

Minutes of a Special Meeting of the Senate Executive Committee held on the above date at 1:30 p.m., via Zoom

Those present:

Dr. M. Benarroch, Chair
Prof. J. Anderson
Prof. P. Blunden
Dr. C. Cook
Mr. Wm. Dowie
Prof. M. Faubert
Dr. D. Hiebert-Murphy
Dean E. Jurkowski
Prof. D. Oliver
Dean J. Taylor
Mr. J. Leclerc, University Secretary
Dr. S. Coyston,
Associate University Secretary

Assessors present:

Ms. E. Kalo
Dr. T. Mondor
Ms. S. Sekander
Prof. E. Thomson
Prof. D. Watt

Regrets:

Prof. R. Biscontri

Absent:

Ms. A. Kilgour
Ms. G. Romund
Prof. R. Souleymanov

Also Present:

Mr. J. Adams, University Registrar and Executive Director, Enrolment Services
Dr. M. Torchia, Vice-Provost (Teaching and Learning)

I CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 20, 2021

Professor Faubert MOVED, seconded by Professor Oliver, THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Senate Executive Committee held on October 20, 2021, be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

II BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES - none

III RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH TEAM OF THE CONTINUITY STEERING COMMITTEE

1. Revised Academic Schedule and Student Accommodation due to UMFA Labour Action

Page 2

Dr. Torchia briefly reviewed recommendations from the Academic and Research Team of the Continuity Steering Committee concerning proposed revisions to the Academic Schedule for the 2022 Fall Term, given two possible scenarios for a return to classes, following resolution of the University of Manitoba Faculty Association (UMFA) labour action. Dr. Torchia said, in Scenario 1, where striking UMFA members would return to teaching on or before November 15, the

Academic and Research Team was recommending the following changes to the 2021 – 2022 Academic Schedule: the last instructional day for the Fall Term for strike-interrupted classes would be moved from December 10 - 16; the Voluntary Withdrawal deadline for all classes would be moved from November 23 to November 29; the examination period would continue to be December 11 – 23, for interrupted and continuing classes, but a new examination schedule would be created and made available to students on or before December 1.

Dr. Torchia said, in Scenario 2, where striking UMFA members would return to teaching between November 16 and up to and including November 23, the Academic and Research Team was recommending several modifications to the 2021 – 2022 Academic Schedule, including: for strike-interrupted classes only, that the last instructional day for the Fall Term be December 3; that an alternate examination period be created, from January 6 – 9, inclusive; that, for continuing and interrupted classes, the Voluntary Withdrawal deadline be moved to January 7 and the final grade appeal deadline be moved from January 25 to January 28.

Dr. Torchia said the Academic and Research Team was making two further recommendations. First, following the resumption of strike-interrupted classes, no assignments be due or tests held for the first 72 hours following the first class and, second, recognizing that some students would have both ongoing classes and examinations during the December examination period that academic unit heads and academic staff ensure students were not disadvantaged, with respect to any missed classes, materials, assignments, or tests, where there was a scheduling conflict between a class and an examination.

Professor Oliver MOVED, seconded by Dean Jurkowski, THAT Senate Executive approve, on behalf of Senate:

- **THAT should there be a return to teaching by striking UMFA members on or before November 15th, 2021, the Academic Schedule revisions as presented in Scenario 1 would be implemented;**
 - **THAT should there be a return to teaching of striking UMFA members between November 16th, 2021 and up to, and including, November 23rd, 2021, the Academic Schedule revisions as presented under Scenario 2 be implemented;**
- and**
- **THAT no assignments be due, or tests held, for the first 72 hours following the first class session after the return to teaching by striking UMFA members; and**
 - **THAT, recognizing that some students will have ongoing classes during the exam period in December, academic unit heads and academic staff shall ensure that students are not disadvantaged with respect to any missed classes, materials, assignments/tests when there is a scheduling conflict between a class and an exam.**

Professor Anderson asked how multi-sectioned courses would be managed, where some sections were continuing and others were interrupted by the strike.

Dr. Torchia said multi-sectioned courses were being managed by individual units. In most cases, sections that could continue were continuing, with final examinations to be scheduled between December 11 and 23, 2021. Those that could not continue would follow one of the modified Academic Schedules, as set out in Scenario 1 or Scenario 2, as appropriate. In a few cases, units had decided not to continue the sections that could have continued.

Professor Watt asked if there would be any recommendations forthcoming to provide for flexibility on submission deadlines for graduate students, in particular. He observed that such flexibility may be implied in recommendations approved by Senate at the meeting on November 3rd.

Dr. Torchia said, based on discussions with Acting Dean Main and others in the Faculty of Graduate Studies, that academic accommodations for graduate students would be addressed on a case-by-case basis, given the complexities involved. The intention, however, was that submission deadlines would be adjusted to ensure students were not penalized. Dr. Torchia agreed this could be communicated to students on the website with strike information.

Professor Watt suggested, when information about possible changes to the Academic Schedule, including to the Voluntary Withdrawal deadline, was communicated to students, that students also be reminded that requests for Authorized Withdrawals would be appropriate in some circumstances.

The motion was **CARRIED**.

IV ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Leclerc noted there was a meeting scheduled on November 17th, when there might be further recommendations from the Academic and Research Team of the Continuity Steering Committee. He would also bring forward a recommendation that the December Senate meeting be cancelled. There were no items of business to be included on that agenda and that could not be held over to the January 2022 meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:43 p.m.

These minutes pages 1 to 3, together with the agenda, pages 1 to 5, comprise the minutes of the meeting of a Special Meeting of Senate Executive Committee held on November 10, 2021.