

Item: Board of Governors Minutes, November 1988
Call Number: Board of Governors Fonds UA-1, 56.1

Additional Notes:

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Minutes of a Meeting of the
Board of Governors held on Tuesday,
November 15, 1988 at 4:00 p.m. in
the Board and Senate Room

Dalhousie University
Halifax, Nova Scotia

PRESENT: Mr. W. Struan Robertson Chairperson	Ms. Bernadette Macdonald
Mr. David J. Almon	Dr. Albro D. MacKeen
Mr. Barrie Black	Mrs. Shirlee Medjuck
Mr. Gerald Byrne	Ms. Juanita Montalvo
Dr. Howard C. Clark President	Mr. Norman H. Newman
Mr. George T.H. Cooper	Judge Ian H.M. Palmeter
Mr. James S. Cowan	Mr. George C. Piercey Vice-Chairperson
Dr. Donna Curry Honorary Secretary	Mrs. Ruth Pulsifer
Mr. Stephen Davis	Mr. Allan C. Shaw Honorary Treasurer
Mr. H. Lawrence Doane	Ms. Maxine Tynes
Mrs. Linda Fraser	Dr. Thomas C. Vinci
Mrs. Lorraine Green	Ms. Shayna Watson
Dr. William E. Jones	Mrs. Peggy Weld Vice-Chairperson
Mr. Donald A. Kerr	Mr. F. B. Wickwire
Mr. J. Gordon Lawley	Mr. Sherman Zwicker
Mrs. Vivian Layton	

Also present were Dr. Denis Stairs (Vice-President, Academic & Research); Mr. Eric A. McKee (Vice-President, Student Services); Mr. Michael Roughneen (Director of Personnel Services); Mr. William Lord (Director of Physical Plant & Planning), and Mrs. Elizabeth A. Christian (Secretary).

Regrets were received from Ms. Mary Clancy, Mrs. Jean Harrington, Mr. John W. Lindsay, Mr. E. Neil McKelvey, Sr. Sheilagh Martin, Dr. Judith A. Ritchie, and Mr. George C. Thompson.

Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on September 20, 1988 were approved as circulated.

Agenda

Item 5(b) - Report of Finance and Budget Committee, and Item 6 - Campaign for Dalhousie, were removed from the agenda. With these changes the agenda was approved. During the course of the meeting Item 7 - Report on Statutory Joint Board/Senate Meeting was deferred at the request of the President.

Board Matters

Board Membership

A recent change in the University's statute provides for the appointment of four members of the full-time teaching staff to the Board, on the nomination of Senate. Accordingly, the following motion was introduced by the President and approved by Board members present at the meeting:

That, on the nomination of the Senate, the following members of the full-time teaching staff be appointed members of the Board of Governors effective October 1988 for the terms specified:

Dr. Mary R. Brooks (Bus .Admin.)	(to October 1990)
Dr. Judith A. Ritchie (Nursing)	(to October 1991)
Professor Paul Thomas (Law)	(to October 1991)
Dr. Thomas C. Vinci (Philosophy)	(to October 1991)

A welcome was extended to Dr. Vinci who was attending his first meeting as a member of the Board.

Board
Matters

Committee Membership

On the recommendation of the Nominating Committee, the appointment of Ms. Bernadette Macdonald as a member of the Board's Alumni and Community Relations Committee was approved.

With the appointment of the four faculty members to the Board, the Nominating Committee was invited by the President to review Committee membership and to ensure the appointment of these faculty members to all major committees of the Board.

Academic
Matters

Bachelor of Dental Hygiene

Although this programme had received Senate approval, Dr. Stairs informed members that because of the serious financial implications involved, and the University's wish to further consider criteria for assessing new programmes, no action was required by the Board at this time.

Reports of
Standing
Committees

Buildings and Grounds Committee

Mr. Cowan, Chairperson of the Buildings and Grounds Committee, sought the Board's approval to sell a parcel of land at the corner of South and Oxford Streets to the City, for the purpose of constructing a right-hand by-pass. He said the City has agreed to pay \$20 per square foot for a total of \$12,400 for this land, and has also agreed to reconstruct the stone wall and replace any trees removed. Approval was given by Board members present to accept the City's offer of purchase.

Mr. Cowan reported that approval has been received from MPHEC's consulting engineer for Phase II of the Chemistry project which involves demolition of the fifth floor. Drawings are expected to be ready by mid-winter.

With regard to the Law School, the Library will be ready in September 1989, and renovation work to the first and second floors is under active review.

Staff Relations Committee

A list of staff changes had been circulated with the agenda, and an Addendum was distributed at the meeting (copy enclosed with these minutes for members not present). Mr. Shaw noted a few items of interest, following which approval was given to the staff changes.

Amendment to Minutes of Board Meeting November 15, 1988

Ms. Watson
approved

Pre
Re

That the following be inserted as paragraph two in the item "President's Report" on page three of the Minutes of the November 15, 1988 Board meeting:
"Speaking partly in his capacity as a member of the DFA Executive and partly as a member of the Board, Professor Vinci said that he did not think it quite fair to characterize the DFA position as one of "encouraging" its members to engage in research while withholding teaching services. It is true, he noted, that some DFA members did see it in their interests to pursue their research while on strike and it is also true that the DFA had sought to help those members pursue their interests. Nevertheless, he said, the DFA Executive was not unmindful nor unconcerned about the perplexities of the situation mentioned by the President."

students'
and there
-time
a comparative
future Board

the meeting by Dr. Clark
Appendix A. Dr. Clark
labour difficulties at
the Administration, and the
of correspondence referred to
with other material circulated
with these minutes for members not

Concerns to students were raised by student Montalvo, Ms. Watson and three student meeting, Mr. Roger Crawford, Ms. Kim Vance and These concerns centered on the lack of with students about various policies announced during the need for professors to repeat class material missed s, the inability of students to obtain signatures on applications, the need for an interpretation of Senate's s concerning students suffering no formal academic penalty cause of the strike, the possibility of students losing their term should the strike continue beyond two weeks, and the stress and hardships being faced by students who are not receiving the education for which they have paid. Responses to these concerns were provided by Dr. Jones, Dr. Stairs, Vice-President McKee and Dr. Clark. Dr. Jones explained that at the Senate meeting of October 7th the term "no formal academic penalty" was interpreted to mean "no loss of marks" and that in the discussion of the motions and various amendments, Ms. Montalvo had not indicated any disagreement with this. There was no indication at the Senate meeting that course material could be required to be given twice. Vice-President McKee and Dr. Clark pointed out that students had been made aware of these facts in brochures distributed to them, and that it was unfortunate that the D.F.A. had persistently offered its own differing interpretation. There was full discussion of these issues and the Board acquiesced to and agreed with the Senate motions and the above interpretation of them. Students were assured of the Board's concern for their difficult situation and were advised that, should the strike extend beyond two weeks, they would be kept informed of steps undertaken by the administration to make up class time so that students would not lose their term.

*amendment
accepted by
Board of Governors
Dec 16/88*

ca

Ms. Watson expressed concern about the number of part-time appointments, noting they were not as beneficial to the students' education as full-time appointments. Dr. Stairs indicated there has been no significant increase in the number of part-time faculty. He was asked by the Chairperson to provide a comparative report on the overall situation at Dalhousie at a future Board meeting.

President's
Report

Copies of this report were distributed at the meeting by Dr. Clark and a copy is attached to these minutes as Appendix A. Dr. Clark orally reviewed his report on the present labour difficulties at Dalhousie, the actions undertaken by the Administration, and the reasons for these actions. (Copies of correspondence referred to in the President's Report, together with other material circulated at the meeting, are enclosed with these minutes for members not present.)

Several matters of concern to students were raised by student representatives Ms. Montalvo, Ms. Watson and three student spectators at the meeting, Mr. Roger Crawford, Ms. Kim Vance and Mr. Michael Ryan. These concerns centered on the lack of consultation with students about various policies announced during the strike, the need for professors to repeat class material missed by students, the inability of students to obtain signatures on research applications, the need for an interpretation of Senate's motions concerning students suffering no formal academic penalty because of the strike, the possibility of students losing their term should the strike continue beyond two weeks, and the stress and hardships being faced by students who are not receiving the education for which they have paid. Responses to these concerns were provided by Dr. Jones, Dr. Stairs, Vice-President McKee and Dr. Clark. Dr. Jones explained that at the Senate meeting of October 7th the term "no formal academic penalty" was interpreted to mean "no loss of marks" and that in the discussion of the motions and various amendments, Ms. Montalvo had not indicated any disagreement with this. There was no indication at the Senate meeting that course material could be required to be given twice. Vice-President McKee and Dr. Clark pointed out that students had been made aware of these facts in brochures distributed to them, and that it was unfortunate that the D.F.A. had persistently offered its own differing interpretation. There was full discussion of these issues and the Board acquiesced to and agreed with the Senate motions and the above interpretation of them. Students were assured of the Board's concern for their difficult situation and were advised that, should the strike extend beyond two weeks, they would be kept informed of steps undertaken by the administration to make up class time so that students would not lose their term.

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November 15, 1988
Page Four

In Camera

Report on
Collective
Bargaining

Canadian Union of Public Employees

Mr. Roughneen reported that a tentative agreement had been reached with the cleaning and grounds staff on November 3rd. When this has been ratified by the union the agreement will be brought before the Board for ratification. He commented that this was the first agreement with this union since 1976 which has not gone to conciliation.

Dalhousie Staff Association

Mr. Roughneen outlined the terms of a tentative agreement reached with the Staff Association on November 9th, after two days of conciliation meetings. Once this agreement has been ratified by the Association's membership it will be presented to the Board for its ratification.

International Union of Operating Engineers

Mr. Roughneen announced that negotiations with this union will commence on November 16th.

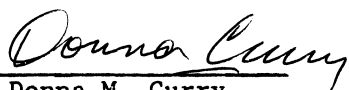
Dalhousie Faculty Association

Dr. Clark informed members that the two negotiating teams had resumed discussions this morning at the request of the Department of Labour, but that no progress report had yet been received. He reviewed the course of negotiations on binding arbitration, stating that the D.F.A. had refused to accept the Board's proposal to include some consideration of the university's finances among the terms of reference for binding arbitration. Talks broke off and the DFA began its strike on November 4. It is hoped that the meeting arranged by the Department of Labour today will bring progress in the settlement of outstanding issues.

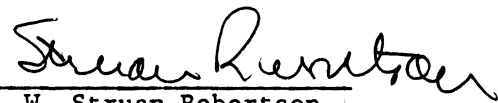
The Chairperson drew members' attention to the University's enormous debt and stressed that the Board will need to play an important and active role in making some very hard decisions in dealing with this situation and in determining the University's future direction. The need for creative ideas and new approaches to achieve settlement of the current dispute with the D.F.A. was recognized, and during the course of a lengthy discussion several ways of accomplishing this and of improving the university's financial situation were considered by Board members. A suggestion that a special meeting between the Board and representatives of the D.F.A. might assist Board members in understanding the faculty's concerns will be considered by the Board's Officers and negotiating team.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.



Donna M. Curry
Honorary Secretary



W. Struan Robertson
Chairperson