

MOUNT ALLISON UNIVERSITY
MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

October 8, 2024, 4:00pm
Windsor Grand Room & Microsoft Teams (hybrid format)

Present: M. Ahmady, I. Andrea, B. Annear, F. Antonelli, Y. Bourgeois, C. Brett (Secretary), B. Broadbent, P. Brown, G. Cruttwell, R. Delaney, J. Devine, S. DeWolfe, E. Doukas, J. Dryden, C. Duguay, S. Fanning, A. Francis, L. Garnett, Q. Guo, D. Hamilton, L.-D. Hamilton., C. Ionescu, R. Isnor (Vice-Chair), B. Jewett, N. Johnston, S. Law, C. MacDougall, R. Majithia, M. Maston, V. Meli, L. Michaelis, E. Millar, C. Milner, R. Minocha-McKenney, K. Morse, A. Nurse, G. Pardy, C. Pringle-Carver, B. Robertson, R. Rubin, K. Souch, V. St. Pierre, I. Sutherland (Chair),

04.10.08 Business arising from the minutes

I. Sutherland noted that the Vice Presidents will serve on the selection committee for the consultants to be hired to assist in strategic planning, along with the President and the co-leads of the Strategic Planning Team.

05.10.08 Report from the Chair

The President highlighted some of the information in a pre-circulated written report and provided some other updates. He thanked those who attended the Senate social at Hammond House and announced plans for a Senate-Board of Regents event on November 14 which will include table discussions by Senators and Regents and a dinner.

I. Sutherland informed Senate that Vice President Finance and Administration R. Inglis is on planned medical leave. He thanked C. Milner for agreeing to be Acting Vice President during this leave. Senators welcomed C. Milner to the post with applause. The President wished R. Inglis well in his treatment and recovery.

The Chair informed Senate that there were 2403 students enrolled, as of October 1, but that the new international student numbers have dropped 41.5% from 2023 to 2024. Should international enrollment continue at that reduced pace, the university may experience an overall 40% reduction in international students, with accompanying loss in student diversity. The relatively high overall student numbers imply that the university is projected to be on-budget for the year, but the budget was for a deficit. The President noted that enrollments increased markedly in Aviation programs. I. Sutherland thanked the Registrar's Office, Recruiting, and Marketing and Communications for their efforts in attracting new students.

The President highlighted some initiatives including a Recruitment and Retention Advisory Group, working toward strategic enrollment plan, a review of International and Student Affairs, a review of student financial aid, and developing a new Health and Wellness Strategy. He noted the ongoing training by Diversio (formerly the Canadian Centre for Diversity and Inclusion) and the Seeds of Change bystander training program.

I. Sutherland noted the 10th anniversary of the Purdy Crawford Centre for the Arts and congratulated C. MacDougall, K. Johnston, A. Whynacht, J. Riley, and A. Morash on securing research awards from national granting agencies. He also reminded Senate of the first talk in this year's President's Speaker Series, to be given by Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist David M. Shribman at 7:30 p.m. on October 16 in Convocation Hall.

G. Cruttwell asked if a new Budget Director would be hired to take over the duties of C. Milner. C. Milner answered that the Assistant Controller would take on additional duties while C. Milner is Acting Vice President.

G. Cruttwell asked if additional resources will be available to programs in Aviation. I. Sutherland noted that demand for programs in aviation is likely to remain strong. R. Isnor added

that the university is working on a new memorandum of understanding with Moncton Flight College, which may provide additional resources for the program.

Q. Guo asked if international student fees are approximately double fees for domestic students and for further details on first-year international student numbers. C. Milner confirmed that international fees are approximately double those for domestic students. He also noted that there are currently 315 international students enrolled at Mount Allison, of which 62 are new. Last year, there were 108 new international students.

G. Waldron reminded Senators of the University Open House, scheduled for October 18.

06.10.08 Candidates for Degrees — October graduation

Motion (B. Robertson/ G. Cruttwell): that Senate move in camera for the purpose of considering candidates for degrees.

Senate considered candidates for degrees *in camera*.

Motion (B. Robertson/ G. Cruttwell): that Senate move ex camera.

07.10.08 Fall Convocation

I. Sutherland declared Convocation open. As Vice-Chancellor, the President then conferred degrees *in absentia* to the candidates whom Senate had approved. I. Sutherland then declared Convocation closed.

08.10.08 Report from University Planning Committee

R. Isnor gave an oral report. He noted that the committee has been considering requests for new and replacement positions. The committee received 18 applications for faculty and 3 for instructors or librarians. After meetings with heads, directors, and the Chair of Library Council and two rounds of committee votes, relative priorities are coming into focus. The Provost will meet with the Vice President Finance and Administration to determine the number of positions that can be filled. R. Isnor characterized the committee discussions as difficult, but excellent.

L. Michaelis asked how many of the position requests were for replacements and how many were net new. R. Isnor answered that approximately half were net-new, but that classification of requests is imprecise because the nature of replacement differs across applications.

09.10.08 Strategic Planning Update

The President noted that this will be a standing item on the Senate Agenda while the strategic planning process unfolds. Since the last meeting of Senate, the co-leads of the process have been selected. An announcement of their names is expected in the next few days. A draft Call for

consulting firm is underway. Meanwhile, the team is assembling documents including past enrolment numbers at Mount Allison and the current plans of other universities.

K. Morse asked whether there had been an open call for the co-leads. I. Sutherland replied that the co-leads were selected by the President, but other members of the team will be selected by an open call. The co-leads will be involved in selecting the other member of the team.

10.10.08 Report from the Academic Matters (Regulations) Committee

Motion (R. Isnor/S. Law):

Motion carried, as amended below

Motion (S. Law/J. Dryden): that the motion be revised so that the words “in Health Studies” be struck from the proposed amendment to

