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) and Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) General Research Fund Policy.
 - Research Contract Policy.
 - Residual Balances in Research Accounts Policy
 - Rural Development Institute (RDI) Research Affiliate Designation Policy
 - BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors change the date of their June meeting from June 22 to June 15, 2024, to meet the deadline to submit Board approved final audited financial statements to the province.
 - BE IT RESOLVED THAT Quintin Pearce be appointed to the Human Resources Committee.
- The Board of Governors held a Special Closed Meeting on February 24th.
 - The Board of Governors raised the following motions from the February 24th, special closed session meeting:
 - BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Governors approve the termination of its contract with Anthology in a manner as recommended by BU's legal counsel.
 - BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Governors approve the continued collection of RenewBU student fees to cover ongoing

operating costs and other associated costs of this project and to fund a future ERP project.

- The Board of Governors met on Saturday, March 16th.
 - Carla Eisler was invited to provide a presentation on Alumni and Advancement.
 - Grant Hamilton was invited to provide a report on progress of the Accessibility of Manitobans Act and spoke specifically to the Accessibility Standard for Information and Communication.
 - The Board of Governors passed the following motions:
 - BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors approve the proposed revisions to By-Law 8 – Approval and Signing Authorities, as recommended by the Governance and Nominating Committee.
 - BE IT RESOLVED THAT Kevan Sumner be appointed as the Board representative to the BU Senate.
 - BE IT RESOLVED THAT Scott Hayward be elected as Treasurer of the Board of Governors.

4.4.9. Reports from the Members of Deans' Council (Dr. Docherty)

Faculty of Arts – Senator Kennedy

- The Indigenous Art: Beyond History exhibition recently finished, and it was a great initiative organized by a new faculty member, Dr. Stacey Koosel.
- The Department of English, Drama and Creative Writing will be hosting a theatre production of Saltwater Moon from April 4th to 6th.
- The Sociology Department is hosting the Women Working in the Criminal Justice System Symposium on April 9th, and everyone is invited to attend.

Faculty of Education – Senator Farrell

- The Faculty of Education is happy to welcome 17 new students into the PENT Indigenous Teacher Education Program. The students arrived on Monday, March 18th for 2 weeks of orientation. Senator Farrell would like to extend thanks to Barb Blind who facilitated a wonderful session for new PENT students on Monday.
- 155 pre-service teachers are now in their field placements. Senator Farrell noted it is wonderful to have their energy and enthusiasm in the teaching field.
- In celebration of Indigenous Excellence Month, the Faculty of Education is bringing in author and keynote speaker, David Robertson. First year PENT students and grade 7 and 8 students from a few local schools have been invited to attend Robertson's speaking event on Friday, March 22nd.
- The Faculty of Education is in the process of curriculum mapping the courses in the after-degree program. For each course, faculty are identifying essential questions, general learning outcomes, key inquiry projects, and assignments.

Faculty of Science – Senator LeMoine

- Senator LeMoine invited senators to attend the Science Seminar Series on Friday afternoons. Graduate students will be presenting on April 5th. The seminars are recorded and available for viewing on the Brandon University Science Seminar Series YouTube channel.
- Brandon University will host over 200 elementary and high school students at the 54th annual Western Manitoba Science Fair on April 9th. The fair includes a competition in the morning, and science Olympics and activities in the afternoon in the Brodie Building.

School of Music – Senator Gatien

- Senator Gatien thanked staff and faculty, including Ed Bach and Sheila Scott, who have helped manage the day-to-day workflow of the Faculty of Music while Senator Gatien took part in bargaining for the new BUFA Collective Agreement.
- The Brandon University Jazz Festival wrapped up on Saturday, March 16th. Senator Gatien extended thanks to Student Services, the School of Music, Faculty of Science, Festival Planning Committee, Ancillary Services, BUSU and Physical Plant for their assistance with the festival. The festival hosted 108 student ensembles, over 2000 registered students, 150+ teachers, 12 master classes, more than 130 student volunteers (half from BU), and thousands of audience members.
- Senator Gatien would like to congratulate Cathy Wood for hosting a successful Clarinet Festival, and Pro-Series performance by James Campbell.
- The School of Music is about to issue an RFP for a technology renewal in three spaces in the School of Music.
- The School of Music received a brand-new Steinway Model D Concert Grand Piano thanks to a generous donation.
- The School of Music is hosting an Indigenous feast on Thursday, March 21st in alignment with spring equinox event put on by the IPC.
- The School of Music will be hosting the Horse Creek Drum Group on March 26th.

Faculty of Health Studies – Senator Ross

- The first meeting of the Admissions Committee for both Nursing and Psychiatric Nursing was held yesterday, March 18, 2024. This is a labour-intensive process that considers a variety of factors in addition to GPA. Senator Ross would like to express her gratitude both to Health Studies faculty members as well as community members involved in this process.

Dean of Students – Senator Whelpton

- Thanks to significant donations received in the fall, Eileen Moody has been able to travel to communities like Churchill and Snow Lake that we have not previously been able to visit for recruitment. Senator Whelpton would like to thank Eileen Moody and Kathleen Richards for their significant contribution to recruitment.
- The Voluntary Withdrawal deadline was yesterday, March 18th and today was the day students panic about missing the VW deadline.
- Senator Whelpton extended thanks to Senator Haubrick for his efforts in securing a significant donation from Tampax and Always to provide free menstrual products in female and all-gender bathrooms.
- The Mini University Registration Guide is out and the program received over 250 registrations in the first day.
- Doug Pople is hosting the Summer Job Fair tomorrow in the Mingling Area, which will host a significant number of employers.
- Senator Whelpton extended thanks to advisors and department chairs for their contributions to the Declare Fair held today, March 19th. The event provided students the opportunity to talk with department chairs and decide which department was a right fit. The event was well attended and ran out of pizza within 20 minutes.
- In March, Student Services works with agencies to assist with international recruitment. So far, they have received 20 applications from the Emerging Leaders in the Americas Program (ELAP), and one application for a student to attend BU through the National Student Exchange.
 - There has been an increase in the number of students in the ELAP program.
- Senator Whelpton was proud to announce that Trent Gill will be running in the Boston Marathon for the second year and wishes him well in the race.

CIO – Senator Sucha

- The library will be extending its hours during the exam period, open to 10 pm Monday to Thursday evenings from April 10th to 18th.
- IT Services is beginning a process to rationalize the Wi-Fi networks and simplify Wi-Fi device onboarding for students and employees. Further communications are forthcoming in April.
- Brandon University is a member institution of MRNet, the National Research and Education Network partner overseeing post-secondary and research network infrastructure in the province. Rod Bruinooge was hired as the new MRNet CEO on March 4th and visited with Brandon University and Assiniboine Community College on March 18th.
- Music Library concerts and performance screenings have continued to be successful. Nora Wilson will be conducting the Symphonic Band in the Library Gathering Space on April 2nd.

University Registrar – Senator McDaniel

- As discussed at previous meetings, IRCC made several significant changes to the international student program this year, and they continue to make changes as this cycle continues, which is creating confusion in the sector; one of the most significant changes for post-secondary institutions was the implementation of a cap on the number of study permit applications that IRCC is willing to accept and process for each of the next two years.
 - IRCC indicated that the total national cap would be allocated to provinces by proportion of population; some weeks ago, the provinces received notification of their provincial cap allotments, and they were instructed to devise a mechanism for allocating their cap amongst the eligible institutions in their province
 - It appears that the provincial allocations were not strictly based on provincial population proportion, but IRCC has not provided further clarity on their allocation methodology.
 - The Manitoba Government met with the presidents of the public post-secondary institutions yesterday to describe their institutional allocation methodology, after which the Presidents were informed of their own institution's specific allocation.
 - Allocations are to be managed through the issuance of provincial attestation letters (PALs) to admitted international students, up to a maximum equal to the specific institution's allocation maximum.
 - Brandon University was given 664 PALs for the 2024 calendar year, more than was anticipated.
 - Brandon University implemented, prior to the start of the 2024-25 recruitment cycle, a mandatory tuition deposit that applicants need to pay after they have been notified they are admissible in order to receive their official Letter of Acceptance, which will automatically reduce the number of international applications received and number of admission offers issued.
 - In each of the past several years, Brandon University has typically had 150-200 new undergraduate international students register in courses and arrive at BU.
 - Given the above, the provincial allocation should be sufficient for BU's 2024-25 recruitment cycle without BU having to devise a mechanism to prioritize some admissible, deposit-paying candidates over others for PAL distribution.

- The graduation application deadline for students hoping to graduate in May 2024 is this Friday, March 22.

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

C. Lagimodiere reported on the following:

- Faculty looking to get their courses approved for the Indigenous Content Requirement for the 2024-25 academic year are encouraged to meet with the Indigenous Curricular Content Committee on April 22nd or 29th for guidance.
- The IPC is open 24/7 and student can access the space with their student cards.
- The IPC will be hosting an Indigenous Convocation, Our Journey, on May 29th for families to attend convocation and participate in the Indigenous grad pow wow at the Riverbank Discovery Centre.
- The IPC will host a Spring equinox feast – a recommendation from Barb Blind. PENT is planning to host the summer solstice feast. The feasts will be held by varying departments in buildings across campus.

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

Senator Ardelli reported on the following:

- Each year BU receives an allocation of undergraduate student research funding from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) based on the number of grants we received. BU received 11 Undergraduate Student Research Awards.
- This year, with the NSERC Undergraduate Student Research Awards (USRAs) for Black Students and Indigenous Students, BU awarded 1 Indigenous student award, and 4 Black student awards.
- BU received just over half a million dollars in funding for Undergraduate Student Research Awards. The adjudication of the undergraduate awards will move to the Senate Research Committee. Senator Ardelli extended thanks to the Faculty of Science for the decades of adjudication of these awards, and their help in creating policies and rubrics for the adjudication.
- The Dimensions: Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Canada project has ended, and Canada did not renew the funding. The project was founded in 2018 and BU received funding through the EDI initiative which was helpful in building an EDI strategic plan. Senator Ardelli noted it is important that we continue to consider, act, and promote EDI in all that we do.
- Results from the Tri-Agencies funding will be available in early April.
- Sarah Plosker and Rachel Herron have renewed their positions as holders of Canada Research Chairs. Senator Ardelli acknowledged the excellent contributions Sarah has made to Quantum Information Theory and Rachel has made to Rural and Remote Mental Health.

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

Senator Campbell reported on the following:

- Senator Campbell welcomed Gregory Kennedy, Dean of Arts, to the Senate.
- The Dean of Science Search Committee has an ongoing search for candidates with great applicants. However, the search has encountered a couple delays; one member withdrew from the committee due to a conflict of interest, and once the vacancy on the committee was filled, another member withdrew. The committee has decided not to fill this vacancy to not further delay the hiring process.

- Senator Campbell informed the Senate that a new Integrated Strategic Planning Steering Committee will be composed and a call for committee members will be sent soon.

4.4.13. Report from the President (Dr. Docherty)

Dr. Docherty provided an update on the end of the ERP project. He commended the numerous BU staff that worked in good faith towards the project's completion, and noted the tremendous knowledge the implementation team has learned through the project. Dr. Docherty will provide a further update on the ERP at a future town hall meeting.

One Senator raised concerns about financial accountability for the ERP process, whether student fees went towards the project, and why the project exceeded the budget.

Dr. Docherty acknowledged these concerns and noted he will address these concerns more thoroughly soon.

5. Other Business

6. Correspondence

7. Adjournment

MOTION 163.MAR24 Okudo/Ardelli

THAT the Senate adjourn at 3:24 pm.

CARRIED