

Minutes of the Academic Senate of the University of Prince Edward Island

Friday, December 19, 2025, 3:00 – 5:00pm

Alumni Hall and via Zoom

- Present:** W. Rodgers (Chair), K. Mears (Vice-Chair), A. Trowbridge (Secretary to Senate), A. Hsiao, A. Weenie, A. Braithwaite, B. Linkletter, C. Campeanu, C. Chike, D. Magbanua, E. Reid, G. Naterer, H. Sulman, H. Mady, I. Bhalesha, J. Sentance, L. Paredes, M. Arfken, M. von Eccher, M. Clapson, M. Sweeney-Nixon, M. McMahon, M. Turnbull, N. Clark, N. Etkin, P. Drake, P. Bernard, P. Foley, R. Hoersting, R. (Bob) Deziel, R. Dalton, S. Myers, S. Lloyd, S. Hamilton, S. Kresta, T. Mady, T. Jackson, W. Montelpare, W. Whelan, Y. Rashchupkina
- Regrets:** D. Griffon, J. T. McClure, J. Ngobia, J. McIntyre, M. Buote, P. Robichaud, P. Smith, S. Cassidy, T. Walker
- Guests:** None
- Secretariat:** R. Anwar, K. Porter, G. Tsoi

OPEN SESSION

1. **Call to Order, Welcome, Land Acknowledgement and Opening Remarks from Chair and Vice-Chair**

W. Rodgers called the meeting to order at 3:01 pm, welcomed members, and acknowledged the land.

2. **Approval of Agenda**

MOTION: MOVED by W. Montelpare and J. Sentance that the agenda of Senate of December 19, 2025, be approved.

3. **Approval of minutes of November 21, 2025.**

MOTION: MOVED by T. Jackson and K. Mears that Senate approve the minutes of November 21, 2025, as circulated.

4. **Business Arising from the minutes of November 21, 2025**

None

5. Senior Administration Reports

a) President's Report

The President delivers her report to Senate.

b) Vice-President Academic and Research Report – 3:19

The Vice President Academic presents his report to Senate.

Update on recent research successes. Dr.

c) Vice-President People and Culture Report

No report as VPPC is away.

6. Question Period

a) Questions and Answers Received from Placemats

Placemat questions were submitted at the November 21 meeting of Senate. Those questions and answers provided by management were distributed as part of the meeting materials.

The Chair asks if there are any further questions arising from the Placemat Questions and Answers. No.

b) Questions Received in Advance

No questions were received in advance of the meeting.

c) Question Received from the floor

Q1. On “UPEI by the numbers” the data on the granting of scholarships seems to indicate that UPEI doubling up the awards to students. The number of unique recipients is half of that of awards granted. Are students getting two? **A1.** Some students apply for more than one award, and there are many scholarships with multiple awards. **Q2:** Are we targeting a small number of students or is it open to many? Can we have a breakdown of awards? **A2:** We will provide feedback to the Senate Committee on Scholarships and Awards on how scholarships are broken down. The Committee should have a report at the January meeting of Senate.

7. Reports from Standing Committees

a) Senate Steering and Nominating Committee

The Chair presents the report of the *Senate Steering and Nominating Committee*. She notes that, following discussions at the last meeting of Senate, the Committee analyzed the current composition of Senate and confirmed that there are too few seats at Senate to meet the requirement under the Act that Senate be composed of at least 50% of full-time faculty.

The Committee recommends that four (4) seats be added to Senate to bring its composition in compliance with the Act. As there wasn't time to develop a formula for the allocation of additional seats, the Committee recommends that the four (4) seats be filled at large for now. The Committee intends to come back to Senate with a proposal for a formula to allocate the seats.

MOTION: MOVED by S. Kresta and W. Montelpare to make an amendment to the motion that four members are to be added to Senate which will conclude when the Working Group has implemented its recommendation, for a term not to exceed three years. MOTION DEFEATED.

MOTION: MOVED by T. Mady and SECONDED by C. Campeanu that Senate approve a modification to section 3.2 of the Processes and Procedures of Senate adding a line that reads: Four members at Large: Non designated, to be elected at large among all full-time faculty, for a term ending June 30, 2027. CARRIED.

Members noted that some faculty seats remain vacant, including some for the Faculty of Arts.

A discussion ensues regarding the length of term to be granted to those Senators to be appointed to fill the new seats, with some members suggesting that the terms should be only for one year, giving the working group time to present its recommendations without locking in the seats for a full three-year term.

MOTION: Moved by N. Etkins and SECONDED by C. Campeanu that the term of Senators appointed at large to fill the new seats be to June 30, 2027. CARRIED.

The Committee also recommends that the recommendation of allocation formula be developed via a Working Group of SSNC co-chaired by the Vice Chair of Senate and the University Secretary and two Senators.

MOTION: MOVED by K. Mears and SECONDED by M. Turnbull that two Senators, be elected to a Working Group of SSNC on the review of the Composition of Senate. CARRIED.

MOTION: MOVED by P. Drake and SECONDED By T. Jackson that the following Senators, J. Sentance, R. Avoine-Dalton, B. Linkletter, and S. Kresta, are the slate of nominees to a Working Group of SSNC on the review of the Composition of Senate and that an election will be held to select two members among them. CARRIED.

b) Academic Planning and Curriculum Committee

The VPAR presents the fourth report of the *Academic Planning and Curriculum Committee*, which bares recommendations for modifications to courses at the Faculty of Arts and the Faculty of Science.

MOTION: (For the Faculty of Arts) MOVED by G. Naterer and SECONDED by M. Clapson that change in prerequisite for POLS4020 be approved. CARRIED.

MOTION: (For the Faculty of Science) MOVED by G. Naterer and SECONDED by M. Clapson that course descriptions, changes to prerequisites, changes to course title and description be approved. CARRIED.

8. Report of Board of Governors to Senate

W. Montlepare delivered the report of the Board of Governors to Senate.

Q1. As per the consideration of a purchase of Land, which land was it? **A1.** Blaze Pizza.

Q2. What occurs when students bring concerns to the Board? **A2.** Typically, the VPAR and the AVP Students will work on solutions for the students' concerns.

Q3. What are the plans for the mansion location? **A3.** W. Montlepare indicated he is in conflict of on this matter and must recuse himself from the response. The Vice President Finance and Administration will provide an update at the next Senate meeting.

Q4. What was the reason to buy this property. What are the plans? **A4.** Purchasing this property will expand the campus to the corner.

9. Shout outs

The Chairs asks Senators if they wish to send a shout out to members of the University Community.

1. M. Sweeney-Nixon to Dr Malcolm Murray - for participating in Research on Tap on a snowy night.

2. B. Linkletter to Dr. Brian Wagner for being among the top 2% list of researchers.

3. G. Naterer to student athletes who made the University Sports all Canadian, 113 from UPEI.

4. S. Kresta to Lily O'Reilly for grant to get 50 toys to be used by disability kids, lovely participation.

5. S. Lloyd to Information Technology Services for their work on the project with the library.

6. D. Hardy-Cox – to the Student Union for their interesting partnership for the Panthers.

7. R. Deziel to Noel Paul and Christian Lacroix for the artwork at the Duffy Science Centre "Moose Head found".

8. To Corinne Chappell for her book being selected as one of the best books for teens.

9. I. Bhalesha to campus advisors for the work they do.

The Chairs offers the Senate's thanks to Raisa for her support over the last few months. Willow Anderson returns in the new year.

10. Adjournment

There being no further business; the Chair calls the meeting to an end at 4:22 pm.