

Item: Board of Governors Minutes, June 2000

Call Number: Board of Governors fonds, UA-1, 52.4 and 60.16

Additional Notes:

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**Board of Governors Meeting
Dalhousie University
Monday, June 26, 2000
University Hall, Macdonald Building**

Present were:

Mr. Allan Shaw

Chair

Mr. Wesley Campbell

Hon. Lorne Clarke

Mr. James Cowan

Vice-Chair

Mr. Robert Dexter

Ms. Patricia Harris

Dr. Lucy Ellen Kanary

Dr. Daurene Lewis

Mr. Don Mills

Mr. Robert Radchuck

Mr. John Risley

Mr. Ian Robson

Prof. Phillip Saunders

Dr. Alasdair Sinclair

Dr. Colin Stuttard

Mr. Bruce Towler

Dr. Tom Traves

President

Associate Board Members in attendance were: Dr. Derek Brown, Dr. Anne Archibald Fraser, Dr. Douglas Mackay, Hon. Jacqueline Matheson, Mr. James Palmer, and Senator Donald Oliver.

Also: Mr. Bryan Mason (Vice-President Finance & Administration), Mr. Eric McKee (Vice-President Student Services), Dr. Dale Godsoe (Vice-President External); Mr. Brian Crocker (University Secretary and Legal Counsel); Mr. Brian Christie (Executive Director, Institutional Affairs); Ms. Ann Janega (Director, Public Relations), Mr. Ian Nason (Director, Financial Services); Mr. Darrell Cochrane (Controller); Mr. Peter Murchland (Manager, External Communications); and Ms. Sharlene Drake (Secretary).

Regrets were received from: Mr. Murray Coolican, Mr. Steven Côté, Mr. David Craig, Ms. Karen Cramm, Mr. John Flemming, Ms. Jo-Anne Galarneau, Mr. Colin Latham, Ms. Cathy MacNutt, Dr. Virginia Miller, Ms. Anne Petley-Jones, Mr. Peter Stuart.

1. **1. Approval of agenda**

The proposed agenda was approved as presented.

2. 2. Approval of minutes of the Board of Governors meeting of May 16, 2000

Dr. Stuttard requested that his objection be noted to the absence of prior notice of nominations and for that reason declared that he had abstained from voting on those motions. He also requested that under #9, his question requesting clarification from Vice-President Mason that the Treasurer listed in the policy was a staff member and not the Treasurer of the Board be noted.

The minutes were then approved as amended.

3. 3. Report of the Chair

Mr. Shaw noted that this was his last meeting as Chair and thanked all Board Members for their support.

Mr. Shaw thanked Mr. John Barry for his technical support to the Board for the past years and wished him well on his retirement.

4. Report of the President

Dr. Traves noted that he had circulated a report which covered many issues of importance. He commented that the past year had been an exciting one including the continuing emphasis placed on academic renewal, new and innovative research programs, positive support from the provincial and federal governments, an active campaign of campus renewal, and a balanced budget.

The President reported that the universities have collectively made progress in educating the public on the role of the universities and their positive impact on society to the point where universities are now seen as an asset rather than a liability.

Dr. Traves also noted that enrolment may become an issue in the coming year with the appearance that some faculties may be short of their enrolment targets; this will have a financial impact on both the faculties and the University as a whole.

5. Financial Matters

(a) 1999 - 2000 Budget Report

Mr. Risley presented highlights from the budget and encouraged Board Members to read the report in its entirety. He also commended the University for its continued excellence in all financial matters.

2. 2. Approval of minutes of the Board of Governors meeting of May 16, 2000

Dr. Stuttard requested that the following be noted in the minutes: In item #6, "Dr. Stuttard again objected to the absence of prior notice of the nominations and for that reason declared that he would vote against the motions." And in #9, "Dr. Stuttard obtained clarification from Vice-President Mason that the 'Treasurer' listed in the policy was a member of Mr. Mason's office staff and not the Honorary Treasurer of the Board".

The minutes were then approved as amended.

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Mr. Shaw noted that this was his last meeting as Chair and thanked all Board Members for their support.

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(b) Audited financial statement for the year ending March 31, 2000

Following a brief review of the financial statements, Dr. Lewis moved and Mr. Towler seconded a motion THAT, based on the recommendation of the Audit Committee, the Board of Governors approve the audited financial statements of the University for the year ended March 31, 2000. The motion carried.

(c) Appointment of Auditors for the 2000/2001 fiscal year

Dr. Lewis moved and Dr. Sinclair seconded a motion THAT, based on the recommendation of the Audit Committee, KPMG Chartered Accountants be reappointed as auditors of the University for the 2000 - 2001 year. The motion carried.

(d) 2000/2001 University Budget

Following a review of the proposed budget, Mr. Risley moved and Mr. Mills seconded a motion THAT, based on the recommendation of the Operations Committee, the Board of Governors approve the 2000 - 2001 Operating Budget with revenue and expenses of \$164,836,000. The motion carried.

6. Report of the Nominating Committee

Mr. Shaw moved and Dr. Lewis seconded a motion THAT based on the recommendation of the Nominating Committee, the Board of Governors approve the recommendation of the appointment of Ms. Elizabeth Beale to the Governor in Council for a three-year appointment to the Dalhousie University Board of Governors effective July 1, 2000. The motion carried.

7. Combined Master of Health Services Administration and Master of Business Administration

Dr. Traves moved and Dr. Stuttard seconded a motion THAT, based on the recommendation of the Senate, the combined Master of Health Services Administration and Master of Business Administration program be approved. The motion carried.

8. Annual Reports of the Standing Committees

The reports were accepted as presented.

9. Presentations

Mr. Shaw expressed his thanks to Dr. Virginia Miller for her service to the Board over the past year. Dr. Miller retired from the University and will therefore not be completing her term as a Senate representative to the Board.

Although the terms of Prof. Saunders and Dr. Kanary have expired, Prof. Saunders has advised the Senate that he was willing to consider reappointment for a second term and Dr. Kanary was recently elected as President of the Alumni Association. She will, therefore, be returning to the Board in that capacity. Prof. Saunders' reappointment awaits approval by the Senate.

The Board then moved to an *In Camera* session at which time the appointments of Mr. William Caley was approved as Dean of Engineering and Dr. John Rutherford was appointed Acting Dean of Graduate Studies.

Murray Coolican
Honorary Secretary

Allan Shaw
Chair

EXCERPT FROM SAPBC DRAFT JUNE 5, 2000, MEETING MINUTES

SAPBC2000:041

Program Proposal: Master of Engineering in Petroleum Engineering

The Chair noted that the Committee was one member short of the quorum and suggested that informal discussion could continue in anticipation of the arrival of other members. In any event, the proposal under review, if satisfactory to the Committee, would not reach the Senate until after the next SAPBC meeting.

Mr. Stuttard then introduced Hans Vaziri, James MacKinnon, Rafiq Islam, Peter Ricketts, and John Rutherford. Mr. Vaziri commented that the projected start date for the program was September, 2000, but, if necessary, classes could be postponed until January 2001. He noted that little additional funding was requested – only basic supplies from the Faculty of Engineering and a contribution to the Library. There would be a positive cash flow after two or three years. There were no sensitive or critical issues in the proposal.

Dean Ricketts noted that the Curriculum Committee of the Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS) had reviewed the proposal favorably, as had one external reviewer. There had been no response from the alternative reviewer, but one response was sufficient.

Mr. Rutherford informed the Committee that the FGS Curriculum Committee reserved the right to review any new classes proposed in the future and had some questions regarding classes in the current proposal, but would work hard to accommodate the anticipated September start of the program. New winter classes would be reviewed in due course. Implementation of on-line classes from Heriot-Watt University in Edinburgh, Scotland, was still pending, and the nature of those classes was still unclear.

Ms. Bleasdale referred to the fully employed instructors listed on page 14 of the proposal and asked what duties each would drop in order to teach the six new half-credit classes in the program. Mr. MacKinnon explained that Mr. Islam, a new Killam professor, would teach two classes; Mr. Vaziri would teach one; an external, industry person would teach a core class in Petroleum Geoscience in collaboration with faculty from Earth Sciences and Mining Engineering; and the remaining two classes would originate from Heriot-Watt University with local supervision provided by Mining Engineering faculty. Ms. Bleasdale still believed that existing faculty workloads would increase. Dr. Vaziri explained that it was simply a matter of shifting priorities towards the new area of petroleum engineering, with faculty voluntarily sharing four or five additional lectures in the first one or two years of the program, or some faculty may shift a greater proportion of their activities into this area.

Mr. Clairmont thought that fifteen extra students would surely require more supervision. Not so, responded Mr. Vaziri, because there would be no thesis work to supervise. Also, the voluntary increases in teaching workload would open new opportunities for the faculty. Mr. Clairmont remarked that if one group of faculty agreed to do voluntary work, the next group would be expected to volunteer, and soon all would be working without pay. Mr. MacKinnon noted that in reality all that was being proposed was the sharing of lectures in one half-credit class, which a small shift by several people could accommodate.

Mr. Stuttard reported that the financial assessment normally produced by Brian Christie was not yet available, but Mr. Christie had informed him verbally that his only concerns with the proposal related to the extra teaching workloads for existing faculty members. Mr. Christie saw no problem with the

financial viability of the proposed program, and would provide his financial report before the proposed program, if approved by SAPBC, went to the Senate.

Mr. Scully referred to section IV B on page 7, and asked for an elaboration on the statement that the program "complements Memorial's plans". Mr. Vaziri explained that in terms of research, the programs in the two universities would be complementary; Dalhousie would deal with "upstream" petroleum engineering issues (e.g., drilling and extraction), while Memorial concentrated on "downstream" issues (e.g., transportation and delivery). Collaboration in teaching had not yet been arranged, pending approval of programs and curricula at each university. With respect to research and research training, Mr. MacKinnon noted that Memorial University's approach was to use existing classes; Dalhousie would have the same approach, but the content was complementary to Memorial's. The Master of Engineering degree itself was different in the two universities. Memorial had several undergraduate options for entry into its oil and gas program which extended over two academic terms, while Dalhousie's Master's degree in oil and gas would cover three terms and would be available only to graduate engineers.

After brief comments about the role of the Atlantic Canada Petroleum Institute, which had yet to be formally proposed to the Senate at Dalhousie, Mr. Stuttard thanked the invitees for meeting with the Committee and they departed.

Mr. Crocker arrived immediately following the program proposers' departure and joined the further discussion of the proposed program. He expressed the view that more sensitivity to environmental issues in the offshore petroleum exploration and extraction ought to be demonstrated in the proposed program, particularly biological aspects such as the impact on fisheries. He wondered whether the necessary expertise was lacking in Dalhousie's Biology and Chemistry Departments. Mr. Rathwell thought those issues might be addressed in existing or new classes, especially those to be taught by Mr. Islam whose expertise included the environmental impact of oil and gas production. Mr. Kipouros suggested that environmental issues were of more concern to "downstream" petroleum engineering than to the "upstream" engineering covered in the proposed program. Mr. Rathwell suggested that the proposal could benefit from more transparent references to the biological impact of oil and gas engineering. Mr. Crocker noted concerns of the fishing industry on the Laurentian Shelf and insisted that environmental sensitivity must be included in the proposed program. The Chair undertook to bring these concerns to the attention of the proposers, and suggested that, perhaps, the Committee might entertain a motion of conditional recommendation to Senate for approval of the proposed program, subject to a satisfactory response from the proposers regarding the environmental issue raised by Mr. Crocker.

Mr. Scully moved:

"That on condition that the proposers meet the concerns raised regarding the need to include environmental issues in the curriculum, the proposal for a Master of Engineering in Petroleum Engineering program be recommended to the Senate for approval."

Mr. Crocker moved:

"That the motion be tabled until the June 19, 2000, SAPBC meeting."

The motion to table was **CARRIED**.