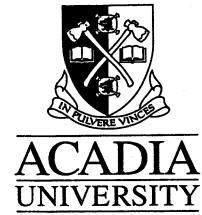


Office of the Senate Secretariat

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Minutes of the Senate Meeting of Monday September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

A hybrid meeting of the Senate of Acadia University occurred on Monday September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022 beginning at 4:00 p.m., with Chair A. Kiefte presiding and 43 Senators present. The meeting took place in the Langley Classroom, Divinity College, with some members attending using Zoom.

**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 J. Fowles.**

MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA CARRIED.

**2) Minutes of the Meeting of Senate - Wednesday June 8th, 2022**

**Motion to approve the Minutes of Wednesday June 8th, 2022. Moved by D. Benoit and seconded by S. McAlear.**

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES CARRIED.

**3) Announcements:**

**a) Link for updated list of membership of all standing and ad-hoc committees of Senate:**

The Chair referred Senators to the link to the updated list of membership of all standing and ad-hoc committees of Senate:  
[http://senate.acadiau.ca/Senate\\_Comm\\_Membership.html](http://senate.acadiau.ca/Senate_Comm_Membership.html)

**b) Senate Orientation Meeting information:**

The Chair announced that the Senate Orientation meeting would be held on Monday September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. The meeting was scheduled to take place in the Langley Classroom, Divinity College.

**c) Other Announcements:**

The Chair received regrets from H. Teismann and S. Thomas. R. Karsten was attending as a guest from Math & Statistics. President Ricketts and J. Dyment would be leaving early.

The Chair intended to follow up with Senate sub-committees that had not reported back during the previous year and will be requesting reports.

The Chair noted that several years ago the By-laws committee had studied all Senate sub-committees to assess the necessity of some. Some of the ad-hoc committees seemed to no longer be meeting regularly so may not be needed

anymore. If committee work was being carried out elsewhere it may be better to make that committee redundant.

**i) From the President:**

Senators all introduced themselves.

President Ricketts welcomed everyone and especially the new Senators. He noted that the passing of Queen Elizabeth II and the accession of Charles III was a historic moment.

President Ricketts referred to the University address he had given during August and was happy to take questions. He thanked those involved in the orientation and welcoming of the new students the previous weekend. He was also very pleased with the town of Wolfville street party on Saturday.

President Ricketts welcomed C. Bonner as the first Vice-Provost for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion and thanked her for stepping into this role. He suggested that Senate consider adding this position to the membership.

President Ricketts reminded Senators that on October 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Dr. Hans-Otto Pörtner would be receiving an Honorary degree from Acadia. Dr. Pörtner is a Physiologist and Marine Biologist in Germany and co-chair of the intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Working Group II.

Dr. Pörtner will be presenting the inaugural Fred Gilbert Lecture and President Ricketts thanked the Acadia Alumni Association for sponsoring the initiation of this event.

President Ricketts stated that on Wednesday Acadia would receive the installation of a bio panel of Dr. Rudi Ffrench, the first black professor and Head of a department at Acadia University. The bio panel was being presented by the Jamaican Cultural Association of Nova Scotia.

President Ricketts pointed out that during the summer there had been an increase in the number of communications that were circulated via radio and newspaper. Good news stories were being profiled.

President Ricketts asked Senators to consider potential Honorary doctorate candidates and forward their names to the Awards committee.

J. Dymant asked how best to get good news stories to the Administration and it was suggested that she contact S. Turner.

E. Patterson referred to slide #27 of the State of the University address and questioned the numbers of faculty and staff that had been indicated. She felt that there were inconsistencies that should be corrected, as the faculty numbers included administrators which was misleading. There were also a number of Librarian positions shown that were questionable because they were currently on leave.

J. Brady suggested asking C. Bonner what she would need from Senate in order to carry out her work on equity, diversity, and inclusion.

J. Brady referred to the Honorary degree recipients and the lack of gender parity in the past. She asked whether the President would commit to gender parity and also evaluate nominees in a more diverse manner.

President Ricketts agreed to speak with C. Bonner about Senate.

President Ricketts noted that despite striving to have gender parity and diversity with Honorary Doctorate awards, the small pool of nominations had made this very challenging in past years. For this reason he was encouraging Senators and faculty to submit nominations.

J. Brady agreed but felt that the criteria needed to be altered.

P. Doerr asked whether the Acadia University and Irving Shipbuilding partnership and the International Association of Maritime Security Professionals was moving forward to create a Certificate in Maritime Security.

President Ricketts responded that this would be launched by the end of October 2022.

A. Quema offered to call upon her IDST colleagues for assistance with creating a list of possible candidates for an Honorary degree.

A. Quema asked whether Vice-Provosts should be automatically a member of Senate.

The Chair responded that the normal route was to refer these Senate additions and changes to the Senate By-laws committee and that this would take place as it had in the past.

D. Looker asked about the Certificate and President Ricketts stated that this would be offered through Open Acadia. This was a professional certificate and would be non-credit. It did not need to pass through MPHEC.

**ii) From the Provost and  
VPA**

D. Keefe welcomed new Senators to the meeting. He also welcomed L. Robinson to a new interim role of Vice-Provost for Teaching & Learning Excellence, and D. Duke to the Dean of Arts interim role. He also mentioned that J. Weatherhead was the new Director of Open Acadia and that S. Dempsey was the new Director of Cooperative Education and Career Services.

D. Keefe discussed the high quality of the unit academic plans that had come forward to the Academic Planning Committee this year. He acknowledged that a considerable amount of work had gone into these and that they would now inform the work of the APC. Ranking of position requests had been provided for today's meeting and the unit reports would be used to influence the pre-budget report that would come to Senate in December.

D. Keefe stated that there would be further consultation in the Fall having done two cycles of the process.

D. Keefe congratulated the faculty who had worked on the proposal for the Law and Society degree program, in particular E. Crandall. This proposal went to MPHEC and the content was not questioned by any other institutions.

D. Keefe provided the enrolment numbers for 2022-2023. Full-time enrolment was 3566 with domestic enrolment comprising 3152. International enrolment numbers were a little down from the projections.

D. Keefe stated that academic levels 1 and 2 remained very strong but that levels 3 and 4 were still lagging. He intended to work with D. Currie to gain more understanding of the reasons for this.

D. Keefe explained that the undergraduate numbers included the B.Ed. students. A final report in October would include the graduate students.

D. Looker referred to micro-credentials and concerns about the inability of post-secondary graduates to analyse data and understand data interpretation. She asked for the Board of Open Acadia to meet this year and move forward on this area of concern.

D. Keefe responded that the Board of Open Acadia would be meeting soon and he noted that J. Weatherhead was currently working on this item. He noted that a new position had been approved and advertising would end shortly. This was for a Program Development Quality Assurance Planning Coordinator and the individual would support faculty that had the expertise.

D. Seamone was concerned that the mask mandate would only be reconsidered after Thanksgiving.

D. Keefe pointed out that if there was a need to continue the mask mandate that would be determined after Thanksgiving.

D. Keefe also stated that AUFA and the Administration were working together to create a formal process for non-medical accommodations. This would be published shortly.

J. Fowles asked about intra-murals because Acadia did not offer these and he felt that this would help with student engagement.

S. Duguay agreed that the students were asking for this and he noted that this had always been a challenge at Acadia. He expected that it would be possible to build a program for the students.

K. Pinder asked about Open Acadia courses and micro-credentials. Would the micro-credentials come through to Senate, and if not, why not?

D. Keefe stated that this was a developing area and that the Province had a working group designing a Provincial framework, of which S. Currie was a part. Because this was non-credit programming it would not typically come through Senate but could be reported to Senate on occasion. This programming often tended to be of a short term nature.

S. Currie commented that at the Provincial level the group was an interesting one including representation from industry reps, MPHEC, post-secondary reps and NSCC reps. A flexible framework including quality assurance and assessment was being formed. Industry or post-secondary might offer micro-credentials, and discussions were taking place to consider some micro-credentials that would be for credit and some non-credit.

S. Currie stated that the draft was 80% completed and should be ready by April 2023.

K. Pinder requested that Senate examine the framework and provide input for the framework.

S. Currie explained that the framework was just for how micro credentials would be adopted so that there was consistency and continuity across the Province. It would not get into how quality assurance should happen.

D. Looker expected that there would need to be some sort of certificate that would exist to attest that Acadia had accepted a particular set of courses that would testify to a particular skill. She encouraged Senate and Open Acadia to give attention to this.

M. Fayer (ASU Senator) joined the meeting.

A. Quema saw this process as complementary to programs at Acadia and expected that the Curriculum committee could be involved in the process.

A. Quema provided corrections to names listed in the VPA written announcements. Katie Mazer and Julianna Will's names will be corrected in the report.

The Chair asked whether the Maple League special topics courses could be reported to Senate and faculty, and perhaps Senate could also be informed about which courses Acadia students were taking through other Maple League institutions.

A. Quema also expressed interest in having this information about Maple League courses.

D. Keefe will discuss with the Registrar's Office.

S. McAlear stated that the ASU Presidents would be taking part in a Maple league panel discussion to examine their roles at each university and issues that they typically dealt with.

D. Benoit asked whether numbers of Covid cases on campus would be published this year.

D. Keefe responded that there were no requirements to report cases at this time and that students would self-monitor. The University was asking individuals to isolate if they were not feeling well and to let the University know if they had Covid. He understood that the residences had something in place for the delivery of meals to students that were isolating.

S. Duguay agreed that some support was still in place for students, but that students with Covid could also go to Wheelock Hall and get their own meals.

D. Benoit described a different scenario that he had become aware of that day which resulted in a student with Covid spending a lot of time in Wheelock Hall and noted that some students were reluctant to go to collect their meals and were going without food. He was concerned that the approach at this time would contribute to spreading Covid amongst the students.

D. Keefe asked that these issues be brought up as soon as they were heard about and not held until a Senate meeting.

**iii) From the Associate VP  
Research and Dean  
of Graduate Studies**

A. Redden noted that Acadia now had a relationship with Memorial University for Acadia faculty supervision of research students at the Master's and Doctoral level. L. Carlsson would be the first Acadia faculty member to benefit from this program. Course work would be taken at MUN followed by research work undertaken at Acadia University. A. Redden stated that this was a very good funding model with MUN providing about 33% of the support for the student. A. Redden offered to post the information once the agreement had been signed.

**iv) From the President of the  
ASU**

S. McAlear introduced M. Fayer, the Senator for Professional Studies. The executive was all new and were working out their roles. This was the first year that education at Acadia would be in-person for two of the executive members.

S. McAlear reported that the orientation week had been successful. There was a need to advocate for the graduate students because they were paying members of the ASU.

S. McAlear would be attending a meeting with the Province to discuss the MOU between the Province and the Universities, to which the Student Union representatives had been invited.

S. McAlear reported that there was no VPA and External position at this point but that the position should be filled in October. There was also no graduate student on the Student Representative Council at this point.

S. McAlear also hoped to have a Divinity student on the SRC.

A. Quema asked whether students were experiencing economic pressure at this time and whether this could be affecting retention.

S. McAlear agreed that a number of factors were making life difficult for students and that some were taking two or three part time jobs in addition to their study. Housing was problematic and at some institutions students were being told not to come because of the lack of housing. S. McAlear noted that if enrolment was increased with residences full and the lack of additional housing in Wolfville, there would be problems for Acadia students. Without more transportation options, students could not reasonably live outside of Wolfville.

A. Redden was pleased to hear that the ASU was intending to address their relationship with the Acadia Graduate students. She offered to help in any way.

**v) From the College of  
Divinity and Faculty  
of Theology**

A. Robbins reported that construction was underway again as the lower level of the College of Divinity was being renovated to provide space for the Lilly Grant research project: The Future of Theological Education.

A. Robbins stated that two new faculty members would be appointed in the coming year. Two new Chairs had been created, one being the William and Virginia Leech Chair in Pastoral Psychology (3.3 million dollars). The William and Pearleen Oliver Chair in Community Leadership and Social Justice had just been launched also. This would ensure that at least one African Nova Scotian professor would be on the Faculty at all times.

#### 4) Old Business

##### a) Senate Committee Annual Reports

##### i) Admissions and Academic Standing (Appeals) Committee Report, Part 2 (2020-2021)

The Chair reminded Senators that Part 1 of this report had been provided in June but that the majority of the work occurred during the summer. The follow up report detailed the process and the statistics of students that appealed their probation and completed the Declaration of Intent to Return questionnaire.

The Chair thanked the committee members who worked on these processes.

The Chair was asked for clarification about the Declaration of Intent to Return. She noted that all of the students who had submitted the Declaration of Intent to Return had completed it fully, so the number of submissions was equal to the number of students whose academic standing was changed from dismissal to probation.

#### 5) New Business

##### a) Academic Planning Committee report and prioritization of permanent position requests from the faculties

D. Keefe stated that the committee had met in August and reviewed the faculty unit plans. They then ranked the tenure track position requests. During the next few weeks the Deans and Provost would determine which positions would be authorized.

A. Quema noted that the previous year there were 10 tenure track positions that were authorized. How would the positions be authorized this year.

D. Keefe pointed out that if he were to deviate from the order that the Academic Planning committee had determined he would be required to return to Senate with a rationale. His expectation was that in October he would determine how far down the list it would be possible to go at this time. As the year progressed, additional positions could be authorized.

A. Quema asked whether the cluster process to hire indigenous scholars would be approached separately from the APC listing that had been offered. Some of the positions in the APC list were a part of this initiative.

D. Keefe stated that the cluster hire of three Indigenous scholars and three African Nova Scotian/Canadian scholars would be hired under the new Collective Agreement and would be quite separate from the APC list. Those positions would be advertised as pan-institutional and would be a different process. He stated that a selection committee across the three Faculties would consider academic needs but he stressed that this was not the only criteria to be considered. This would be above and beyond the APC process.

D. Seamone asked when this would take place and D. Keefe stated that once the 16<sup>th</sup> Collective Agreement was agreed to and final wording finalized, the hiring process could commence, perhaps as early as October 2022.

D. Kruisselbrink asked about the fact that the salary envelope for tenure track faculty and instructor hires was different but that the list from the APC showed an integrated list. He asked whether these two salary envelopes would impact the APC list.

D. Keefe pointed out that these positions were integrated by the academic units in order to be able to help identify the priorities in each academic unit.

**b) Transition Reports from Senate Sub-Committees**

**i) Academic Planning Committee Transition Report**

D. Keefe reported that the priority was the post-budget report and that this would be provided in October (normally presented in June). The post-budget report would be compared to the pre-budget report that had been brought forward in December 2021, to determine how the six areas of recommendation had been incorporated into the budget. Work would now commence on the pre-budget report for the coming year.

D. Keefe explained that the APC would be seeking consultation with the academic units now that the APC had been through the cycle two years in a row. This consultation will commence at the start of October 2022.

**6) Other Business**

D. Looker asked about the committee that was to be formed to make recommendations on some form of replacement for acadia-fyi. She asked whether that was moving ahead and noted that those who had expressed an interest in serving on this committee had not been contacted.

D. Keefe was not able to provide an update but offered to follow up with the VP Finance and Administration and President Ricketts.

**7) Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn at 6.00 p.m. Moved by J. Fowles.

**ORIGINAL SIGNED**

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R. Hare, Recording Secretary



**Admissions and Academic Standing (Appeals) Committee  
Report to Acadia University Senate, Part 2 (2021-2022)  
September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

For the 2021-2022 academic year, a revised process was again recommended to Senate and subsequently passed by Senate at its May 2022 meeting. Students on probation could still appeal their probation academic standing in the established way, but students on dismissal could instead complete a Declaration of Intent to Return to Studies process for this year rather than complete a full appeal process. Other work was also carried out electronically when necessary. The entire committee reviewed and decided upon the appeals of probation standing, whereas a subcommittee reviewed the Declarations of Intent to Return to Studies questionnaires for completeness.

There were two deadlines for appeals of probation academic standing and for submission of Declaration of Intent to Return to Studies for this year:

June 10, 2022- for students who received notification of dismissal or probation by May 13

July 22, 2022- for students who received notification of dismissal or probation after May 13 (due to grade changes, etc)

**94 students were notified of Dismissal academic standing and were eligible to submit a Declaration of Intent to Return to Studies**

- 43 students submitted Declaration of Intent to Return to Studies questionnaires (academic standing changed from Dismissal to Probation)

**60 students were notified of Probation academic standing and were eligible to submit an Appeal**

- 8 students appealed
- 3 appeals granted (academic standing changed from Probation to Good Standing)

The committee for 2020-2021 was:

Chair (Chair of Senate): Anna Kiefte — ex-officio

Registrar or Delegate (non voting): Mark Bishop — ex-officio

Executive Director of Student Services or Delegate (non voting): James Sanford — ex-officio

1 Arts faculty member: Jessica Slights

1 Arts faculty member: James Sedgwick (until June 2022), Christian Thomas (as of July 2022)

1 Prof. St. faculty member: Ashley Doyle

1 Prof. St. faculty member: Jeff Torbert (until June 2022), vacant from July-December

1 P&A Sc. faculty member: John Murimboh

1 P&A Sc. faculty member: Cindy Trudel (until June 2022), Emma Connon (as of July 2022)

1 Theology faculty member: A. Robbins

1 Student: Megan Cyr (until May 2022), Danish Mohammed (as of June 2022)

Others invited to attend June meeting, non-voting: Shawna Singleton (Associate Registrar) and Adam Detienne (Student Advisor, Student Services)

Respectfully submitted,  
Anna Kiefte, Chair

**Academic Planning Committee  
Meeting of the Senate  
September 12, 2022**

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**Academic Planning Committee (APC) Membership:**

Provost and Vice-President Academic: C. Dale Keefe

Dean, Faculty of Arts: David Duke

Dean, Faculty of Professional Studies: Corinne Haigh

Dean, Faculty of Pure & Applied Science: Suzie Currie

Dean: Libraries and Archives: Heather Saunders

Faculty, Faculty of Arts: Paul Abela

Faculty, Faculty of Professional Studies: Janna Wentzell

Faculty, Faculty of Pure & Applied Science: Eva Curry

Faculty, IDST Program: Kate Ashley

Student: Danish Mohammed

The APC met on August 26, 2022. Prior to the meeting, the committee members were asked to review the reports and plans from the Faculties and the Library and Archives. The Academic Unit plans were provided to the committee as supplemental material. The academic units requested 38 faculty positions (30 tenure-stream, 6 instructors, 2 librarian/archivist). Consistent with practice over the last few years, committee members submitted their individual rankings of all 38 positions (Fig. 1) to the Chair who averaged the individual rankings to create a committee ranking.

The committee then discussed the overall rankings at the August 26 meeting. The committee discussed how these ranking integrate with the cluster hire under the new faculty collective agreement, what role if any the APC will have in those positions, and whether the APC must or should follow the rankings at the individual Faculty level. The committee also discussed whether it should recommend a certain number of positions be filled. Ultimately, the committee decided to leave this to the Provost after consulting with the Faculty Deans.

Respectfully submitted,

C. Dale Keefe, Chair

Fig. 1

Faculty	Unit	Position Type	Position Area	Faculty Rank	Committee Rank
PAS	Biology	Tenure-Track	Environmental stewardship	1	1
PS	Education	Tenure-Track	Indigenous Education	1	2
PAS	Psychology	Tenure-Track	Child-Clinical	2	3
ARTS	Languages & Literature	Tenure-Track	French Studies	1	4
ARTS	Economics	Tenure-Track	International Economics	2	5
PS	Education	Tenure-Track	Teacher Education (Elementary Language Arts/Literacy)	2	6
PAS	Biology	Tenure-Track	Marine Invertebrate	3	7
ARTS	Sociology	Tenure-Track	Gender and/or Sexuality	3	8
PS	Kinesiology	Instructor	Biophysical/motor development & motor learning	3	9
PAS	Psychology	Tenure-Track	Developmental	4	10
PAS	E&ES	Tenure-Track	Geology	5	11
PAS	Biology	Instructor	Biodiversity	6	12
PS	Kinesiology	Tenure-Track	Teaching, Leadership & Coaching	4	13
ARTS	ESST	Instructor		5	14
ARTS	Languages & Literature	Tenure-Track	Hispanic Studies	4	14
Library	Research Services	Librarian - Continuing	Digital Initiatives Librarian	1	16
PS	Business	Tenure-Track	Management	5	17
ARTS	English & Theatre	Tenure-Track	Indigenous Literatures, Cultures, and Creative Writing	6	18
PAS	Engineering	Tenure-Track	Electrical	7	19
PAS	N&D	Tenure-Track	Clinical	8	20
PS	Education	Tenure-Track	Teacher Education (School Based Pedagogies, Practices, and Assessment)	6	21
PS	Kinesiology	Instructor	Biophysical	7	22
PAS	Biology	Tenure-Track	Conservation and Field Ecology	9	22
ARTS	English & Theatre	Tenure-Track	English: Nineteenth Century/Victorian Literature and Culture	7	24
Library	Research Services	Archivist - Continuing	Digital Archivist	2	25

Faculty	Unit	Position Type	Position Area	Faculty Rank	Committee Rank
PAS	Biology	Tenure-Track	Human Physiology	10	26
ARTS	Sociology	Tenure-Track	Sociology/Anthropology of Food and the Environment	8	27
PAS	N&D	Instructor	Food Labs	11	28
ARTS	ESST/CODE	Tenure-Track	Sustainable Food Systems	9	29
PS	Education	Tenure-Track	Counsellor Educator	8	30
PS	Music	Tenure-Track	Music Therapy	9	31
PAS	Psychology	Instructor	Statistics	13	31
PAS	Math/CS	Tenure-Track	Data Analytics	12	33
PAS	Math & Stats	Tenure-Track	Actuarial	14	34
ARTS	Languages & Literature	Tenure-Track	German Studies	10	35
ARTS	Sociology	Tenure-Track	Criminology and specialization in the area of Abolition and Social Justice	11	36
PAS	N&D	Tenure-Track	Health Equity	15	37
ARTS	Politics	Tenure-Track	Indigenous Politics	12	38

**Academic Planning Committee  
Transition Report 2022  
Meeting of the Senate  
September 12, 2022**

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**Membership:**

Provost and Vice-President Academic: C. Dale Keefe

Dean, Faculty of Arts: David Duke

Dean, Faculty of Professional Studies: Corinne Haigh

Dean, Faculty of Pure & Applied Science: Suzie Currie

Dean: Libraries and Archives: Heather Saunders

Faculty, Faculty of Arts: Paul Abela

Faculty, Faculty of Professional Studies: Janna Wentzell

Faculty, Faculty of Pure & Applied Science: Eva Curry

Faculty, IDST Program: Kate Ashley

Student: Danish Mohammed

The Academic Planning Committee (APC) met on August 26, 2021 to review the tasks assigned to it by the Senate of Acadia University.

**Chair:** C. Dale Keefe, Provost and Vice-President Academic

**Meeting dates for the upcoming year:** Meetings will be scheduled as required. The August 26 meeting included a review and ranking of faculty position requests.

**Meeting modalities for the upcoming year:** Hybrid meetings held via MS Teams and in-person.

**The APC's mandate is as follows:**

1. The APC shall make recommendations to Senate on matters relating to academic principles and planning
2. In carrying out its work, the APC shall consult widely with all stakeholders and relevant bodies on campus. The APC shall report regularly to Senate, no less than two times per year.

**APC goals for the coming year:**

1. Prepare and present to Senate a post-budget report for 2022/23
2. Review academic faculty unit plans 2021-2022
3. Review and rank faculty position prioritization 2021-2022
4. Review Committee membership
5. Consult on and review the planning process and documents, revise as necessary
6. Prepare and submit to Senate a pre-budget report for budget 2023/24
7. Prepare and submit to Senate a post-budget report for budget 2023/24

Respectfully submitted,

C. Dale Keefe, Chair