

SENATE
Approved Minutes of the Meeting held on
Monday, January 8, 2024 at 3:00 p.m.
Via Microsoft Teams

The Senate met in regular session on Monday, January 8, 2024

Present

L. Spiteri (Chair), R. Affoo, A. Aiken, T. Akay, O. Akinkugbe, D. Anderson, J. Andrews, O. Bankole, D. Black, E. Black, J. Blustein, K. Brooks, C. Brown, R. Chang, V. Chappe, B. Davis, K. Dilcher, P. Doyle-Bedwell, L. DuBois, H. El Naggar, R. Ezekiel, M. Farrimond, M. Fournier, G. Gagnon, M. Goudreault, R. Goyal, D. Grantham, S. Harding, F. Harvey, D. Jakeman, M. Keinast, A. Kermanshahi-pour, N. Kiepek, S. Kirk, Y. Kotlyarova, C. Lake, J. Li, C. Macdonald, L. Macdonald, P. Marignani, S. McKibbin, C. McLarney, R. Meagher, B. Merritt, F. Naghibi, J. Newhook, M. Pacurar, L. Phillmore, T. Rajack-Talley, A. Rau-Chaplin, T. Richard, K. Rosen, R. Sampangi, L. Sarson, S. Seth, M. Sharaput, D. Silvio, V. Simedoh, M. Smit, S. Stone, D. Tyers, M. Ulku, M. Vandenburg, G. Wang-Pruski, D. Westwood, S. Wildeman, E. Yiridoe, R. Zaiotti

Regrets

A. Bernard, D. Burnay, S. Chitnis, M. Knakriah, N. Patil, T. Perrot

Absent

G. Adolphe-Nazaire, S. Berge, S. Bishop, A. Doucette, O. Dryden, C. D'Souza, Y. El Hiani, N. Ezzeddine, S. Forbes, G. Horne, G. Ilie, W. Lahey, M. Leonard, V. Maselli, H. Niu, E. Oguntonna, R. Orji, Y. Pan, A. Rudnick, P. Wani

Guests

John Hope (General Counsel & University Secretary), Sapna Natarajan (Student Minute Taker), Judith Ng'ethe (Associate Secretary of Senate), Nakita Strowbridge (Senate Coordinator)

The Dalhousie University Senate acknowledges that we are in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People and pays respect to the Indigenous knowledges held by the Mi'kmaq People, and to the wisdom of their Elders past and present. The Mi'kmaq People signed Peace and Friendship Treaties with the Crown, and section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982 recognizes and affirms Aboriginal and Treaty rights. We are all Treaty people.

We recognize that African Nova Scotians are a distinct people whose histories, legacies and contributions have enriched that part of Mi'kma'ki known as Nova Scotia for over 400 years.

1. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was **approved** as presented.

2. Consent Agenda

2.1 Approval of Draft Minutes of December 11, 2023 Senate Meeting

THAT the draft minutes of the December 11, 2023 Senate meeting be approved as presented.

Approved by **CONSENT**.

2.2 University Tenure and Promotion Appeal Panel Membership

THAT Senate approve the following appointments to the University Tenure and Promotions Appeal Panel, for the terms indicated:

Name	Faculty	Term
Alexander Engau	Faculty of Management	July 1, 2023-June 30, 2026 (renewal)
Wiesława Dominika Wranik	Faculty of Management	January 1, 2024- June 30, 2026 (new)
Ajay Parasram	Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences	January 1, 2024- June 30, 2026 (new)
Brendan Leung	Faculty of Dentistry	January 1, 2024- June 30, 2026 (new)

Approved by **CONSENT**.

2.3 Appointment of Senate Representative to the Provost and Vice-President Academic Search Committee

THAT Senate appoint Louise Spiteri as the Senate representative on the Provost and Vice-President Academic Search Committee

Approved by **CONSENT**.

3. Matters Arising from December 11, 2023 Meeting

There were no matters arising.

4. Reports

4.1 Chair of Senate's Report

The Chair of Senate's report was submitted in writing with the Senate package and included updates on the Governance Review recommendations; the Senate think tank session scheduled for January 22, 2024 for an early consultation of Senators on the annual BAC report, based on the questions chosen by Senators in December 2023; and approval of academic and convocation dates for the 2024-25 and 2025-26 academic years and the 2024-25 Senate and Senate standing committees meeting schedules.

Senator Spiteri encouraged Senators to reach out to the University Secretariat on Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Accessibility (EDIA) initiatives being undertaken by Faculties, Departments and Schools, for presentation to Senate.

4.2 Provost's Report

Senator Harvey provided Senate with a verbal update of his report and confirmed that the written report would be archived with the Senate meeting package.

Senator Harvey advised that the call for nominations for the annual University-wide Teaching Awards was open until January 31, 2024, and urged Senators to nominate colleagues. The meeting was also informed that the organizers of the 26th annual Dalhousie Conference on University Teaching and Learning (DCUTL) were in search of proposals. These could be submitted on the Centre for Learning and Teaching (CLT) website. The theme of the conference was *Transforming the Curriculum to (Re)Imagine the Future*.

In closing, Senator Harvey acknowledged Senator Gefu-Wang Pruski and the Faculty and staff at the Dalhousie Truro campus for their efforts in addressing the recent vandalism and water damage at a key campus building. Senator Harvey also thanked Senators for their commitment, hard work and dedication throughout 2023 and their support following the announcement that he would be stepping down from the role of Provost at Dalhousie at the end of the academic year.

4.3 Questions for Reports

There were no questions for the reports.

FOR APPROVAL

5. Senate Nominating Committee (SNC) Election of Vice-Chair (Academic Programs) (Term: July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2027)

Senator Spiteri introduced the item and handed over to Senator McLarney (member of the Senate Nominating Committee (SNC) and representing SNC as the SNC Chair, Senator Seth, had an interest in the item) to present.

The meeting was informed that the current three-year term for the position of Vice-Chair (Academic Programs) would end on July 1, 2024. A call for nominations and expressions of interest, for a new three-year term from July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2027, had been circulated to the University community and closed on November 14, 2023 and two expressions of interest had been submitted. One was from the incumbent, Senator Blustein, who had confirmed their willingness to serve for a further three-year term and submitted their expression of interest, their abbreviated CV and responses to questions relating to their interest in the position, issues facing Senate and their skills, knowledge, and ability. An expression of interest indicating willingness to serve, an abbreviated CV and responses to questions relating to his interest in the position, issues facing Senate and his skills, knowledge and ability had also been submitted by Senator Sachin Seth.

The meeting was also informed that at its November 23, 2023, meeting, SNC members had reviewed the nomination packages of both nominees and had also considered the list of all those eligible to serve. The list had been considered with a view to determine whether to approach additional eligible individuals to invite them to put their names forward. However, SNC members had determined not to approach additional individuals. Senator McLarney noted that SNC had also confirmed that both Senator Blustein and Senator Seth met the criteria for the position of Vice-Chair (Academic Programs) for the term July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2027 and that their complete nomination packages may be presented to Senate for decision.

Senator Blustein and Senator Seth each briefly addressed the Senate and provided an overview of their strengths and what they could each bring to the role of Vice-Chair (Academic Programs).

Senator Spiteri called three times for any additional nominations from the floor. None was put forth.

Senator Blustein and Senator Seth left the meeting and Senators moved to a vote by secret ballot. Following the election, Senator Spiteri announced that a higher number of votes were cast in favour of Senator Seth.

Senator Blustein and Senator Seth returned to the meeting and were informed of the result of the vote.

Moved by Senator McLarney on behalf of the Senate Nominating Committee:

THAT Senate appoint Sachin Seth as the Senate Vice-Chair (Academic Programs) for the term July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2027.

The motion **CARRIED**.

Senator Seth accepted the position and thanked Senate for the opportunity accorded to him. Senator Spiteri thanked Senator Blustein and Senator Seth for putting their names forward.

FOR DISCUSSION

6. Question Period

There were no questions.

7. Other Business

There was no other business.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:40 pm.