

Item: Board of Governors Minutes, September 1990
Call Number: Board of Governors Fonds UA-1, 57.1

Additional Notes:

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Committee Membership - A list of proposed membership on Board Committees for 1990-91 (circulated with the Nominating Committee's Report) was reviewed and a few changes noted. Dr. Mona Campbell was nominated as a member of the Development Committee, and Mr. Piercey advised the Board that the chairmanship of the Investment Committee would be determined shortly. The proposed list of Committee membership for 1990-91 was then approved on motion. (A copy of the revised list of Board Committee membership is enclosed with these minutes for information.)

Associate Membership - Mrs. Weld, in reporting on the names of persons who have accepted appointment as Associate Members, added the name of Dr. J. Donald Hill to the list.

Following presentation of the Nominating Committee's Report, Dr. Clark announced that an Orientation Session would be held for new Board Members at 2:00 p.m. on October 16th preceding the regular Board meeting. He extended an invitation to all Board members to attend.

Senate Standing Committees - Dr. Clark noted that Board representatives were needed to serve on three of Senate's standing committees (Library, Physical Planning, Computing & Information Technology Planning). He invited Board members interested in serving on any of these committees to contact the Secretary.

Staff Matters

Appointment of Vice-President External

Dr. Clark explained that the search for a Vice-President (External) had been completed during the summer months when the Board was not meeting. Under arrangements agreed upon last year whereby the Board is required to approve appointments at the rank of Dean, President and Vice-President, the Board was now asked

to ratify the action of the Officers in approving the appointment of Mr. Henry E. Eberhardt III as Vice-President (External) effective 1 September 1990.

This motion passed, and Dr. Clark introduced Mr. Eberhardt to the meeting.

Annual Statistical Report: October 1989-June 1990

Dr. Clark explained that under a new process agreed to by the Board over a year ago relating to the handling of staff appointments, this first annual report (pre circulated) was being provided to inform Board members about staff appointments dealt with during the past year. Dr. Stairs, in responding to Mr. Aldrich's query about why the business school's teaching complement had not been filled this year, explained that one reason for this was the shortage of qualified people to teach business administration and another reason was that the university is trying to hire in competition with the private sector, which makes it difficult to attract qualified people. Dr. Clark added that the same problem exists across North America and is not unique to Dalhousie.

Reports of
Standing
Committees

Buildings and Grounds Committee

Mr. Newman, as newly appointed Chairperson of this Committee, had no report to present at this time.

Finance and Budget Committee

Mr. Larry Doane, newly appointed Chairperson of the Finance and Budget Committee, presented the proposed 1990-91 budget (Appendix B) which had been pre-circulated to Members. Finalization of the budget, he explained, had been delayed awaiting advice from government about targeted funding. He told the Board that the proposed budget for 1990-91 showed an additional shortfall of \$110,000 over and above the \$300,000 shortfall reported in the preliminary budget presented to the Board last December. Mr. Doane commented briefly on the major changes giving rise to the increased shortfall and said the administration was confident it could handle this. The final budget, he said, had been reviewed by the Board's Finance and Budget Committee, Senate's Financial Planning Committee, and Senate, and it was now recommended

That the Board of Governors approve the proposed 1990-91 Operating Budget which includes revenues of \$109,412,000 and expenditures of \$109,822,000.

During discussion Mr. Mason responded to questions raised by Messrs. Loughheed and Aldrich about several items in the proposed 1990-91 budget. He explained that academic fees revenue had increased this year as a result of an enrolment increase of about 200 students; that the amount budgeted for scholarships and bursaries for 1990-91 was actually larger than the amount budgeted last year; that the contingency fund was started each year with \$300,000; and that administration costs had increased this year as a result of new staff positions created by the Board's agreement last year to implement an affirmative action programme, pay equity and job evaluation, and to deal with human relations issues on campus. At the request of Mr. Campbell who was attending his first meeting, Mr. Mason explained that the deficit shown for ancillary operations could largely be attributed to the Arts Centre and Dalplex, both of which have large deficits and are very expensive buildings to operate. Subsidies for these two operations, he added, offset income generated by the University's housing and bookstore operations, which cover their own costs and contribute to the university's operating budget.

Dr. Ray Carlson, Vice-Chair of Senate, was invited to present Senate's views on the budget. The same budget, he said, had been considered by Senate's Financial Planning Committee and Senate, and despite some concerns Senate has recommended approval of this budget by the Board. When asked what Senate's concerns were, Dr. Carlson said they related to uncertainties such as the outcome of contract negotiations, rising fuel prices because of recent events in Kuwait, and the uncertain impact of the federal government's Goods and Services Tax, all of which made it difficult to make firm

estimates of costs at this time. Mr. Lougheed then inquired whether any GST implications had been included in the budget, and Mr. Wright, Director of Financial Services, replied that the effect of GST had not been included because of uncertainty about what it would be. Universities, he explained, would receive a 67% refund from the federal government on the 7% federal tax and the GST would cost Dalhousie about 2-3%.

Discussion concluded and the motion to accept the proposed 1990-91 budget was approved.

Staff Relations Committee

Mrs. Green reported that the Committee had now formulated a draft statement of principles on human relations. This was now being discussed with individual and combined employee groups. The Committee hopes to bring this statement before the Board by the end of November for consideration.

Notice of Motion - Dalhousie Student Union

Mr. Donald Manson presented a notice of motion (previously circulated) which had been tabled earlier in May. He explained that the Student Union was seeking to have the definition of accessibility, as outlined in pages 6-8 of the Task Force's report Breaking Barriers, broadened to include the physically and socially disadvantaged. This, the Student Union felt, would ensure accessibility to all prospective students who were academically qualified. The Board was asked to approve this change in the definition of accessibility. (As some uncertainty arose during discussion about what the Board was really being asked to approve, no formal motion has been recorded in these minutes.)

Dr. Battiste commented that the Task Force's report had focussed on the Black and Micmac communities and had not considered all kinds of disadvantaged groups, and she cautioned the Board about making any amendment to that Report without first referring it to the Task Force for consideration. Mr. Manson mentioned that Senate had already adopted the motion. Dr. Carlson confirmed that Senate had accepted broadening the definition of accessibility but had made no change in other recommendations focusing on the two groups dealt with in the Task Force's report. Ms. Tynes supported the students' motion as underscoring the spirit with which the Task Force had approached its mandate and philosophy, and said she saw no need for the Board to be over-cautious. Rather, she said, the Board should break more barriers and extend university policy to other disadvantaged communities.

At this point Mr. Doane expressed confusion about the form in which the Motion had been presented to the Board. Other members also expressed confusion about whether the Board was being asked to approve an amendment to the definition of accessibility, or to amend part of a report which had already been adopted, or whether this was a separate motion to be added to university policy. Mr. Manson, after explaining that the intent of the motion was to

broaden the definition of accessibility, expressed concern over why some people were opposed to expanding accessibility to other groups. Mr. Manson then tabled the motion. Board members assured the students that they had no problem with the definition proposed, but did have difficulty with the form of the motion. It was also suggested that the Chair of Senate should have an opportunity to explain Senate's role in this matter before the Board took any action. At the request of the Chair, Mr. Manson agreed to redraft the motion and bring it back at a future meeting. At the end of discussion period, Mr. Manson offered his apologies to Board members who may have taken offense from his remark earlier in the meeting.

Financial
Strategy
Committee

Mr. Shaw informed the Board that the Committee had commenced meeting monthly and that progress was being made in implementing a number of the recommendations contained in its report. He said that consultations were presently under way with a number of groups on campus to assist them in reviewing and understanding the committee's work. Mr. Shaw briefly referred to the proposed changes to the pension plan and said that the agreement of one union on campus had not yet been received.

1990 and
Beyond

Dr. Carlson, in presenting this document (pre circulated) on behalf of Senate, explained that 1990 and Beyond was a continuation of the process started by Senate's Academic Planning Committee five years ago and was a three-year update to the APC's last report. He briefly reviewed the content of 1990 and Beyond and noted that several recommendations had been implemented during the last academic year. Preparation of these academic planning reports every three years took considerable staff time, Dr. Carlson said, and thought was being given to extending the process over a five-year time frame. In reply to a question raised by Mr. Medjuck, Dr. Carlson indicated that no budget had been put together with this planning document but financial information was available from Faculties and other sources in the university. Dr. Clark noted that while 1990 and Beyond had not been available when the Financial Strategy Committee was putting together a set of financial parameters within which academic planning could be implemented, the Committee had been aware of the APC's earlier planning document.

Mrs. Weld urged all Board members to read 1990 and Beyond and asked that Senate be advised of the Board's appreciation for being provided with this helpful document.

Presentation
on OPEN

Dr. Robert Fournier, Associate Vice-President (Research), was invited to speak about the OPEN research project at Dalhousie. Dr. Fournier explained that the Ocean Production Enhancement Network (OPEN) was a consortium of scientists at several universities across the country plus some people from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and some from the private sector. With support from the private sector and the provincial government

the Network had been awarded \$23 million by the federal government. An agreement had now been signed and funds have started to flow into this project which is investigating the processes (in cod and scallops) which control the survival, growth, reproduction and distribution of fish and shellfish. OPEN, Dr. Fournier said, is very important at Dalhousie and is now receiving national recognition. One of the Network's unique characteristics, he noted, was its interdisciplinary nature whereby different disciplines were working together on a common problem. Other countries, he added, have embarked on programmes similar to OPEN and he described a few of these projects. Dr. Fournier spoke about some of the benefits that would accrue to Dalhousie through OPEN (national recognition, money, a link with industry, possible interaction with the private sector) and especially noted the impetus OPEN was giving to Ocean Studies at the university. Dr. Fournier concluded his remarks by saying that Dalhousie was leading the way in international programmes and the Board should be very proud that the Network has come to this university and that Dalhousie is the lead institution in this research project, the results of which will be seen in about three to five years' time.

President's
Report

This Report (Appendix C) was distributed at the meeting. Dr. Clark commented briefly on the smoothness of the registration process this year and on the slight increase in enrolment, mostly in Science. A report on registration figures will be available at the next Board meeting.

Referring to Item 2 in his report, Dr. Clark told Board members that universities had now received the Minister's response (enclosed for Members) to their Role and Capacity statements submitted last year. The Minister, he said, expects the universities, either collectively or in some combination, to examine and address the recommendations in his response. He had made it quite clear in his meetings with university presidents that the level of progress made by the universities in addressing his recommendations would have an impact on the level of future government funding. University presidents met on September 8 and have taken initial steps towards defining a process to address the Minister's recommendations in preparation of their meeting with him in mid October. Dr. Clark mentioned the range of recommendations raised by the Minister and told Board members that while some of these issues could be easily addressed, others would take some time, even years, to work out.

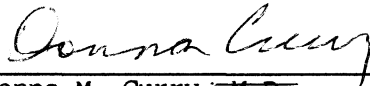
After commenting briefly in Item 3 in his report about the parking garage/playing field proposal, Dr. Clark informed the Board about an independent commission recently established by AUCC to examine university education in Canada. Mr. Stewart Smith (former Chair of the Science Council of Canada) has been appointed Commissioner, and the Commission, which is holding public hearings across Canada, will probably be in this area by late October. Further information will be provided to the Board as it becomes available.

Joint Senate/
Board Meeting

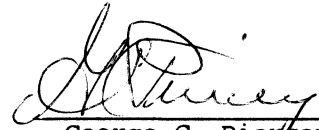
Dr. Clark announced that the Officers had agreed to serve as the Board's representatives at the statutory meeting with six Senate representatives in October. One more volunteer was needed and he asked interested Board members to contact the Secretary.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m. for a brief social gathering for new and present Board members.



Donna M. Curry, M.D.
Honorary Secretary



George C. Piercey, Q.C.
Chairperson

4. Studley Field/Parkade

Board members may have seen in the most recent issue of DalNews that Senate recently recommended that priority should be given to a combined parking garage and all-weather playing field to be located on the present Studley Field. Preliminary design work has begun and a survey of the parking situation will be conducted with the aid of a consulting company over the next few weeks. Full details will be discussed shortly with the Senate Physical Planning Committee and the Buildings and Grounds Committee, and a report will be presented to the Board in October.

There have been preliminary discussions of this project with the Alumni Association which is enthusiastic and supportive.

HCC/ek

enclosure