

December 6, 2021

Minutes of the Special Meeting of Senate Executive Meeting held on the above date at 9:00 a.m. via Zoom

Those present:

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

Assessors present:

Ms. E. Kalo
Ms. A. Kilgour
Dr. T. Mondor
Prof. E. Thomson
Prof. D. Watt

Regrets:

Dr. C. Cook
Dean E. Jurkowski

Absent:

Ms. G. Romund
Ms. S. Sekander

Also Present:

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

President Benarroch said the University and the University of Manitoba Faculty Association (UMFA) had reached a tentative agreement the previous night. Subject to UMFA's ratification of the tentative agreement, classes would resume on December 7th.

President Benarroch acknowledged that on December 6th, the University community remembers the fourteen women who were killed in 1989 at Ecole Polytechnique, Montreal, Quebec, and commemorates the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women.

**I CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES
OF THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 17, 2021**

Professor Faubert MOVED, seconded by Professor Anderson THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Senate Executive Committee held on November 17, 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 Return to Teaching, December 7, 2021 – January 5, 2022** Page 2

President Benarroch withdrew this item, as a tentative agreement had been reached with UMFA. He thanked Dr. Torchia, Vice-Provost (Teaching and Learning), Mr. Adams, University Registrar and Executive Director, Enrolment Services, and other members of the Academic and Research Team for their efforts over the previous weeks.

In response to a question, President Benarroch confirmed that, if the UMFA membership did not ratify the agreement, Senate Executive would be reconvened on December 8th to consider this item.

2. **Irregular Academic Schedule for 2022 Winter Term, Faculty of Law** Page 15

Dr. Torchia briefly reviewed a request from the Faculty of Law, to follow an irregular Academic Schedule for the 2022 Winter Term for the Juris Doctor, Master of Laws, and Master of Human Rights programs. The irregular schedule would follow the Academic Schedule originally approved by Senate. The Faculty had significant concerns that a delay to the start of the Winter Term, as previously approved by Senate Executive (November 17, 2021; Scenario 4), would have significant impacts on schedules for professional examinations and training for graduates, experiential and employment opportunities for students, and on the local legal community. Dr. Torchia said all classes offered by the Faculty had continued through the duration of the strike and the Faculty had detailed how it would accommodate students who had not crossed the picket line.

Dr. Torchia said the Office of the Registrar and Enrolment Services had reviewed the 2022 Winter Term dates outlined in the proposal and had confirmed these would not cause any conflicts. The Faculty would be responsible for scheduling final examinations and classrooms for its classes, as it would be on a different schedule than other programs.

Dr. Torchia informed Senate Executive he had received letters from Law faculty members and students in support of the proposal.

In response to a question, Dr. Torchia said, while students in the J.D. program did not take classes offered by other Faculties, students in the two Master's degrees did. The Faculty had indicated the irregular schedule would not present conflicts for these students. Ms. Kilgour confirmed that the Faculty had considered ways to accommodate students in the graduate programs.

Ms. Kilgour underscored the various difficulties that would arise for J.D. students and graduates if the start and end of Winter Term was delayed, including for those who planned to write bar examinations scheduled in other provinces, for

which no accommodations would be available. She said the proposal was important for the Faculty and she encouraged committee members to support it.

Mr. Leclerc noted that while the decisions Senate Executive has made during the strike have been communicated to Senators, a summary of those will be included for the next Senate agenda. A comment was made expressing a desire to have further decisions that are required be made by the full Senate. The Chair agreed to take this matter under advisement.

Professor Biscontri MOVED, seconded by Professor Anderson, THAT Senate Executive approve, on behalf of Senate, a request from the Faculty of Law to establish an irregular Academic Schedule for the 2022 Winter Term, with the applicable dates for the Juris Doctor, Master of Laws, and Master of Human Rights programs set out in the agenda.

CARRIED with two abstentions.

IV MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

1. **Correspondence from Provost and Vice-President (Academic),** Page 22
[December 2, 2021] RE: Revised Voluntary Withdrawal Deadline, 2021 Fall Term

President Benarroch recalled that, at its meeting on November 3, 2021, Senate had approved a recommendation that the Provost and Vice-President (Academic) be authorized to amend the Voluntary Withdrawal deadline for the 2021 Fall and 2022 Winter Terms, if required, and to report the decision to Senate. He referred committee members to the memo from Dr. Hiebert-Murphy (dated December 2, 2021) confirming her approval of a change to the Voluntary Withdrawal deadline to December 21st for 2021 Fall Term courses interrupted by the strike. For classes not interrupted by the strike, the Voluntary Withdrawal deadline would remain as December 10th.

V ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Leclerc proposed, and committee members agreed, that pending UMFA's ratification of the tentative agreement a meeting of Senate Executive meeting would be scheduled for early the following week, to set the agenda for the January 12, 2022 Senate meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:22 a.m.

These minutes pages 1 to 3, together with the agenda, pages 1 to 22, comprise the minutes of the Special Meeting of the Senate Executive Committee held on December 6, 2021.