



Senators Present:

Dr. Nicolette Bethel, Faculty Representative, Social Sciences, Professor, Chair
Dr. Dion Hepburn, Faculty-At-Large, Associate Professor, Vice Chair
Mr. William Fielding, Staff Representative, Data Analyst, Institutional Strengthening, Secretary
Ms. Catharine Archer, Faculty-At-Large Representative, Librarian II
Dr. Christine Kozikowski, Faculty Representative, Associate Professor, English Studies, Parliamentarian
Dr. Marlo Murphy-Braynen, Administration, Dean, Business
Dr. Douglas Barkey, Administration, Dean, Liberal & Fine Arts
Dr. Maria Woodside-Oriakhi, Provost & Vice-President Academic Affairs
Dr. Veronica Toppin, Administration, Interim Dean, Pure & Applied Sciences
Dr. Neresa Wallace-Bandelier, Faculty Representative, Associate, Education
Mr. Paul McCann, Faculty Representative, Assistant Professor, Education
Dr. Kayla Stubbs, Faculty Representative, Associate Professor, Chemistry, Environmental & Life Sciences
Dr. Larry Russell Jr. Faculty Representative, Assistant Professor, Chemistry, Environmental & Life Sciences
Mrs. Dale McHardy, Faculty Representative, Assistant Professor, Business
Mrs. Michelle Cunningham, Assistant Professor, Business
Ms. Jessica Minnis, Faculty Representative, Professor, Social Sciences
Dr. Paul Jones, Faculty Representative, Professor, Communication and Creative Arts
Dr. Marky Jean-Pierre, Faculty Representative, Assistant Professor, Communication and Creative Arts
Dr. Amin Kabir, Faculty Representative, Associate Professor, Mathematics, Physics & Technology
Ms. Renate Roberts-McWilliam, Faculty Representative, Assistant Professor, Mathematics, Physics & Technology
Mr. Mario Adderley, Faculty Representative, Assistant Professor, Dean, THECALM
Dr. Ruth Gardiner, Faculty Representative, Associate Professor, THECALM
Dr. Camille Smith, Assistant Director, Counsellor II, Libraries/Counselling
Mrs. Decoda Darville, Staff Representative, Assistant Director, Campus Life
Mrs. Leslie Dorsett-Lewis, Director, CeLearn, UB North
Ms. Lennise Lopez, Staff Representative, UB North, Assistant Registrar
Mrs. Lesvie Archer, Staff Representative, Policy Fellow, Public Policy Institute
Ms. Alexandria Neely, Student Representative
Ms. Shannon Louissaint, Student Representative
Mr. Anthony Ferguson, Jr. Student Representative – UB North

Late Senators

Dr. Sophia Rolle, Adjunct Faculty Representative
Ms. Natasha Taylor, Staff Representative, Administrative Assistant II, CeLearn
Ms. Claire Charlow-Patton, Staff Representative, Registrar

Absent with Apologies

Ms. Janyne Hodder, Administration, Acting President & CEO
Dr. Thalia Micklewhite, Administration, Dean, Social and Educational Studies
Mrs. Justina Toote-Knowles, Faculty Representative, Nursing and Allied Health Professions
Mr. Kamrenn King, Student Representative
Dr. A. Marie Sairsingh, Faculty Representative, Professor, English Studies, Assistant Secretary
Mrs. Keturah Babb-Higgs, Staff Representative, Director of Government Relations & Civic Engagement

Absent Senators

Ms. Vivian McIntosh, Staff Representative, UB-North, Assistant Director, Enrolment and Retention
Mrs. Karol Mackey-Missick, Faculty Representative, Assistant Professor, Nursing & Allied Health Professions
Mr. Shelby McPhee, Adjunct Faculty Representative

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order** - The meeting was called to order at 2:17 p.m. by N. Bethel.
2. **Roll Call** - This was taken by W. Fielding.
3. **Prayer** - The prayer was offered by L. Archer.
4. **Approval of Agenda** - On a motion by V. Toppin and seconded by R. Gardiner the agenda for the meeting was approved.
5. **Approval of Minutes**
 - 5.1 **Ordinary Meeting 10 September 2024** – On a motion by C. Archer and seconded by L. Dorsett the minutes were approved with an amendment to the attendance list.
 - 5.1.1 **Matters Arising – Training of Senators**

Secretary Fielding reported on the training session for senators which was held on the Friday 13 September 2024 in the American Corner. A total of 24 senators participated, inclusive of UB North senators who attended via zoom.

A survey on participants indicated that attendees found the training beneficial in increasing their knowledge about the Academic Senate and what was expected of them as senators.

The Chair noted that there will be opportunities for training in the future.
6. **New Business**
 - 6.1 **Update on the Population of Academic Senate Committees - Committee Chairs**

The following senators have been elected to leadership roles:

 - a) **Academic Policies Committee**

Catherine Archer – Chair
Anthony Ferguson Jr. – Secretary
 - b) **Curriculum Academic Programmes Committee**

Paul Jones - Chair
Juliette Glenn- Callender - Secretary
 - c) **Student Affairs Committee**

Decoda Darville – Chair
Lesvie Archer – Secretary
 - d) **Faculty Development Committee**

Ruth Gardiner – Chair
Antionette Pinder-Darling – Secretary
 - e) **Faculty Handbook Committee**

Neresa Wallace-Bandelier – Chair
No secretary elected

f) Committee on Committees

Douglas Barkey – Chair
Michelle Barr-Cunningham – Secretary

The following committees will meet at a later date:
Promotion, Tenure & Post-tenure Review
Research & Creative Works Committee
Statutes and Bye-Laws
Libraries Committee

6.2 Academic Senate Resolution on University of The Bahamas Graduation Ceremony

The Chair mentioned that the Academic Senate office bearers had met to discuss concerns regarding the graduation ceremony. Subsequently, they had drafted a resolution.

On a motion by D. Hepburn and seconded by D. Barkey the draft resolution on the University of the Bahamas Graduation Ceremony was tabled.

There was a lengthy discussion on the draft resolution (shared in advance with the agenda) and suggestions for changes were considered. One area of apparent concern was the suggested time limit of two hours. On a vote by show of hands, the draft was accepted with one abstention and none opposing it.

On a motion by C. Kozikowski and seconded by C. Archer, it was proposed (after amendments, approved unanimously) that the Student Affairs Committee be required to review the draft resolution (passed above) and report back to the Academic Senate with a preliminary report in November 2024 and a full report in February 2025. The motion was accepted unanimously.

7. Adjournment

Following a motion by D. Hepburn and seconded by V. Toppin the meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Secretary's Note

The draft resolution is attached below:

Draft Academic Senate Resolution on the UB Graduation Ceremony

Whereas, The graduation ceremony of an academic institution marks the crowning achievement of its students;

Whereas, In celebrating our graduands, a university also honours the best in academic excellence, comportment, and bearing;

Whereas, A graduation ceremony is a sacred and joyous occasion, respectful of all participants, the authority of the University, and the benefits of education in a changing society:

Be It Resolved That

The graduation ceremony of University of The Bahamas be rejuvenated to conform to the following principles:

Respect – for graduands, invited guests, and the University;

Honour – for the graduates, for the Senate, for the Board of Trustees, for the University of The Bahamas, for the nation;

Celebration – of graduates, their instructors, their advisors, their families and their benefactors;

within a two-hour time limit.