

Item: Board of Governors Minutes, April 1981

Call Number: UA-1 27.4

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MAY 22 1981

Minutes of a Meeting of the  
Board of Governors held on  
this date in the Board and  
Senate Room at 4 p.m.

Dalhousie University  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
April 23, 1981.

PRESENT:

Dr. A. Gordon Archibald Chairman	Mr. G.R.K. Lynch
Miss Zilpha Linkletter Vice-Chairman	Ms. Marilyn MacDonald
Dr. W. Andrew MacKay	Mr. Peter McDonough
Mr. W. Struan Robertson Honorary Treasurer	Mr. Kenneth McFarlane
Sister Elizabeth Bellefontaine	Mr. Stewart McInnes, Q.C.
Mr. G.E.C. Brown	Mrs. Jean MacKeigan
Dr. J. McD. Corston	Mr. Gordon Owen
Mr. James S. Cowan	Ms. Heather Robertson
Dr. Donna Curry	Mrs. Judy Sapp
Dr. G. Ritchie Douglas	Mr. Atul Sharma
Dr. Douglas A. Eisner	Mr. R.G. Smith
Mr. John W. Graham	Mr. W. Brian Smith
His Honour, Chief Judge Nathan Green	Mr. F.B. Wickwire, Q.C.
Mrs. Lorraine Green	Dr. Edwin F. Ross Honorary Secretary
Mr. Alan G. Hayman	
Mr. Gary Hurst	
Dr. Lorraine Laurence	

Also present at the meeting were Mr. L.R. Shaw (Vice-President, Administration and Finance), Dr. D.M. Cameron (Executive-Director, Policy and Planning), Dr. A.M. Sinclair (Chairman of the Senate), Professor Christopher Axworthy (President, Dalhousie Faculty Association), Dr. G.A. Klassen (Vice-President Designate, Academic and Research), Mr. Derek Mann (Director of Information) and Mr. Otto Noftle (Manager of Financial Services).

#### Minutes

Approval of the Minutes of the meeting of March 27th, 1981, which were distributed at this meeting, was held over until the next meeting of the Board.

The Board approved the following addition to the item, "Dalhousie Fund Council", of the minutes of its meeting on February 19th:

"The Board agreed to the proposed reorganization of the Fund Council with an amendment allowing the President of the Student Union to appoint an alternate to attend meetings of the new Council."

#### Representatives of Students for 1981-82

The Governors approved the following list of nominees for the Board of Governors presented by Mr. Gordon Owen, retiring President of the Student Union:

1. For a One-Year Term Commencing 1 May 1981

John S. Logan (Vice; Owen)  
Geoffrey M. Seymour (Vice; McFarlane)

2. Extension of Term to 30 April, 1982

Atul K. Sharma

3. For a Further Three-Year Term Commencing 1 May, 1981

John W. Graham

Introduction of  
Observer from  
the Dalhousie  
Faculty Associa-  
tion

The President introduced Professor Christopher Axworthy, who, as the new President of the Dalhousie Faculty Association, had succeeded Dr. Edgar Friedenbergl as the observer from the D.F.A. at Board meetings.

The Board approved that there be a meeting of the full Board on Thursday, May 28th at 4 p.m. preceded by a joint meeting of the Executive of the Board with representatives of the Senate. Originally, a meeting of the Executive Committee only was scheduled for Thursday, May 21st, but owing to a number of important matters remaining to be considered and the absence of the Chairman from the City on the 21st, both the composition of the meeting and the date were changed.

Next Meeting

Staff Matters

Chief Judge Green brought the recommendation of his Staff Relations Committee that the list of staff changes circulated at the Board meeting should be approved. After comments by the President, who seconded Judge Green's motion, the Board approved the staff changes.

In his comments, Dr. MacKay noted that Dr. F.C. Wien, who was not a graduate in social work studies, was recommended to be appointed Director of the Maritime School of Social Work though the Board should be aware that the President had received a letter of concern from the Association of Social Workers of Nova Scotia about appointment of anyone not qualified professionally in Social Work. He also said that Dr. L.M. Webster, first Director of the School of Human Communication Disorders, who was resigning to go to a new position in Western Canada, had done a "first-rate job".

Investment  
Changes

Investment changes, as distributed at the meeting and attached to these minutes for those who were not present, were approved on motion (Robertson/MacKay).

Student  
Relations  
& Residence  
Committee

Dr. Corston, Chairman of the Student Relations & Residence Committee, reported that his Committee had met on April 9th and 20th to consider recommendations on tuition fee changes for 1981-82.

Dr. Corston said that the students, while admitting the need for an increase in fees, considered that the percentage increase should not be larger than the increase in the cost of living or the increase in the grant from Government to the University. He said also that the representatives of the Student Union did not want to see any changes in the differentials between fees for the various courses at Dalhousie.

The recommendation which Dr. Corston brought from his Committee was as follows:

That the Committee recommend to the Finance and Budget Committee and Board of Governors, that tuition fees be increased by an amount equal to the consumer price index - approximately 12%.

At this point the Board agreed with the recommendation of the President that, in view of the fact that the subject of fee increases would be part of the discussions on the budget later in the meeting, they should "receive" the report from the Student Relations and Residence Committee at this stage.

1981-82 Budget

Miss Linkletter, Chairman of the Finance & Budget Committee, spoke briefly about the 1981-82 Budget. She said that her Committee had come to a different conclusion than the Student Relations Committee and because the deficit was so large they had, by a majority vote, agreed to fee increases as recommended by the President, a copy of which had been distributed at the beginning of the meeting, and are attached to these minutes for those who were not present. The Administration's recommendations were for fee increases ranging from 12% in Arts & Science and Administrative Studies to between 19% and 21% in the professional schools (Law, Dentistry, & Medicine).

At the invitation of Miss Linkletter, Vice-President Shaw reviewed the Budget by means of slides. Typed copies of the material on the slides, titled "BUDGET ASSUMPTIONS", were distributed and are included with the minutes for those absent.

Mr. Shaw noted that the earlier deficit of \$2.5 m. had now been reduced to \$1.725 m. as of the day of the meeting. He indicated that the Administration saw the budget deficit as a maximum and said that they would try to improve on it during the year, but he warned that it would be impossible to reach a balanced budget this year.

The Vice-President said that a report from consultants was expected in the near future on what might be done with endowed funds to reduce the deficit, but he saw a decision on this as being some months away. In the meantime, he said that certain discretionary spending in the Department of Physical Plant (approximately \$200,000) would be held back in case this decision was not helpful in reducing the deficit.

Finally, Mr. Shaw said that he believed any further cuts in the Budget would endanger academic programmes and would lead to deterioration of the physical plant of the University.

In an analysis of the fixed costs in the Budget, Mr. Shaw showed that salaries, heating, and interest charges which amounted to \$54.0 m. in 1980-81, had been increased by \$6.9 m. in the 1981-82 budget. On

the other hand, he said that the non-fixed costs amounting to \$21.4 m. had been increased only by \$ .7 m. in this year's budget.

Miss Linkletter asked the Board to approve the budget with the \$1.725 m. deficit, but instructed the Officers of the University to seek to improve the financial situation during the year.

At this point, Dr. MacKay secured the approval of the Governors to table this motion of the Chairman of the Finance & Budget Committee in order that there could be a full discussion of fees. It was explained that the recommendations of the Student Relations Committee, mentioned above, would add \$850,000 in revenue, a 12% increase over last year. The President's recommendations approved by the Finance & Budget Committee would add \$950,000 or 13.5% while the budget as outlined by Mr. Shaw assumed added revenues of \$900,000, half-way between the two.

After a motion (Linkletter/Chief Judge Green) that the recommendations of the President with regard to fees be approved, Mr. Owen, seconded by Mr. Sharma, moved an amendment that there be a maximum of 12% increase in fees across the board.

The representatives on the Board of the Student Union, Messrs. Owen, Sharma, McFarlane, and Graham - all spoke in favor of Mr. Owen's amendment stressing the unacceptability of the larger increases to many students, the financial hardships that would be caused, the loss of competitive position of the University and the favoring of an "elite" who could afford the fees.

There was considerable discussion about the inclusion of a fee for use of Dalplex by students (\$25 in the President's recommendations). The students thought there should be no fee for Dalplex.

Those who supported the Linkletter/Green motion emphasized the difficult financial situation of the University and the fact that the proposed increases would not be too difficult for most students.

With regard to the differential fees in the President's recommendations, Dr. MacKay said that they had resulted after a long and serious consideration by the Deans. He acknowledged that the Dean of Law was concerned with the 19% increase in fees in his faculty, but with regard to Medicine and Dentistry, these Deans, who had discussed the increase in fees with their students, said that while they were not happy, it was considered that they would tolerate them.

The President pointed out that the professional schools generally have a more expensive program with a longer year than the other faculties and said that he thought it was time for more significant differentials between programmes at Dalhousie.

After thorough discussion, the vote on Mr. Owen's amendment was lost and the motion supporting fee increases recommended by the President was approved. The following asked to have their negative votes on the last motion recorded: Messrs. Brown, Graham, McFarlane, Owen, Sharma, and B. Smith.

This decision having been made, the Board approved on motion (MacKay/Ross) the Budget for 1981-82 (which would include the fee increases approved earlier).

#### Buildings and Grounds

Mr. Brown reported for his Committee that the work on the Rink had started. He reminded the Governors that the original estimates had been \$2.5 m., that the maximum now available through government assistance and the insurance on the old rink totalled \$2.2 m., so that \$300,000 was needed to complete the Rink and plans to complete the facility as originally conceived had been modified pending additional assured funding.

With regard to the conversion of the former Provincial Archives Building into space for the Department of Chemistry and alterations in the Forrest Building in the amounts of \$2.1 m. and \$3.1 m. respectively, the MPHEC had now recommended these amounts to the Government.

Mr. Brown said that it appeared that the cost of the completed Dental Building would be about equal to the budget.

Finally, the Chairman of the Buildings & Grounds Committee said that work was proceeding on reconditioning the President's residence.

The assistance of the Senate's Physical Planning Committee, through its representative on the Buildings and Grounds Committee, was acknowledged by Mr. Brown and Mr. Shaw.

The report of the Buildings and Grounds Committee was approved on motion (Brown/Smith).

#### International Programmes

Discussion on the Budget had occupied a great deal of time so that the President was only able to refer briefly to a document circulated at the beginning of the meeting titled "International Programmes". This, he explained, had been prepared by the Office of the Dean of the Faculty of Arts & Science and described the exchange programmes in various parts of the world in which that Faculty was involved.

Student Union  
& Society Fees

In two separate motions (Owen/MacKay), the Board approved increases in the Student Union fee and the fees in various student societies as recommended by Mr. Owen. (Copy circulated with minutes for those not present at the meeting).

Naming of Institute  
of Public Affairs  
Conference Centre

At an earlier meeting, the Board had approved the naming of the new facilities for the Institute of Public Affairs on University Avenue as the "Henson Centre" after the late Professor Guy Henson who was the Director of the I.P.A. for many years. The Governors now approved a recommendation of the President, initiated by the Institute, that the auditorium in the new facilities be named the F. Carl Hudson Auditorium in honour of a strong supporter of the work of the Institute.

Estates -  
John & Mildred  
Simon Endowment

Dr. MacKay noted that the estate of Ida Pascal had been settled and as a result a fund to be known as the John and Mildred Simon Endowment had been established with the income to be used for the general purposes of the University as the Board of Governors may determine.

Correspondence -  
Lloyd Macpherson

Dr. Lloyd Macpherson, former Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, had written to the Dean of Medicine expressing his gratitude for his appointment as Professor Emeritus in the Faculty and asking Dr. Hatcher to convey to the President, and through the President to the Board of Governors, his deep appreciation for this recognition.

Report from  
the President

Dr. MacKay said that he was pleased that members of the Board of Governors, of the Board of Directors of the Alumni Association, and of the Women's Division of the Alumni Association had taken advantage of an opportunity to make "Site Visits" earlier in the afternoon to five areas in the University. He felt that such visits were worth repeating, but possibly later in the day and with fewer groups. He now invited the Governors and Alumni to tour the new Dental School on the 12th of May, beginning with a reception at 4:45 p.m. in the School. He noted that this tour would precede the Dental Convocation on the following day.

The President referred to the list of 1981 Convocations of those to receive honorary degrees which had been circulated at the beginning of the meeting (and will be distributed with these minutes to those who were absent) and encouraged members of the Board to join the Faculty in the processions, there being a space reserved for them should they attend.

Affiliation  
Agreement with  
Canadian Armed  
Forces Hospital  
Halifax

The Board authorized the signing by the Officers of the Board of an Affiliation Agreement with the Canadian Armed Forces Hospital in Halifax, when recommended by the President and the Dean of Medicine.

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The meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m. and was followed by a reception and buffet supper in the Great Hall of the Faculty Club for the members of the Board, others who had visited the University earlier in the afternoon and their hosts in the departments.

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Edwin F. Ross, M.D.  
Honorary Secretary