

SENATE
Approved Minutes of the Meeting held on
Monday, June 12, 2023 at 3:00 p.m.
Via Microsoft Teams

The Senate met in regular session on Monday, June 12, 2023 via Microsoft Teams

Present

L. Spiteri (Chair), A. Aiken, O. Akinkugbe, D. Anderson, J. Andrews, D. Black, J. Blustein, K. Brooks, S. Chitnis, K. Dilcher, A. Donaldson, P. Doyle-Bedwell, O. Dryden, L. DuBois, H. El Naggar, A. Enns, R. Ezekiel, M. Farrimond, B. Foster, G. Gagnon, M. Goudreault, D. Grantham, J. Hall, F. Harvey, D. Jakeman, S. Jeffrey, S. Kirk, M. Knakriah, C. Lake, P. Lee Men Chin, C. Macdonald, L. Macdonald, V. Maselli, S. McKibbin, L. Meynell, F. Naghibi, J. Newhook, H. Niu, M. Pacurar, Y. Pan, L. Phillmore, T. Rajack-Talley, A. Rau-Chaplin, H. Ro, K. Rosen, R. Sampangi, S. Seth, M. Sharaput, M. Smit, M. Ulku, M. Vandenburg, S. Wildeman, R. Zaiotti

Regrets

R. Affoo, C. Cameron, R. Chang, T. Cyrus, B. Davis, K. El-Sankary, M. Keinast, C. Macy, T. Perrot, D. Tyers

Absent

G. Adolphe-Nazaire, R. Agu, C. Brown, A. Doucette, Y. El Hiani, N. Ezzeddine, D. Gray, G. Horne, G. Ilie, M. Irwin, A. Kermanshahi-pour, W. Lahey, R. Meagher, B. Merritt, N. Patil, L. Propper, A. Rudnick, D. Silvio, S. Stone, T. Walker, D. Westwood, E. Yiridoe

Guests

Quenta Adams (Co-Chair, Dalhousie African Nova Scotian Strategy), Jennifer Bain (Chair, SAPRC Research Committee), Chris Giacomantonio (Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology and Social Anthropology), John Hope (General Counsel and University Secretary), Sapna Natarajan (Student Minute Taker), Judith Ng'ethe (Associate Secretary of Senate), Adam Robertson (University Registrar and Assistant Vice-President, Enrolment Management), Nakita Strowbridge (Senate Coordinator), Michelle Williams (Co-Chair, Dalhousie African Nova Scotian Strategy)

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 May 8, 2023 Senate Meeting

THAT the draft minutes of the May 8, 2023 Senate meeting be approved as circulated.

Approved by **CONSENT**.

2.2 Senate Faculty Reappointment to Board of Governors

THAT Senate nominate Ahsan Habib as a faculty representative to the Board of Governors, from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2026, and forward the nomination to the Board of Governors for approval and appointment.

Approved by **CONSENT**.

3. Matters Arising from May 8, 2023 Senate Meeting

There were no matters arising.

4. Steps to Make Diversity and Inclusion a Reality

Senator Dryden presented on her activities as the James Robinson Johnston (JRJ) Endowed Chair, Black Canadian Studies, in the Faculty of Medicine.

Senator Dryden explained that while it was a requirement for the JRJ Chair to present an annual report to Senate, this would be her first report to Senate since her appointment, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. It would therefore cover the period from her appointment in 2019 to the present day.

Senator Dryden shared details regarding the increase in information, education and training in medical schools in relation to Black health. Senator Dryden reported that the Black Health Education Collaborative (BHEC) had been training the Medical Council of Canada, the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons, Hospital Networks in Ontario, and the National Collaboration Centre for Determinants of Health on Black health. Senator Dryden highlighted ongoing work, including addressing of anti-Black racism and collaboration with the Medical Council of Canada to create Black health learning objectives.

5. Reports

5.1 Chair of Senate's Report

Senator Spiteri's written report was submitted in writing with the Senate meeting package and included an update on the Bicameral working group and on the ongoing review on academic quality assurance at Dalhousie.

Senator Spiteri noted that information regarding the recently approved major modification to the Master of Applied Science in Biomedical Engineering had been included in the Senate meeting package. In addition, information had been provided to Senators regarding the Faculty of Management's Terms of Reference following the recent restructuring of the Faculty. Senator Spiteri reminded Senators that changes to Faculty terms of reference should be brought to the Senate Planning and Governance Committee (SPGC) for approval on behalf of Senate. Senator Spiteri also urged Senators to complete the annual Senate survey which would shortly be circulated. Senator Spiteri also reminded Senators that a virtual special Senate meeting had been scheduled for July 27, 2023 to consider the proposed Master of Physician Assistant program, if ready and approved by earlier approving bodies.

5.2 President's Report

The final Acting President's report for the academic year was submitted in writing with the Senate package and included details on preliminary enrolment figures for the Summer 2023 and Fall 2023 terms, international student number trends, and research funding, awards and honours.

Senator Harvey noted the University community's provision of support those members of the community affected by the recent Nova Scotia wildfires. Senator Harvey also spoke to the recently completed 19 Dalhousie convocation ceremonies and thanked the Registrar's office team for their efforts in ensuring a successful convocation season, noting that an impressive 4,800 graduands had received their degrees.

5.3 Questions for Reports

There were no questions for reports.

FOR APPROVAL

6. Senate Planning and Governance Committee (SPGC) Proposed Further Revision to Senate Land Acknowledgment Statement

Senator Spiteri informed the meeting that following the revision and enhancement of the Senate land acknowledgment statement in May, 2022, a request had been received from the Dalhousie African Nova Scotian Strategy and Advisory Council for the African Nova Scotian portion of the Senate land acknowledgement statement to be further revised, as follows, to note the critical recognition of African Nova Scotians as a distinct 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."

The meeting was further informed that the rationale was that the proposed revision would be per the acknowledgment developed by the African Nova Scotian Strategy and Advisory Council in 2020 and posted on Dalhousie's website. The meeting was advised that SPGC had considered the request at its May 17, 2023 meeting and recommended that Senate consider the revision of the African Nova Scotian portion of the revised and enhanced Senate land acknowledgement.

Moved by Senator Spiteri on behalf of the Senate Planning and Governance Committee:

THAT Senate approve the proposed revision to the African Nova Scotian portion of the revised and enhanced Senate land acknowledgement statement, as presented.

The motion **CARRIED**.

7. Senate Academic Programs and Research Committee (SAPRC) 7.1 Proposed Renaming and Restructuring of Research Centre – Atlantic Institute of Criminology

Senator Blustein informed the meeting of the proposed name change and restructuring of the Atlantic Institute of Criminology (AIC) to Senate for consideration and approval.

The meeting was informed that AIC was founded in 1970 and housed in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS) and was, until recently, responsible for a wide range of local, provincial and national projects, providing advice, consultation and research services to government and community organizations on issues of policing, violence prevention, youth at risk and restorative justice. It was proposed to re-establish AIC, rename it the Clairmont Centre for Community Safety Research (the Clairmont Centre) and have it approved as a Dalhousie research centre focusing on applied community safety research. It would be a centre for the exchange of information between researchers and policy makers and would replace and re-establish the mission of AIC. In order to be compliant with the Research Centres and Institutes Policy created in 2019, it was proposed that the Clairmont Centre be approved as a centre instead of an institute, as, like AIC before it, it operated as a single Faculty-led initiative.

It was reported that the proposal for the re-establishment of AIC as the Clairmont Centre was recommended for approval at the FASS Faculty Council meeting of May 9, 2023. The SAPRC Research Sub-Committee (RSC) considered the proposed name change and restructure at its May 9, 2023 meeting and supported the proposal. The Senate Academic Programs and Research Committee (SAPRC) considered the proposal at its June 5, 2023 meeting and recommended it to Senate for approval.

Moved by Senator Blustein on behalf of the Senate Academic Planning and Research Committee: **THAT Senate approve the proposed renaming and restructuring of the Atlantic Institute of Criminology and its creation as a Dalhousie research centre known as the Clairmont Centre for Community Safety Research, and recommend it to the Board of Governors for further approval.**

The motion **CARRIED**.

7.2 Proposed Dissolution of the Centre for European Studies

Senator Blustein presented the proposed dissolution of the Centre for European Studies (CES), a defunct centre within FASS.

It was reported that until recently, the Jean Monnet European Union Centre of Excellence (JMEUCE), established in 2006, has been embedded within CES. JMEUCE had however been recognized as a Dalhousie research centre by the Senate on January 9, 2023, and the Board of Governors on February 14, 2023. It was therefore proposed to terminate CES per the Research Centres and Institutes.

The meeting was informed that the proposed termination of CES had been recommended by the FASS Faculty Council. It was also considered by the RSC at its May 9, 2023 meeting and recommended to the SAPRC for consideration. SAPRC considered the proposal at its June 5, 2023 meeting and recommended it to Senate for approval.

Moved by Senator Blustein on behalf of the Senate Academic Planning and Research Committee: **THAT Senate approve termination of the Centre for European Studies.**

The motion **CARRIED**.

FOR DISCUSSION

8. Question Period

There were no questions.

9. Other Business

There was no other business.

Adjournment

Senator Spiteri wished all Senators a restful summer and reminded Senators that the next regular meeting of Senate was scheduled for September 11, 2023.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.