

Item: Senate Minutes, April 1984
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DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

MINUTES OF

SENATE MEETING

Senate met in regular session in the Board and Senate Room on Monday, 9 April 1984 at 4:00 P.M.

Present with Mr. W.E. Jones in the chair were the following:

Anderson, Angelopoulos, Axworthy, Betts, Birdsall, Bishop, Bissett-Johnson, Borwein, Boyd E.P., Bradfield, Brett, Brookbank, Burt, Cameron T.S., Campbell, Caty, Christie, Cohen A.D., Cross, Duff, Easterbrook, Fraser P., Friedenber, Gesner, Gordon, Gratwick, Haley, Heard, Hennen, Hill, Holloway, Holt, Horrocks, Huber, Josenhans, Kennedy, Kerans, Kimmins, Klassen, Kocourek, Kreuzer, Leffek, MacKay, Maloney, Mangalam, Manos, Martin M.J.C., McNulty, Misick, Myers, Pereira, Pooley, Puccetti, Richards, Rodger, Shaw L.R., Sherwin, Sinclair, Stern, Stovel, Stuttard, Thiessen, Tindall, Tingley, Treves-Gold, Van Feggelen, Varma, Warner, Waterson, Wien, Williams, Yung, Zinck.

Regrets: Belzer, Blecher, Cromwell, Ozier, Pronych, Scheibelhut, Wood.

84:32. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of 12 March 1984 were approved upon motion (Rodger/Van Feggelen) with one typographical error noted in 84:23, namely, that the "e" should be deleted from "Mobile". Ms. Waterson wished her presence recorded.

84:33. Question Period

Mr. Bradfield wondered when the development fund drive would attain its first million dollars. Mr. Shaw responded by stating that although it would not be this year, it was hoped that this goal would be reached in the near future.

84:34. Notice of Motion - Senate Steering Committee

A notice of motion from the Steering Committee was pre-circulated with the agenda. This motion served as an alternative to the proposed motion concerning specific appointments in the Department of French (84:27). The new motion called for the President to supply evidence that the Department of French had been clearly advised of the status of these

appointments and a statement that this action did not hold serious implications for academic policy. The President had been advised in advance of the intended motion and of the possibility of replacing the motion with his written statement. However, the response incorporated in correspondence dated 2 April 1984 was received in the Senate Office too late for inclusion in the mailout and hence was distributed at the meeting. The Chairman suggested that the motion could be considered redundant and further recommended that the Steering Committee could review the President's reply. Mr. Kennedy contended that the evidence requested was not reflected in the phrase "believed" and that if normal academic processes were followed, there was an urgent gap in presentation of French Canadian Studies. Mr. Friedenbergr maintained that the motion proposed by Ms. Ozier at the last meeting called for a more complete discussion of the issue than did the notice of motion.

Mr. Kennedy pointed to item #2 in the President's letter, raising the question of a department's recommendations being overruled by an individual with no training in that discipline.

Mr. Rodger supported the recommendation that the statement of the President be referred to the Steering Committee for review, in particular, of the first sentence in the second last paragraph of the letter vis-a-vis collegial work in departments and veto power of administration.

Mr. Betts requested that if the discussion was to focus on matters of substance, Senate should be so advised, as he had prepared a two-page chronology of events concerning this matter, which should be circulated.

It was agreed, upon motion (Rodger/Klassen)

that the President's statement entitled "Appointments—Department of French" should be referred back to the Steering Committee for advice.

84:35. Notice of Motion -- Mr. Roland Puccetti

It was moved and seconded (Puccetti/Sherwin)

Whereas the Senate Committee on DFA—Board Relations functioned during the last contract negotiations as no more than a silent witness of those negotiations;

and

Whereas committee members have better uses for their time than passive witnessing;

Be it moved that Senate abolish this committee henceforth.

Mr. Heard expressed his view that he would agree with the motion if assurance was provided that both parties to the Collective Agreement would bring to Senate any substantive changes which would affect the authority of Senate. The President sympathized with the thrust of the motion, but maintained that it was important for officers or other representatives of Senate to be apprised of certain issues under discussion (e.g. academic planning). The Chairman subsequently reminded members of the mandate of the Senate Committee on DFA - Board Relations which included, above and beyond the observer function, the necessity to serve as a committee of Senate available for consultation if matters of interest to Senate arose. Mr. Puccetti stated that the committee did not believe it had the authority to represent Senate.

The motion was put to a vote and **carried**.

84:36. Report of the Senate Ad Hoc Committee on Transfer Credits for Correspondence Classes (Minute No. 84:28)

The Chairman of the committee, Mr. Heard, referred members to the contents of the report, which had been circulated prior to the 12 March 1984 meeting of Senate and outlined the historical development of the issue and the rationale for the recommendations.

It was **agreed** upon motion (Heard/Myers)

that the report, inclusive of the recommendations, of the Senate Ad Hoc Committee on Transfer Credits, be accepted.

84:37. Reports and Recommendations - Committees of Senate

A. Academic Planning Committee

1. B.Sc. with Honours in Statistics and Non-Thesis Master of Laws Degree (Minute Nos 84:34 and 84:49 respectively)

The Chairman noted, as a matter of report, that the APC had approved the implementation of both of these programmes, which had previously been approved by MPHEC.

2. Regulations Concerning Appointments, Tenure and Promotions

The Chairman of the subcommittee, Mr. J. McNulty, reviewed the fact that the present subcommittee had considered the feedback from the various faculties and had attempted to incorporate as many recommended changes as possible, yet produce an integrated set of regulations. He noted that a new section addressing promotions had been added.

It was moved and seconded (McNulty/Klassen)

that the document entitled "Regulations Concerning Appointments, Tenure and Promotion" (10 February 1984) be accepted.

Mr. Heard raised the matter of criteria of academic concern which were in the purview of Senate vis-a-vis consistencies with the Collective Agreement.

Mr. Rodger recommended several amendments to the regulations as follows:

page 2 - new addition to 1.4.1 add the words "and that will be made clear in approval given by the Board."

The amendment carried upon motion (Rodger/Lawrence).

page 2 - 2.1.1, insert the words "Law Librarian" after Health Sciences Librarian.

The amendment carried upon motion (Rodger/Van Feggelen).

Mr. McNulty agreed that all sexist language in the document would be eliminated, in response to a query from Ms. Sherwin concerning the use of the word "chairman".

The recommendation on page 3 that sections 2.3.1 to 2.3.9 be deleted was questioned by Mr. Rodger on the grounds that the chief Librarians would, in addition to their administrative appointments, have professional librarian appointments. This was debated at length by Mr. Rodger, Christie, Birdsall, McNulty and President MacKay. The latter advocated further consultation with others including Deans which should focus on the deletion of this section prior to seeking Senate approval. There was agreement, upon motion (Rodger/Watson)

that consideration of deletion of 2.3.1 - 2.3.9 be deferred until the next meeting of Senate by which time consultation with Faculties concerned could have occurred.

It was moved and seconded (Rodger/Kennedy)

that the addition to Section 3.2.3 end after the word "time" on the third

line, thus eliminating reference to promise.

Ms. Allen raised the question of standards regarding teaching ability which Mr. Rodger reassured her were generally taken into consideration in making appointments.

President MacKay suggested that words such as "by reference to criteria generally considered for tenure and promotion" be added.

Mr. Betts stated that, in his opinion, the proposed deletion was a conflict in principle with revised regulation 5.3.1. There was some discussion by Messrs. Kennedy, Huber and Ms. Sherwin regarding the ambiguity of the language in the subcommittee's proposed addition and the questionable merit of this addition.

An amendment to the amendment was moved (Heard/MacKay)

that the words "and in the light, where relevant, of the criteria for tenure and promotion when the time comes for such consideration" be added after the word "time".

This was debated by Mr. Kennedy, who stated that appointments could be delayed on technical objections. Mr. Stovel's recommendation that the amended regulation stop after the word "promotion" was accepted as a friendly amendment by the mover and seconder.

The amendment to the amendment was put to a vote and passed.

The motion to amend then carried.

Due to the lateness of the hour, and the length of the agenda, it was agreed that Mr. Rodger would communicate to Mr. McNulty the nature of the remaining recommended changes and that the President would name someone from his Office to work with Messrs. Rodger and McNulty.

3. Report of the Special Committee on Part-Time Degrees

Mr. Cross, the Chairman of the Special Committee, constituted by the APC, referred members to the "Summary of the Report" and the page entitled "Recommendation for Action" which suggested that the APC deal initially with the principle of an increased commitment to continuing education and embodiment of commitment in creation of a Faculty of Continuing Education. He relayed APC's suggestion that the report be made available to members of Senate and the university community and outlined the rationale for creation of a Faculty, adding that many universities had identified similar unique units with an official

academic status and title.

In response to a query from Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Cross noted that the APC had approved both the principle of increased commitment and the creation of a Faculty of Continuing Education by July 1, 1984. He added that the APC agreed that the complete report be forwarded to the Deans' Offices.

Mr. Rodger preferred the title College, due to the connotation at Dalhousie University that Faculties award degrees. Mr. Cross indicated, in reply to a question raised by Mr. Rodger, that the first task of the Council would be coordination of present continuing education programmes. He supplemented these comments by advising members that the programmes currently carried out by professional schools and faculties were sufficiently successful that they would not appropriately come under the jurisdiction of the Faculty. He also reaffirmed for Ms. Stern that the new Faculty would not be a degree-granting institution and hence would not affect continuing education programmes leading to a degree. Mr. Kimmins commended the committee on its forward looking recommendations, yet feared that a separate Faculty might increase, not diminish, differences between continuing and regular students and problems of territorial, schedules and faculty. The committee had addressed this issue at some length and did not perceive it as a contradiction, according to Mr. Cross.

Ms. Sherwin believed more explanation was required as to the appropriateness of a Faculty as the vehicle and the details of implementation which held serious implications for policy, funding, and membership. Mr. Cross noted that elaboration on the Faculty structure had been provided in the Report, and contended that the matter was sufficiently urgent to necessitate a deadline of July 1st. Mr. Kennedy opined that the issue of import was the creation of an appropriate unit with an official academic status and title. Mr. Betts conveyed his uneasiness about dealing immediately with a long, complex report which had not been discussed by faculties and Deans Council.

At this point in the meeting, Ms. Allen supported the report as worthy of considerable attention but urged that five minutes be set aside to discuss the appeal of Mr. Kirk Meldrum, which had been before Senate for several months.

B. Academic Appeals Committee

1. Appeal of Mr. Kirk Meldrum (Minute No. 84:24)

It was agreed upon motion (Warner/Huber)

that the discussion of the special committee's report be set aside for five minutes to allow consideration of the appeal of Kirk Meldrum.

Mr. Farley spoke to the precirculated 30 March 1984 correspondence from Mr. R. Fournier, Chairman of the Academic Appeals Committee Hearing Panel to which the case of Mr. Kirk Meldrum had been referred back for a rehearing focusing on three new factors raised by Mr. Hill at the last Senate meeting.

Mr. Christie reported that the Law Faculty accepted the committee's recommendations for the reasons identified in Mr. Fournier's letter.

It was agreed, upon motion (Farley/Rodger)

that the new recommendation of the hearing panel, namely that Mr. Meldrum be permitted to take a "special examination" be ratified.

There was a consensus upon motion (Cross/Lawrence)

that Senate approve the principle of an increased commitment to continuing education.

Mr. Cross reiterated that the APC had advocated a gradual 'phased in' approach to implementation of the mechanism. Mr. Rodger and Ms. Sherwin stressed the need for detailed documentation regarding the proposed structure. Mr. Cross reaffirmed the necessity to constitute a senior academic unit with a senior academic officer at its head, which would initiate consultation with Deans and faculties, examine programmes, address the integration of the Institute of Public Affairs and the Office of Part-Time Studies and Extension, and begin the process of coordination. Ms. Waterson supported the need for an appropriate unit headed by a senior administrative officer and recommended that a definition of "Faculty" be provided. Messrs. Thiessen, Kimmins and Betts questioned the appropriateness of hasty approval of such a Faculty in light of the limited time for discussion and the fact that many members had not had an opportunity to review the report in its entirety.

It was moved and seconded

that Senate approve the establishment by July 1, 1984 of a senior academic unit, to be head by a Dean.

Ms. Allen assumed the stance that the a Faculty or other unit was required in light of the increasing age of students and number of returning students.

Mr. Friedenbergr did not want to see Senate create another major unit which it would be required to justify, prior to ascertaining the view of potential clientele. He continued by commenting that offerings should be rationalized and wondered why a different, more costly, entity than the present structure was required. Mr. Wien suggested, on behalf of the committee that despite Dalhousie's voiced commitment to part-time studies over the past

few years, the current structure was not deemed to be appropriate for inclusion of detailed content areas. The practical point of anticipated annual expenditures was raised by Mr. Martin, who expressed his sympathy for the intent of the proposal.

The President stated that the committee had provided a great service and volunteered to ensure that the report would be widely circulated. He further recommended that he consult with the Officers of Senate concerning approval of an advisory process, and that progress regarding structure be reported to the May or June meeting.

Ms. Sherwin and Mr. Betts reiterated their request to delay a decision, until the report in its entirety had been made available to Senate.

It was moved and seconded (Sherwin/Huber)

that the item be tabled until the 4 May 1984 meeting of Senate.

The motion carried.

84:38. Adjournment

Due to the lateness of the hour, the meeting was adjourned at 6:05 P.M.