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Minutes of the Senate Meeting of Wednesday May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

A meeting of the Senate of Acadia University occurred on Wednesday May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019 beginning at 9:00 a.m. with Chair A. Kiefte presiding and 39 present with one guest. The meeting took place in BAC 132.

**1) Approval of Agenda**

The Chair called the meeting to order, noting that there was quorum at present.

**Motion to approve the agenda. Moved by D. Benoit and seconded by P. Doerr.**

L. Aylward asked that one item be added to New Business: APC Process and Submissions from Units.

H. Hemming pointed out that she would also be speaking to this topic during her announcements.

MOTION TO APPROVE REVISED AGENDA CARRIED.

**2) Minutes of the Meeting of Monday March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

**Motion to approve the Minutes of Monday March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Moved by M. Adam and seconded by G. Bissix.**

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES CARRIED.

**3) Minutes of the Meeting of Monday April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

**Motion to approve the Minutes of Monday April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Moved by B. Anderson and seconded by D. Benoit.**

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES CARRIED. THREE ABSTENTIONS.

**4) Announcements:**

**a) From the Chair of Senate**

The Chair asked Senators to sign the blue attendance sheet and informed Senators that the current list of Senate and Senate sub-committee membership for 2019-2020 was now up on the Senate website, but it remained a 'work in progress' throughout the spring and summer months.

Regrets were received from S. Hewitt, S. Thomas, A. Wilks, G. Gibson, N. Kirkpatrick, Z. Whitman, S. Hayes and J. Hennessy.

The Chair announced that J. Hayes (Chair of the Honours committee) was attending as a guest. She suggested that the Honours Committee report be moved to the start of the Committee Reports section of the agenda and asked Senators whether they were amenable to the change even though the agenda had already been approved. Senate agreed to the change in agenda order.

**b) From the President**

President Ricketts apologised that he had been unable to attend the previous Senate meeting. He followed up on two items that he had provided for the April meeting: firstly, the disappointment that the financial allocation to the operating budget of the University was only 1% from the Provincial Government, with an additional 1% being allocated towards Government priorities which would be channelled to the Ministry of Labour and Advanced Education. Institutions had received encouragement from the Ministry that there would be an increase to the status quo in previous conversations, so this was a disappointment. President Ricketts reported that a 3% increase in tuition costs had been agreed with the ASU.

President Ricketts noted that the Ministry had invited institutions to engage in a longer term MOU; a five year time span with a 10 year vision attached. It had been felt that this would provide more sustainability for Nova Scotia universities and that this would provide a vision for how the university system was going to move towards shared areas of concern such as dealing with sexual violence, mental health, indigenous students, and improving accessibility. There were also broader economic priorities of the Government through regional economic development, and innovation.

President Ricketts pointed out that C. Callbeck had been involved with discussions with other Vice-Presidents of Finance to examine the sustainability piece of the request to the Government. A financial assessment was submitted to the Government and the University had received positive feedback. The assessment pointed out that a 3% increase was needed in the operating grant to make the system more sustainable.

President Ricketts stated that when CONSUP met to consider this they decided not to agree to sign a 5 year MOU with the Provincial Government which would lock institutions into a 1% increase per year. He recognised however that institutions in some other Provinces were facing cuts to their government funding.

President Ricketts explained that the Chair of CONSUP met with the Deputy Minister recently to state that the Universities were not prepared to sign a five year MOU at this time but would rather sign a continuation of the current one and keep a discussion going with the government. President Ricketts believed that there was a willingness to continue the discussions.

President Ricketts reported on the second item from April, which was the executive searches that were underway. He announced the appointment of S. Duguay to the Vice-Provost, Students, Recruitment & Enrolment

Management position. President Ricketts was delighted and stated that S. Duguay was currently at St. Thomas University where he held the Associate Vice-President of Students and Enrolment position. Having also worked at Bishop's University he was very familiar with small universities and the sort of educational mission that Acadia held, as well as being very familiar with the challenges that Acadia currently faced in the Humanities and Social Sciences.

President Ricketts expected to announce the outcome of the search for the Provost and Vice-President Academic position very soon.

P. Abela asked whether CONSUP might be considering a rather more muscular response to the government with respect to the 1% being provided. He felt that nurses, teachers and other groups had been more aggressive and taken their fight into the political domain.

President Ricketts pointed out that CONSUP was not a union and enjoyed a direct line of negotiation and discussion with the Ministry. The aim of CONSUP was to work collaboratively with the government in order to get the best deal that was possible. He noted that university Presidents could not be seen to be too political.

J. Stanley asked about the 1% of funding going to the Ministry and how Acadia might benefit from that funding.

President Ricketts stated that 1.6 million of the 1% was not new money and would continue to provide funding for the Innovation Round Tables proposed in the Ivany Report. President Ricketts had asked whether in future years some money could flow to the universities to assist in providing support in critical areas such as sexual violence and mental health and accessibility.

**c) From the VP Academic**

H. Hemming noted that her announcements had been included in the agenda but that she had comments on two further issues. Firstly, in relation to the searches for the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and the Director of the School of Education, H. Hemming reported that a recommendation would be going forward to the Board of Governors for approval. Once that had taken place, the names would be announced to the University.

Secondly, H. Hemming reported on the new process for the allocation of new permanent faculty positions by the Academic Planning Committee that had been discussed at Senate in January. She noted that for the coming year the committee had developed an interim approach to the process which would parallel what had been approved by Senate with a couple of exceptions.

H. Hemming reiterated that Faculties and the Library would be expected to develop both a short-term and long-term academic plan which would contextualize their anticipated permanent faculty hiring requests. This information was to be prepared by July 1<sup>st</sup>. Because of the lateness of the cycle, H. Hemming requested that only those units requesting permanent faculty positions in 2020 submit the long and short-term plans. She stated that other units could also do so but that the requirement to do so would be waived for this year if a request was not being made for positions.

H. Hemming expected that submissions would include a short narrative of the goals and visions of the unit, a compelling justification for the requested position, taking into account the strategic plan, programming, institutional integrity and Acadia's mission for providing a personalised liberal education, and the potential for inter-disciplinary synergies. She also stated that units would have the opportunity to comment on decolonization initiatives. Qualitative and quantitative data may be included with the submission along with details on the timelines of anticipated leaves and/or retirements.

H. Hemming stated that the APC had been asked to respond to units wishing to request two positions. The APC had agreed to allow two additional pages of additional program notes and for an opportunity for units to attach the enrolment trends report that was generated by D. Currie.

H. Hemming noted that at the March meeting of Senate it was agreed to re-constitute the APC with new membership and she pointed out that these elections were now in the hands of the Faculty Elections Officer.

L. Aylward stated that having worked at Acadia for 15 years she recognized that the conversation had narrowed down to a competition for faculty positions rather than the larger conversation about academic planning. She was hopeful that with the new process it would be possible to re-energise the conversation about academic planning in the context of inter-disciplinary synergies rather than pitting one program against another. This information would feed into academic program reviews.

L. Aylward remained concerned that in the School of Education they had an Acting Director and might have a new director on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019, which was the submission date for requests. She asked how engaged the Directors and Heads were in the process at this time.

H. Hemming responded that the process would be driven through the Dean's Offices and the Library. Units and Faculties will be carrying out their own planning. She noted that while the APC was in the process of moving into this direction, it would not be fully achieved in the first year.

L. Aylward asked whether the Heads, Directors and Deans had the new guidelines.

H. Hemming confirmed that this was the case.

A. Vibert agreed that these conversations were taking place at the Deans and Directors level. Dates had been determined for units to submit their requests in June. The draft of the APC guidelines had been discussed.

H. Hemming had requested input from the Deans on any further changes to the guidelines.

A. Vibert noted that there were attempts to move into academic planning on a cross-University level rather than just designating positions to units.

**d) President of the Divinity College**

H. Gardner was cautiously optimistic that their renovated building would be ready for occupation by the end of June. He expressed thanks to the University for the use of Willett House during the last year. H. Gardner noted that on July 1<sup>st</sup> A. Robbins would become the new President.

H. Gardner noted that they now had a full complement of faculty members and that enrolment was looking positive, especially in the Master of Divinity program. They were also seeing interest in the Doctoral program.

H. Gardner stated that this would be his last Senate meeting after 12 years. In June he expected to be in Israel with others from the Divinity College including G. Wooden and A. Robbins, plus 35 students. H. Gardner thanked Senators for the opportunity to serve.

President Ricketts moved a motion of thanks and appreciation to H. Gardner for his incredible contribution both to Acadia University and to the Divinity College as Dean of Theology. He noted H. Gardner's legacy of service which would help the Divinity College and Acadia as they moved forward. President Ricketts had greatly appreciated the opportunity to work with H. Gardner and his wisdom and counsel on many issues. He wished H. Gardner well on the next phase of his life.

Senators applauded warmly.

J. Stanley added that on June 21<sup>st</sup> three events would take place, both to celebrate H. Gardner's contributions to the Divinity College and to re-dedicate the new building. At 3:00 p.m. the re-dedication would take place and at 4:00 p.m. a "Gardner" party would take place in Wheelock Hall which would be a chance for the University community to attend. Finally, at 6:00 p.m. a banquet would be held to celebrate H. Gardner's contributions.

**e) President of the ASU**

K. Vandertoorn, the new ASU President introduced herself, along with Mackenzie Jarvin, the VP Academic & External. They noted that the new executive team was just settling into their positions. She also noted that in June the SRC would be hosting the Maritime Student Congress on campus (June 7<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>). As many as 11 different student union delegations would be visiting.

The Chair asked whether there were any other announcements.

P. Callaghan updated Senators on the Acadia 2025 Strategic Planning Task Force. He stated that the task force had identified strategic directions and that these would be circulated to the Acadia community in the next few days. He noted that a number of other initiatives across the campus were underway and that the task force would give consideration to these. Examples given were the new Directions report for Student Services, an MOU between the ASU, the Town of Wolfville and Acadia, the Strategic Research Plan, and the Campaign for Acadia.

P. Callaghan listed a number of themes which would be:

- Active and passionate community engagement
- Compelling and impactful academic programs
- Leading and environmental stewardship
- Supporting student success and wellness
- Personalize service excellence
- Sustaining the campus infrastructure

P. Abela announced that at the Faculty meeting the previous day the Registrar had stated that recruitment for the coming year was going well and that numbers were consistent with those of the previous year. P. Abela expressed thanks to all involved in the recruiting initiative this year.

## 5) Time Sensitive Items

### a) Motion to Approve the List of Graduands for the Convocation of May 2019

**Motion to approve the list of Graduands for the Convocation of May 2019. Moved by R. Murphy and seconded by C. Rushton.**

The Registrar asked that one student be added to the list under Bachelor of Computer Science.

D. MacKinnon asked about one student from the Master of Education whose name was missing but it was established that the student had been listed in the Fall 2018 list of graduands.

MOTION CARRIED WITH ONE REVISION.

H. Hemming read the enabling motion:

Any candidate for an Acadia degree, diploma or certificate who should receive a grade or otherwise qualify or be disqualified between this Senate meeting and the Senate meeting in September 2019, may, if circumstances require, be considered by the Chair of the Admissions and Academic Standing (Policy) Committee, the appropriate Dean, the appropriate Head/Director, and the Registrar, acting as an ad hoc committee of Senate, they having the power to make consequential amendments to the graduation list. Any such amendments to the list shall be reported to Senate at the next Senate meeting.

**Moved by H. Hemming and seconded by M. Robertson.**

MOTION APPROVED.

Senators applauded the successful graduands.

## 6) New Business

### a) Motion to approve Professor Emeritus recommendations

President Ricketts stated that the Awards committee was pleased to recommend to Senate the following:

**Motion that Senate approve the awarding of Professor Emeritus status to the following four candidates: Z. Abramson, C. Both, A. Warner and L. Whaley. Moved by P. Ricketts and seconded by G. Bissix.**

A secret ballot vote was conducted.

MOTION APPROVED.

**b) Budget Report for 2019-2020**

C. Callbeck provided a presentation on the 2019-20 budget. He noted that there was no change to the fiscal climate now or in the foreseeable future. He pointed out that student enrolment was critical and that it was equally important to retain students.

C. Callbeck stated that over a 30-year period finances had been stable from 1990 – 2005 (helped by the double cohort graduating in Ontario) but negative from 2006 to the present date.

He detailed the slender projected surplus for this 2018-2019 budget year. Last year the University fell short on student targets and as a result it was necessary to take budget cutting actions, deferring and delaying hiring amongst other things. Retention rates had also been problematic from a budgetary perspective.

C. Callbeck thanked the entire University community for their help in getting to a balanced budget for 2018-19.

In going forward to 2019-2020 a balanced projected budget had been taken to the Board of Governors and was approved.

C. Callbeck noted that across Canada revenue growth tended to be 2% whereas expenditure growth tended to be 4% which always resulted in a structural deficit. He noted that it took a lot of effort at Acadia to reduce the expenses to the point of being balanced but still invest in essential services.

P. Callaghan asked about an apparent reduction of Scholarships and Bursaries in the proposed budget.

C. Callbeck clarified that this was because last year a bursary program had been created to provide students with 3% refund of the 6% increase in student tuition.

C. Callbeck highlighted that in the past the Government funding amounted to 80% of University income while student tuition amounted to 20%. This was no longer the case. In 2019 the Government funding grant amounted to 34% and the student tuition 41% of total revenue. He pointed out that students were footing the majority of Acadia's costs.

The Chair asked how Acadia's revenue ratios compared to other universities in the province and in the country.

C. Callbeck stated that there were many similarities within the Province but that across the country things were quite different due to differences in the provincial funding models and tuition rates.

M. Adam asked whether the enormous increase in the number of international students at Cape Breton University could skew the numbers and the results across the Province.

C. Callbeck agreed that this was possible but also stated the importance of Acadia determining what percentage of international students would be manageable for Acadia. Most other institutions in the Maritimes took in a higher percentage of international students than Acadia.

C. Callbeck pointed out that Acadia had managed cost containment in the recent past and would continue to do so.

C. Callbeck noted the importance of fundraising and the Capital Campaign which could enhance bursaries and scholarships in the future.

C. Callbeck stressed the importance of sustainability, student retention and student enrolment for Acadia, noting that a new International Recruiter had been hired recently. Enrolment of students from Nova Scotia was very good.

J. Grant asked about Acadia's debt and C. Callbeck agreed that this continued to be a concern for the future.

J. Grant asked how long Acadia could continue to attract sufficient Nova Scotia students in light of provincial demographic changes.

C. Callbeck stated that the environment was very competitive and very difficult but that by increasing the number of international students, shortfalls could be balanced.

M. Adam asked about budgeting to provide additional resources for international students. C. Callbeck agreed that this was necessary.

J. Grant asked whether the University had a position on recent events in Saudi Arabia and other countries.

President Ricketts confirmed that Acadia was not currently recruiting in Saudi Arabia but pointed out that the University did not take a political stand on other countries in its recruitment activities. Recruiting was carried out by agents or individually with students from these countries. He recognised that it was too dangerous to recruit in some countries.

M. Adam was concerned that the enrolment numbers at CBU could provide an excuse for the Government to put political pressure on Acadia. He noted that Acadia offered a certain type of education which had international scope but also concentrated heavily on community engagement. Acadia was a special learning place and increases to international student numbers needed careful consideration.



c) **Senate Committee  
Annual Reports**

i) **Honours  
Committee  
Report (*attached*)**

The Chair invited J. Hayes to speak to the Honours report.

J. Hayes noted that the Honours committee had met on two occasions and discussed in detail how the Honours processes might be improved, especially with regard to the external reader. The committee had prepared a survey which had been forwarded to faculty that morning as an email with a web link.

J. Hayes stated that the student members of the committee were considering forming an Honours Student Society and he expected that would happen this year. The committee also discussed ways to promote inclusion of indigenous and other minority student groups into the Honours programs. J. Hayes encouraged Senators to comment on this initiative.

J. Hayes noted that the committee considered 64 HSRA applications. 17 were supported with HSRAs. Five were supported as Webster awards: two for Arts, two for Professional Studies and one for Science.

J. Hayes pointed out that a number of applications from Science were funded by the USRA program through NSERC.

J. Hayes felt that there had been a good balance of funded projects across the three Faculties.

J. Hayes stated that 98 Honours Theses were submitted during 2018-2019 and that all of them had now been approved.

D. Seamone questioned the language used in the survey because in the document it only referred to departments. She noted that there were at least three inter-disciplinary programs at the undergraduate level, all of which had Honours opportunities. Supervision of students in multiple units was not unusual.

J. Hayes stated that this had not been considered adequately when the survey was designed. He expected that at some point in the future the committee would contact Heads and Directors to gather more information. There was a section in the survey that asked participants to indicate what current practises were in place. He stated that most of the survey related to a person's experiences as an Honours supervisor, which could be regardless of a department, unit, or program.

The Chair asked whether the survey had been forwarded to the co-ordinators of the IDST programs.

J. Hayes stated that this would be the next thing to happen.

D. Seamone noted that she would have very different experiences in different programs. She noted that the language was important.

President Ricketts asked whether the external reader provided a different academic perspective on the committee and did the external reader provide substantive input into the subject matter, or were they providing quality control.

J. Hayes stated that the survey would examine what the role of the external reader was and look at what was accomplished in the role of external reader.

A. Redden stated that external readers are given instructions when they receive a thesis. This was not an academic exercise; it was intended to provide an independent check on quality, presentation, grammar etc. Theses were widely distributed to very different academic units.

A. Redden noted that this process was very time consuming and that one staff member in R&GS spent time receiving each Honours thesis three times and having to identify faculty members to review each thesis. A. Redden felt that the current process was very inefficient and that a new process needed to be put in place, coming as it did in April, at such a busy year end.

A. Redden thanked D. Seamone for raising the issue of the IDST programs.

D. Benoit asked whether time had been spent researching what was done in other institutions with fourth year Honours theses. He noted that arriving at Acadia he found that there was an onerous level of work required for an Honours thesis compared to other institutions. He also felt that inconsistency existed between academic units at Acadia. In some a student could get their Honours without writing a thesis and in others there was no thesis defence, while in others there would be a full one hour long defence, similar to that of a Master's thesis.

D. Benoit stated that at St. F.X. he had no external reader and that at Queen's an Honours degree just required the student to register for a fourth year and take a number of courses.

A. Redden agreed that there were discrepancies and expected that this would be part of the review. She expected that institutions in the Maritimes would be fairly consistent. She felt that academic units may come up with new solutions and perhaps nominating an external reader. This would avoid the thesis frequently coming to R&GS. A. Redden felt that it was hard to celebrate successes because too much time was caught up in the clerical work of the theses.

S. Currie was not used to the external reviewer process and felt that credit hours could be associated with the thesis. She would like to see coordination of the presentation of the theses over a one or two day period, perhaps in a conference format, and she felt that this would elevate the work and allow more faculty from across the University to attend.

J. Hayes stated that the survey asked for alternatives to the external reader process. Suggestions of an Honours conference to celebrate the theses on campus and other suggestions had been made.

J. Stanley pointed out that both of his daughters took Honours degrees at Acadia and went on to do graduate study at other institutions. He felt extremely grateful for the Honours program offered at Acadia and he knew that many other parents also felt the same way. He recognised that as part of the big picture, the Honours program and rigour was very important to both parents and graduates.

The Honours Committee report was received by Senate.

ii) **Research Ethics Board Report**  
*(attached)* The Research Ethics Board Report was received and there were no questions.

iii) **By-laws Committee Report**  
*(attached)* The By-laws committee report was presented by R. Raeside who stated that the By-laws committee primarily dealt with issues referred to it from Senate and that during the last year these items had been addressed.

The By-laws Committee report was received.

iv) **Curriculum Committee (Policy) Report**  
*(attached)* The Curriculum Committee (Policy) report was presented by R. Raeside. He stated that a period of re-building had been taking place during the last year and that a lot of work was now underway. He expected that Senate would see items coming forward from the committee during the next 12-18 months.

v) **Nominating Committee Report**  
*(attached)* The Nominating Committee report was received and there were no questions.

vi) **Academic Integrity Committee Report**  
*(attached)* The Academic Integrity committee report was presented by P. Abela who noted that the committee had been tasked with creating language on academic integrity which had been passed by Senate in November 2018. He stated that the new language will go into the Academic Calendar for 2019-20 and that the committee would expect to receive feedback during the next year to see how the process was working.

D. Benoit asked whether the committee would communicate the change of policy to all academic units.

P. Abela expected that the Registrar's Office would be making the decision to send out an announcement to faculty members. He agreed that this would be a good idea and felt that the Academic Integrity committee could do this if the Registrar's Office preferred.

D. Benoit asked when the policy would come into force.

M. Bishop stated that once the new Calendar had been printed the policy would come into force, likely July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019.

D. Benoit asked how this might apply to students that were taking Spring/Summer courses in June 2019 and therefore under the old Calendar.

M. Bishop stated that requirements for students registered in courses would flow from the Calendar in the year in which a course started so that any course taken before July 1<sup>st</sup> would retain the old policy.

The Academic Integrity committee report was received.

**vii) Scholarships,  
Prizes and  
Awards  
Committee  
Report (*attached*)**

The Chair noted that the Chair of the Scholarships, Prizes and Awards Committee (SPAC) was not present but asked M. Jarvin if she wished to make any comments having sat on the committee during the last year.

M. Jarvin did not wish to add any comments.

P. Callaghan was concerned about the value of scholarships available to Acadia students. He highlighted major Acadia scholarships and compared them to other institutions, noting that St. F.X. offered much higher monetary scholarships to the Business School alone, in addition to awards to other students.

P. Callaghan felt that Acadia needed to become more competitive.

The Chair asked whether P. Callaghan had looked into what the incoming St. F.X. students' average grade requirement was for entrance scholarships, noting that at Acadia the entrance scholarship average requirement was 80%. She noted that the average grade requirements may affect our distribution of scholarships (number of scholarships versus their monetary values) relative to other universities.

P. Callaghan did not have that information but felt that this was a real concern.

D. Benoit had experienced the same points raised by Paul. He had spoken with a number of students who had received smaller offers from Acadia. One student had been offered \$10,000 at Acadia but had eventually been offered \$40,000 elsewhere. He noted that another student was initially offered a smaller scholarship but eventually went through the Arthur Irving Academy Scholarship process and received a very large offer to come to Acadia.

M. Bishop stated that at St. F.X. students with an average of 85% were eligible for an entrance scholarship worth \$5,000 over five years.

M. Adam asked whether there might be a better place to address these concerns because the committee was not responsible for the budget.

The Chair offered to contact P. d'Entremont and the Chair of the committee to address questions that Senate had.

President Ricketts noted that this would have been under the purview of S. Mesheau in the past. He asked whether the new Vice Provost should sit on the SPAC.

The Chair noted that schools in Nova Scotia were not permitted to release rankings of graduating students and asked whether schools in other provinces in Canada do release rankings. The Chair asked whether the committee receives that information and how they use averages of incoming students from different schools and different parts of the country.

M. Jarvin stated that for some scholarships the committee reviewed each file and began with the student GPA, followed by a ranking of their files based on 50% for the GPA and 50% for their demonstrated leadership ability and extra-curricular development, plus other scholarships that had been received.

M. Adam asked that Senate invite the Chair of the committee to attend a Fall meeting of Senate so that a conversation could be held to try to pin down the facts and understand how these decisions were being made. He looked up the terms of reference of the committee and noted that the committee duties included the following:

- To decide policy and process by which recipients of scholarships, prizes, bursaries, scholar-bursaries, awards, and convocation medals are to be selected and to gather all information it considers necessary for the selection;
- To select the recipients of undergraduate entrance scholarships, prizes, and awards and some in-course scholarships, prizes, and awards;
- To periodically review the scholarships, prizes, and awards program and to recommend improvements (increased funds, new scholarships, more prizes, etc.) to those involved in the program;
- To promote interest in the scholarship program;
- To consider such other matters as the Senate may from time to time entrust to the Committee.

The Chair agreed to communicate with the Chair of the committee and with P. d'Entremont and invite them to attend the September meeting of Senate.

The report was received.

**viii) Archives  
Committee  
Report (*attached*)**

P. Doerr presented the Archives Committee report. He noted that the archives were a significant part of the community engagement that Acadia prided itself on. P. Doerr encouraged Senators to read the final paragraph of the report which highlighted the many requests and inquiries from the community and from other universities over the course of a year.

P. Abela agreed and stated that he had been working with P. Townsend on a project. He spoke extremely highly of the level of commitment and expertise of all of the archivists working in the Archives department. P. Townsend's institutional memory and her ability to direct people at short notice were most impressive.

L. Aylward had also talked with the University Librarian and the Archivists but noted that they were extremely under-resourced to complete the workload. She stated that there was a large backlog of important work waiting to be completed. L. Aylward asked whether the Advancement department could find some resources to allow for additional staffing.

B. Anderson also added her support for the Archives and noted that Nutrition and Dietetics recently received a rare gift of a historic cookbook collection from Clara Jefferson, who graduated in 1948, and she stated that the Archives had been immensely helpful in making sure that the gift was available to the community to use for historical research.

B. Anderson praised their professionalism and their knowledge and noted that the Archives worked with the School to honour Clara with an event that was well attended.

The Archives report was received.

**7) New Business**

L. Aylward confirmed that her requested agenda item “New Business: APC Process and Submissions from Units” could be removed as it had been addressed sufficiently during the Vice-President Academic’s announcements portion of the agenda.

**8) Other Business**

President Ricketts reminded Senate that Convocation would be held during the coming weekend and hoped that all Senators would attend. He noted that there was a strong group of Honorary Degree recipients and that President Emeritus status would be conferred on R. Ivany during the Monday afternoon ceremony.

President Ricketts stated that over 800 students would be graduating over the weekend.

There was no other business.

**9) Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn at 11:20 a.m. Moved by P. Doerr.

**ORIGINAL SIGNED**

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R. Hare, Recording Secretary

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO SENATE – no written report.**

### **VICE PRESIDENT ACADEMIC'S REPORT TO SENATE – May 2019**

#### **FACULTY OF ARTS:**

Theatre student, Alynne Sinnema, class of 2021, presented the awards for the Robert Merritt Awards Ceremony in Halifax on Monday, March 25, 2019. She is the first Acadia student to present these awards.

Dr. Patricia Rigg and two English students, Athena Grantwell (Masters) and Emily McClean (Honours), are travelling to England at the end of April to conduct archival research at the British Library in London and the Bodleian Library at Oxford. They will be working on Dr. Rigg's SSSHRC funded project on the influence of Baudelaire and other French poets on Victorian autobiographical sonnet sequences in the second half of the nineteenth century.

James Whidden, Department of History and Classics had a publication, "The Levantine British: Defying Race Categories in Colonial Alexandria," in *Britain and the World*, Volume 12, No. 1 (2019), a refereed journal. He also attended a conference and presented a paper, "British Responses to 1919: Reaction, Reform and Regime Restoration, *The Egyptian Revolution of 1919: The Birth of the Nation*," held by the British-Egyptian Society, the London Middle East Institute, SOAS University of London, and the British Council for Research in the Levant, SOAS, University of London, March 27-28, 2019.

Dr. Bernard Delpeche has had two papers accepted to be presented at conferences. On April 24 he will present "Pour un pluralisme de la Francophonie canadienne à travers l'oeuvre de Dany Laferrière" in WEFLA 2019 at Holguin University, Cuba. The presentation is published online. On June 26 Dr. Delpeche will present a paper at the Jagiellonian University, Kraków, Poland, titled, "Relation between African Canadians and other Minority groups within the Canadian Multiculturalism" in the Twelfth Global Studies.

Philosophy Honours student Husna Farooqui (BAH 2019) has been accepted by the Carnegie Mellon University Summer School in Logic and Formal Epistemology, which includes free tuition and lodging, as well as the Munich Center for Mathematical Philosophy Summer School for Female Students. She has also received funded offers of admission from the philosophy M.A. programs at the University of Calgary and Simon Fraser University. She has chosen to attend Calgary.

Dr. Andrew Biro, Department of Politics and Dr. Alice Cohen, Department of Earth and Environmental Science presented a paper at the Western Political Science Association Conference, San Diego, California in April 18-20, 2019.

The Social and Political Thought graduate program will be hosting its Biennial Graduate Student conference. This year's theme is "Life after the World." Students from across North America will be visiting Acadia from May 3-5, 2019. Dr. Stella Gaon, Political Science Department, St. Mary's University will be delivering the Keynote address titled Deconstruction, Critical Theory and the Compulsive Fantasy of Life on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. All are welcome.

Dr. Laurie Dalton, Gallery Director/Curator, was an invited emcee for the Creative Economy Conference held in Membertou, Cape Breton, NS, on March 28, 2019. The conference looked at the ways in which artists, and cultural organizations help infuse the economy.

In March-April 2019, the gallery presented the exhibition “The Queer Mummer” by artist Lucas Morneau. The exhibition explored mummer, drag, and contemporary craft as a way to explore contemporary queer identities in the Maritime region.

#### **FACULTY OF SCIENCE:**

Dr. Mark Mallory, Biology, travelled to Iceland in March with new MSc student Julia Baak. They led an international workshop on “Plastics in Seabirds” around the circumpolar Arctic with representation from Russia, Norway, Denmark, Greenland, Faroe Islands, Iceland, Canada and USA. This Workshop had an overall goal of developing a strategy for collecting information on seabird and plastic interactions (ingestion and entanglement) throughout the Arctic over the next 3-5 years. Ultimately, this will then inform an assessment of seabird-plastic interactions that will have data that are comparable across regions to assess spatial patterns.

Dr. Mallory was also a co-author on a high impact paper published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences last month. We have very little monitoring data for seabird populations to allow us to develop realistic and effective conservation policies. In this landmark study in the Canadian Arctic, a collaborative research team used paleolimnological techniques to analyze sediments in ponds on eider duck nesting islands. The team measured chemical proxies of bird abundance dating back several hundred years and were able to show that in the southern part of the range, eider duck numbers declined markedly once Canadian Inuit were concentrated in communities along Hudson Strait, and especially once hunting in Greenland increased. Multicentury perspective assessing the sustainability of the historical harvest of sea ducks. *PNAS*. doi/10.1073/pnas.1814057116.

Dr. Mike Stokesbury, Biology, was part of a collaborative team publishing another high-impact study investigating where Atlantic bluefin tuna are moving in the ocean. Bluefin tuna populations have severely declined and the status of the fish within each population remains uncertain. The findings from this study demonstrate that acoustic tags can provide vital fisheries-independent estimates for understanding the life history of these fish, information critical for improving stock assessment models and conservation strategies. Estimating natural mortality of Atlantic bluefin tuna using acoustic telemetry. *Scientific Reports* 9: 4918.

Acadia Earth and Environmental Science graduate (MSc 2018) Gabriel Sombini dos Santos has been named as the recipient of the 2019 Gelinas Silver Medal for the best MSc thesis in Volcanology and Igneous Petrology by the Volcanology and Igneous Petrology Division of the Geological Association of Canada. Gabriel's thesis on rocks from Cape Breton Island was supervised by Sandra Barr. The award will be presented to Gabriel during the 2019 annual meeting of the Association in Quebec City in May. In making the award, the selection committee noted that they were impressed by his "exceptional research". Gabriel is currently pursuing a PhD degree at the University of Waterloo on deformed rocks in China.

The award for Best Paper in 2018 in the Canadian Journal of Earth Sciences, will be awarded at the annual meeting in Quebec City. The winning paper was co-authored by Chris White (Nova Scotia Department of Energy and Mines and adjunct professor at Acadia), Sandra Barr (Earth and Environmental Science) and Ulf Linnemann (Senckenberg Naturhistorische Sammlungen, Dresden, Germany), and is entitled "U–Pb (zircon) ages and provenance of the White Rock Formation of the Rockville Notch Group, Meguma terrane, Nova Scotia, Canada: evidence for the “Sardian gap” and West African origin”.

#### **FACULTY OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES:**

Professor Pat Corkum is retiring (from her second appointment) effective June 30, 2019. Named in 2015 a Fellow Chartered Accountant, the highest honour awarded in her profession, Pat has across the years shattered more than one academic glass ceiling. She was the first female Vice President of Finance for the Acadia Students Union and the first female faculty member in the School of Business. Acclaimed by students



and faculty in the School as well as by her colleagues in the accounting profession as an outstanding educator, Pat's success as a teacher has been attributed to her love of accounting and her aptitude for mentorship. A dinner honouring Pat will be held at the Manning School of Business on the evening of May 15, 2019.

Dr. Alan Warner to the Community Development and Environmental and Sustainability Studies programs upon his retirement at the end of June. Over the years, Alan has been a committed and untiring scholar and activist in the areas of community development, environmental studies, and food security, leading many teams of students through community development projects locally and internationally. Alan has provided leadership to both the ESST and Community Development programs and generously contributed time to service in the Faculty and across the University. The ESST students have developed a short play to commemorate Alan's work in that program, and the Community Development students have established a student award in his name. Students and faculty in the Department of Community Development will sadly miss his exceptional contributions.

Dr. Scott Landry and a number of his students all had abstracts accepted to the XXVII Congress of the International Society of Biomechanics (ISB2019), held in conjunction with the 43rd Annual Meeting of the American Society of Biomechanics (ASB2019) in Calgary this upcoming Summer. Honours studentsCarolynn Tan and Ellen Hatt are each a lead author on two of the abstracts. Elysia Davis, Scott's PhD student from Dalhousie, is the lead author on the third abstract and all the data for these three abstracts were collected in the School's mLAB.

School of Music professors Derek Charke and Eugene Cormier won the 2019 ECMA Composition of the year award, for their piece called "Ex Tempore". The competition this year was incredibly tough, and we are all delighted for Derek and Eugene as this is a wonderful honour.

Retirements in the School of Music:

Dr. Christoph Both's accomplishments in music, technology, pedagogy and innovation span over thirty years. His time at Acadia and his contributions to the School of Music are invaluable, as he was a devoted member and wonderful colleague. The entire faculty, staff and student body will miss his brilliant cello playing, his approachable and affable nature with our entire department, and his love of teaching and his students.

Dr. Heather Price is an inspirational musician, with a multi-faceted career and numerous talents and gifts. At the keyboard, she is a story-teller, a collaborator and a magnificent pianist. As a pedagogue, she offered so much of herself to the music therapy department and to all the students, whom she adored. The School will miss her deep and thoughtful ways, her significant contributions to curriculum development and her bright and sunny spirit.

## **RESEARCH & GRADUATE STUDIES:**

### **Research Awards**

#### **NSERC Discovery Grant Results (Embargoed)**

##### **"Stress biomarkers in epidermal mucus of marine fishes": Dr. Russell Easy, Biology**

Dr Easy's "Stress Biomarkers" research project will address how biomarkers can act as warning signs of physiological disturbances or stress leading to a loss of normal function, and thus will address gaps in understanding of the tradeoffs fish may be making to survive in our changing environment. For this project, Dr. Easy has been awarded \$197,500 (\$37,000 annually for 5 years plus an early career researcher supplement of \$12,500).

##### **"Movement ecology of songbirds during migratory periods": Dr. Phillip Taylor, Biology**

Migratory birds undertake long distance movements yearly between overwintering and breeding areas. Dr. Taylor's research will focus on better understanding the function and consequences of songbird movement patterns via automated telemetry tracking of their movements. For this research project, Dr. Taylor has been awarded \$165,000 (\$33,000 annually for 5 years).

**“Sensorimotor Learning in Complex Movements”: Dr. Daniel Lametti, Psychology**

This project advances the understanding of the behavioural and neural mechanisms that control complex human movements, such as speech, and expands on recently developed experimental models of human motor control in complex movements. For this research project, Dr. Lametti has been awarded \$177,500 (\$33,000 annually for 5 years plus an early career researcher supplement of \$12,500).

**“Zeta functions in fractal geometry and analysis”: Dr. Franklin Mendivil, Mathematics and Statistics**

Modeling the behaviour of phenomena at multiple scales has become a useful tool in both pure and applied mathematics. Dr Mendivil will use fractal-based techniques and zeta functions to study the geometric properties of fractal sets and measures. For this research project, Dr Mendivil has been awarded \$75,000 (\$15,000 annually for 5 years).

**NSERC Research Tools & Instruments (RTI) Grant Results (Embargoed)**

**“Replacement mercury-in-air analyzer for quantifying mercury retention in ecosystems”: Dr. Nelson O’Driscoll, Earth and Environmental Science**

Dr. O’Driscoll’s mercury lab in Acadia’s Centre for Analytical Research on the Environment (CARE) is a collaborative hub for researchers examining mercury contaminants in Eastern Canada and globally. Dr. O’Driscoll has been awarded grant of \$77,495 for his request to purchase a needed state-of-the art mercury-in-air analyzer for studying and measuring contaminants in the environment. This is Acadia’s third largest RTI award and also Dr. O’Driscoll’s third RTI award since he arrived at Acadia. His RTI funding to date is \$185,000, making him Acadia’s most successful RTI recipient in terms of total funding.

**Provincial Research Award**

**NS Dept of Education & Early Childhood Development (EECD) Award**

Dr. Carla DiGiorgio, Acadia’s School of Education, has received EECD Inter-university Research Network Funding that provides support for provincial research into student achievement and redressing the achievement gap. The one-year award, valued at \$18,777, is for the project, *Mentoring culturally diverse schools to improve learning in math and literacy*. The researcher will work with principals of two schools to study the cultural and socioeconomic issues at play behind the achievement gaps.

**Industry & Community Engagement Office**

**Mitacs Wrap-Up for 2018-19**

Mitacs partnership programs are quickly becoming one of the main sources of funding support for graduate level students/HQP across Canada. Their paid internships facilitate connections between university students and many non-academic partners. Acadia was particularly successful in 2018-19 with the Mitacs Accelerate program which supports FT graduate students. Acadia is #2 in Canada for internship units submitted per 100 FT Graduate Students. We are #1 in Canada for increased internship units submitted from 2017-18 (4) to 2018-19 (63)!

**Acadia’s Centre for Lifestyle Studies (COLS) Strikes Partnership with True North Clinical Research**

Acadia recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Student Research Agreement with True North Clinical Research based in Halifax and Kentville. The MOU will enable stronger links between Acadia’s Centre for Lifestyle Studies (COLS), led by Dr. Jonathon Fowles, and True North’s interest in building research, student and programming opportunities into their clinical trials focused on dementia and

Alzheimer's disease. An Acadia Kinesiology student has already been hired for the summer months under this arrangement to support True North's clinical trials and identify areas for future research collaborations that may include several departments on campus.

**Enabling Motion:**

Any candidate for an Acadia degree, diploma or certificate who should receive a grade or otherwise qualify or be disqualified between this Senate meeting and the Senate meeting in September 2019, may, if circumstances require, be considered by the Chair of the Admissions and Academic Standing (Policy) Committee, the appropriate Dean, the appropriate Head/Director, and the Registrar, acting as an ad hoc committee of Senate, they having the power to make consequential amendments to the graduation list. Any such amendments to the list shall be reported to Senate at the next Senate meeting.

List of Graduates for the Spring Convocation will be circulated separately.

## **RESEARCH ETHICS BOARD ANNUAL REPORT, 2018–2019**

For the period 1 May 2018 to 30 April 2019:

**Committee Membership:** Joan Boutilier (Community, to 30 June), Niall Buryk\* (AGSA, to 30 June), David Duke (Arts), Wenxia Guo (Professional Studies), Anita Hudak (Community), Michael Jeffrey (Community, from 1 July), Chris Johnston\* (AGSA, from 1 July), Stephanie Jones (Science), Stephen Maitzen (Chair), Melody Maxwell (Theology, from 7 December), Anna Redden\* (RGS), Anna Robbins (Theology, to 6 December), Shon Whitney (Community, from 1 July)

\* non-voting

**Meetings and Review of Applications:** The REB met on 11 occasions and reviewed 85 new formal applications for ethics approval. The Chair also reviewed numerous formal requests from researchers to approve changes to previously approved research.

**Other activities:** The REB's Chair responded to numerous informal inquiries from student and faculty researchers at Acadia and elsewhere. The Chair serves as the University's liaison to the Canadian Secretariat for Research Ethics, prepares and distributes the agendas for meetings, records the minutes at meetings and distributes them for approval, writes letters of ethics approval or rejection, performs all filing and maintenance of records, follows up on unapproved research, reviews annual reports from department-level ethics committees, publicizes the role and requirements of the REB, maintains the REB website, and prepares reports for Senate and other bodies concerning the business of the REB.

**Training of members:** Each newly appointed REB member receives a detailed written orientation from the REB Chair describing the new member's duties and the REB's procedures.

**Ad hoc advisors:** Ad hoc advisors are appointed only when the REB judges that it lacks the knowledge needed to review a particular application. None were required during the reporting period.

**Appeals:** None

**Complaints:** None received

**Guidance sought from the Canadian Secretariat on Research Ethics:** None

**Matters out of the ordinary:** None

**Transitional Chair for Summer:** S. Maitzen

**Other comments:** None

Submitted by Stephen Maitzen (Chair)

**Senate Bylaws Committee  
Annual Report to Senate – May 2019**

Committee Members:

Lynn Aylward Professional Studies (January-June 2019)  
John Guiney-Yallop Professional Studies (July-December 2018)  
Geoffrey Whitehall Arts  
Glenn Wooden Theology  
Rob Raeside Pure and Applied Science, chair

The committee met on: 7 November 2018  
10 December 2018  
7 February 2019  
26 February 2019  
26 March 2019

**Principal items of business in 2018-19:**

**Review of faculty constitutions to determine nominating and election procedures**

The committee was tasked by Senate to ascertain that all nominating and election procedures in the bylaws of Senate and Faculty, and the bylaws of the faculties of Arts, Pure and Applied Science, and Professional Studies were compatible. Although the various bodies have differences in their procedures, it was determined that all procedures are in place and in order.

**Establishment of a Senate Equity, Diversity and Inclusion committee**

Following the termination of the Senate *ad hoc* Diversity and Inclusion Committee and the acceptance of its final report, the Bylaws Committee was charged with fulfilling the recommendation of establishing a standing Senate Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee. The motion to approve the terms of reference was passed at the April meeting of Senate and the committee will be established effective 1 July 2019.

**Absenteeism of members on Senate committees**

The committee was advised that some Senate committees have been dysfunctional because of chronic absenteeism of some members. An amendment to the bylaws was introduced that if a committee member misses two meetings of committee without sending regrets, an election can be triggered for a replacement of that member.

Related to this issue, it was recognised that some people in limited-term contracts have been appointed to committees where work on the committee continues beyond their terms. The Bylaws Committee was charged with assessing the significance of this issue and adjusting the bylaws of committees where it may be an issue. This task is still in progress.

**Amendment to the membership of the Senate Disability Policy Committee**

The terms for the student member were adjusted so that priority will be given to a student who self-identifies as having a disability.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rob Raeside, Chair

**Senate Curriculum Committee (Policy)  
Annual Report to Senate – May 2019**

Committee Members:

Mark Bishop Registrar or Delegate (Non-voting) ex-officio  
Paul Callaghan Chair of Curriculum Committee (Administrative) ex-officio  
Heather Dahringer Arts  
Daphne Flanagan University Librarian or Delegate ex-officio (Ann Smith up to 21 November)  
Christopher Killacky Theology  
Rob Raeside Pure and Applied Science  
Amar Randhawa Student  
Roxanne Seaman Professional Studies, chair

The committee met on:

26 September 2018  
21 November 2018  
14 January 2019  
11 February 2019

**Principal items of business in 2018-19:**

**Degree options and variants**

The committee has undertaken a review of the definitions and nomenclature of variants of degrees and designations within degrees that are offered by Acadia. A compilation of over 280 degree variations that Acadia has awarded over the past five years was reviewed and using that as a base the committee is now assessing how these degree variations fit in the MPHEC Degree Quality Framework. It was noted that This work is still on-going.

**Credit hours and student workload**

The Faculty Development Committee referred this issue to the Curriculum Committee (Policy) which has sought input from deans, directors and department heads. Questions that are being considered include examining the feasibility of assigning credit hours to labs, tutorials and practicals, and considering variable credit hours for courses. Changes to credit assignment would require a complete reworking of all degree programs, which has not been feasible to date, but will become possible with the new student records system that will be implemented in the near future. This work is still in its infancy.

**Strategic Plan Task Force**

The committee met with the Strategic Plan Task Force in the gathering data stage of the task force's work.

Respectfully submitted,  
Roxanne Seaman, Chair

**Senate Nominating Committee Annual Report 2018/19**

April 2019

The Senate Nominating Committee met once during the 2018/19 academic year on October 25, 2018 to discuss the replacement of the Chair and issues around nominating committees and participation on committees. Concerns were expressed regarding the difficulty in filling committees and procedures around the elections officer and nominating committees in the different faculties at the university. The committee briefly discussed the task of recruitment of Senate Chair, Deputy Chair, and Elections Officer in the Spring.

Jennifer agreed to continue as Chair of the Nominating Committee for the 2018/19 year.

Since that meeting, the Chair put out a call for Nominations for the Chair and the Deputy Chair. Anna Kiefte was acclaimed to the position of Chair of Senate for 2019/20 and Barb Anderson was also acclaimed as Deputy Chair of Senate for 2019/20.

I am completing my term as Senator and will be stepping down as Chair of the Senate Nominating Committee at the end of June 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Richard, Chair  
Senate Nominating Committee



**Report to Senate: May 2019**

**Academic Integrity Committee**

Membership of Committee: Paul Abela (Chair), Paul Arnold, Mark Bishop (Registrar), Jonathon Fowles, Makenzie Branch (student rep), Ann Smith (ending September 2018), Daphne Flanagan (beginning October 2018).

The committee was tasked with completing a long-standing review of the University's policies pertaining to academic integrity. The committee Chair offered a detailed 'principles and policy' presentation, with an extended Q/A for the June 2018 meeting of Senate. This material was the culmination of two years' work by the committee members. The committee met during the early portion of the Fall term to craft proposed final academic integrity language for the Academic Calendar. This language was presented as a motion, and endorsed, at the November Senate meeting.

The committee has remained dormant since discharging this task.

Submitted respectfully,

Paul Abela

Chair  
Academic Integrity Committee

## ACADIA UNIVERSITY

Report of the SCHOLARSHIPS, PRIZES AND AWARDS COMMITTEE (SPAC) to SENATE

REPORT DATE: April 23, 2019

SPAC COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Membership	July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019	July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020
Arts	Can Mutlu (Committee Chair as of October 2018)	Can Mutlu (interim chair August 2019 until fall meeting)
	Andrew Biro (replacing Gillian Poulter)	tba
	Kathleen "Katie" Winters (Student Rep)	Paige Stewardson (Student Rep)
Professional Studies	Scott Landry (to December 2018) (interim chair to October 2018)	Scott Landry
	Darren Kruisselbrink (replacing Scott January – June 2019)	
	Harish Kapoor	tba
	Amar Randhawa (Student Rep)	tba (Student Rep)
Pure & Applied Science	Cindy Trudel (interim chair for June 2019)	Cindy Trudel (interim chair for July 2019)
	Andrew Mitchell	Andrew Mitchell
	Mackenzie Jarvin (Student Rep)	Nicole Kirkpatrick (Student Rep)
Registrar or Delegate	Kim Rhymes, Administrator, Scholarships and Financial Assistance	Kim Rhymes, Administrator, Scholarships and Financial Assistance
Financial Aid Counselor	Pamela D'Entremont (Committee Secretary)	Pamela D'Entremont (Committee Secretary)

PURPOSE AND DUTIES OF COMMITTEE

1. To decide policy and process by which recipients of scholarships, prizes, bursaries, scholar-bursaries, awards, and convocation medals are to be selected and to gather all information it considers necessary for the selection;
2. To select the recipients of undergraduate entrance scholarships, prizes and awards and some in-course scholarships, prizes, and awards;
3. To periodically review the scholarships, prizes and awards program and to recommend improvements (increased funds, new scholarships, more prizes, etc.) to those involved in the program;
4. To promote interest in the scholarship program;
5. To consider such other matters as the Senate may from time to time entrust to the Committee.

MEETINGS DATES

Committee meetings were held during 2018-2019 on the following dates:

October 24, 2018

March 9, 2019

April 9, 2019

An entrance scholarship process information session was held on February 7, 2019.

The Awards & Appeals Sub Committee held several meetings to decide upon various awards and matters. The Bursary & Loan Sub Committee of SPAC met weekly as needed throughout the academic year. Acadia's Student Assistance Program (ASAP) assisted 123 students in the 2018-2019 academic year with a budget of \$250,000.

### AGENDAS, DISCUSSIONS and CONCLUSIONS

The following represents the main agenda topics:

#### 1. Awarding of 2019 Entrance Scholarships

Through the entrance scholarship process, 1700 prospective students were offered entrance scholarships or scholar-bursaries for the 2019-20 academic year as of the date of this report. This included renewable entrance merit-based scholarships to all incoming students (in their first undergraduate degree) with a scholarship average of 80% or above.

To be competitive with other universities, our top entrance scholarships were valued as follows:

Three Chancellor's Scholarships each valued at \$10,000 renewable

Three Board of Governor's Scholarships each valued at \$8,000 renewable

Three President's Scholarships each valued at \$7,000 renewable

Six International Baccalaureate Scholarships each valued at \$6,000 renewable

The academic requirements for the 2019-2020 grade-based entrance scholarship program criteria did not change from the previous year. The scholarship program uses a combined average – a weighted average using grade 11 and grade 12 to calculate a scholarship average provided the grade 12 average is 80% or above.

As part of the entrance scholarship application process the Committee again used a standardized group score spreadsheet. The top 120 files were reviewed. Minor changes have been made to the entrance scholarship forms and evaluation grid for the 2020 entrance scholarship program.

#### 2. Review of Committee Mandate

The Committee duties were reviewed. No changes were made.

#### 3. Bursary Program Process:

The program process will be reviewed over the summer/fall.

#### 4. Scholarship Renewability Appeal Process:

The appeal process will be reviewed over the summer/fall.

#### 5. Renewability Criteria:

The renewability criteria for renewable entrance scholarships will be reviewed over the summer/fall.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela D'Entremont  
Secretary

Can Mutlu  
Chair

## Senate Honours Committee Report May 2019

### Committee Members for 2018/2019:

Dean of Research & Graduate Studies: Anna Redden ex-officio

Registrar: Mark Bishop ex-officio

Arts: Anne Quema

Arts: Cynthia Alexander

Prof. Studies: Said Mekary

Prof. Studies: Jun Yang

### **P&A Science: Joseph Hayes (Chair)**

P&A Science: Peter Williams

Honours Student (Arts): Katie Winters

Honours Student (Prof. Studies): Jenna Robertson

Honours Student (P&A Science): Samantha McPherson

The Senate Honours Committee for 2018/2019 held two regular meetings (26 October 2018 and 13 March 2019) plus a special meeting on 26 February 2019 to adjudicate the Honours Summer Research Award (HSRA) applications. Results are provided at the end of this report.

The committee discussed several items of interest pertaining to the regulations and procedures for honours theses at Acadia, including:

- Examination of Existing Honours Processes: The committee has discussed at length how to improve existing honours processes across campus. Much of this discussion has centered around the external reader process, and whether or not this adds value to honours theses beyond what is offered within the departments. An older survey (2011) found that 54% of faculty consider the external reader process to be valuable and 46% did not (n = 55), with large differences by faculty (range 25% to 78% approval). In an attempt to gain an updated, and clearer picture of opinions across campus, the honours committee is putting together a new survey that will be distributed to all faculty in the first part of May. **Please keep an eye out for the survey, and let your opinions be known by participating.** In addition, we also plan to seek information from the Heads of departments about existing honours thesis processes to more fully understand what is being done across campus.
- Honours Student Society: The undergraduate representatives of the committee expressed interest in forming an Honours Student Society through the Acadia Student's Union (ASU). Current student representatives are organizing with future student representatives to put forth an application for the upcoming year.
- Promoting Indigenous Students and Other Minorities: The committee discussed the underrepresentation of people from minority groups in the honours program (e.g., Indigenous Students). We discussed ways of increasing access to honours programs and securing funding (e.g., HSRAs) for students from underrepresented groups. One idea involved asking students to self-identify on the HSRA application form, and seeking to create a special fund for top-performing students who self-identify. We will continue to discuss this matter in the future.

### 2018-19 Honours Theses

There were 98 Honours theses submitted during the 2018-2019 academic year. Only 5 submission extensions were requested and all were granted. The theses were reviewed by 98 external on-campus reviewers (faculty not involved in the student's research). The committee thanks all external reviewers for providing constructive feedback within the review period.

Breakdown: Theses in FPAS departments: 58  
Theses in FA departments: 24  
Theses in FPS departments: 16

**2019 Honours Summer Research Awards:**

Applications:

There were 64 applications submitted for the HSRAs. Of these, 14 were selected for an NSERC Undergraduate Student Research award and were withdrawn from the HSRA competition leaving 50 to be considered for an HSRA. Of these there were:

- 7 from the Faculty of Arts (14%)
- 14 from the Faculty of Professional Studies (28%)
- 29 from the Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences (58%)

Funding:

A total of \$102,800.00 was awarded for Honours Summer Research Awards.

- \$64,000 was provided by Acadia via the VP Academic and \$1,000 was provided by RGS.
- The Webster Foundation funded 5 full awards for a total of \$27,000.00 (FA=2, FPS=2, FPAS=1)
- The Dean of the Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences funded two full awards for \$10,800.00
- Individual Faculty members provided \$9,780 to support specific students. \$5,900 came from FPAS, \$2,500 was from FPS and \$1,380 from the Faculty of Arts.

Results:

17 HSRAs and 5 Websters were awarded

- 4 went to Faculty of Arts 18% (57% of applicants from FA)
- 6 Faculty of Professional Studies 27% (43% of applicants from FPS)
- 12 Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences 55% (41% of applicants from FPAS)

Submitted by  
Joseph Hayes, Chair

## SENATE ARCHIVES COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT, 2018-19

May 8, 2019

### COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP:

Committee Chair and Arts representative: Paul Doerr  
Archivist: Pat Townsend (ex-officio)  
Archivist: Wendy Robicheau (ex-officio)  
Librarian: Daphne Flanagan (ex-officio)  
Arts representative: Stephen Henderson  
Arts representative: Michael Dennis  
Professional Studies representative: Brenda Trofanenko  
Science representative: Catherine Morley  
Theology representative: Melody Maxwell  
Alumni appointee: Eleanor Palmer  
Presidential appointee: Britanie Wentzell  
Canadian Baptists of Atlantic Canada representative: Shirley Soleil-Day  
Student representative: Carly Morrison

**COMMITTEE MANDATE:** As representatives of their various constituencies, members of the Senate Archives Committee will work collaboratively;

- (1) To advise and guide on long-term and short-term directions that are consistent with the mandate and strategic direction of the Archives;
- (2) To advocate for the Archives within the University, the Convention of the Atlantic Baptist Churches and the local community;
- (3) To make an annual report;
- (4) To address other Archives-related issues that shall arise from time to time.

**ACTIVITIES THIS YEAR:** The committee met this year on October 12, 2018 and May 3, 2019. (A meeting for January had to be cancelled). We received and reviewed activity reports from the University Archivists. The University Archives are heavily used by the public and form an important link between Acadia University and the community at large. For example, in the Winter term alone the Archives staff dealt with more than 1,500 questions while the reading room received 845 visitors. The 'Bento Box' search function for archival materials was used 520 times in the fall term and 862 times in the winter. Five different university courses made use of the Archives as part of their course work. The Archives received 22 collections this year, mainly from sources in the Valley, the Acadia community and the Baptist community. Archivist Wendy Robicheau's 'Adopt-a-Soldier' project has now involved more than 215 individuals from Acadia and the community at large. The program has received publicity from *University Affairs* and CBC's Information Morning and Nova Scotia Evening News. The Archives also received a Provincial Archival Development Program (PADP) Grant which enabled the hiring of an alumni for the position of Collections Assistant. The crucial role that the Archives play in linking Acadia to the community is therefore abundantly clear.