

Item: Senate Minutes, June 2000  
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**DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY**

**APPROVED MINUTES**

**OF**

**SENATE MEETING**

SENATE met in regular session on Thursday, June 12, 2000, at 4:00 p.m. in University Hall, Macdonald Building.

Present with Mr. C. Stuttard in the chair were the following:

Barnes, Benoit, Binkley, Bradfield, Brett, Carlson, Crocker, Eaton, El-Hawary, Emodi, Furrow, Girard, Gupta, Ipson, Jalilvand, Kipouros, MacInnis, Maes, Maloney, McIntyre, Pacey, Phillips, Poel, C. Powell, H. Powell, Rathwell, Ricketts, Sastri, Tindall, Traves, Ugursal, Vohra, Wainwright, Wallace, White, Whyte.

Regrets: Bell, Bleasdale, Coffin, Connolly, Cote, Cunningham, Farrell, Giacomantonio, Johnston, Kay-Raining Bird, Lee, Lohmann, MacAulay, B. MacDonald, Roberts, Russell, Scully, Shafai, Starnes.

**2000:54.**

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted as circulated, with Mr. Kipouros acting as note-taker in the Secretary's absence.

**2000:55.**

Minutes of Previous Meeting

a) Approval

The minutes of the meeting of May 18, 2000, were amended as follows: at p. 7, line 8 of 2000:51, "Canada Research Foundation" was changed to "Canada Foundation for Innovation"; at p. 8, line 9, the words "more difficult" were inserted after "become". The amended minutes were then APPROVED.

b) Matters arising

The Chair noted that the information distributed with the agenda, showing the nation-wide allocation of Canada Research Chairs, represented the President's response to Ms. Barnes' question recorded on p. 7 of the previous minutes.

Mr. Faulkner then lamented the absence of discussion on this issue in the Senate, given the considerable reservations and questions raised by the Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT). He suggested that the SAPBC ought to discuss the Canada Research Chairs program and bring forward a recommendation for further debate in the Senate. For example the program took for granted that there was a one-to-one correspondence between the amount of research funding and the value of the research done. Also, only 20% of the Chairs were assigned to the Social Sciences and Humanities while 40% of all university faculty were in this area. Mr. Stuttard undertook to bring Mr. Faulkner's suggestion to the

SAPBC. Mr. Ugursal questioned the purpose of such discussion by SAPBC; would it be simply to decide whether the Chairs should be accepted or not? Mr. Faulkner thought there were other issues, not least of which would be this University's view of whether the program was a good one or not.

**2000:56.**

Changes to the May Graduation List

In the absence of the Secretary, the Chair reported that the Associate Registrar had found errors in the records of three students who had been included on the May graduation list; two in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and the third in the Faculty of Management. The Associate Registrar, therefore, had requested that Senate rescind the corresponding degrees.

Ms. Binkley moved:

**That the degree of Bachelor of Science Advanced Major awarded to Steven John Gates be rescinded.**

The motion was **CARRIED** without dissent.

Ms. Binkley moved:

**That the degree of Bachelor of Education awarded to Ms. Patricia Ann Ward be rescinded.**

The Chair noted that Ms. Ward had qualified for and had been awarded the degree of Bachelor of Physical Education.

The motion was **CARRIED** without dissent.

Mr. Jalilvand moved:

**That the degree of Bachelor of Commerce awarded to Mr. Michael Leu be rescinded.**

The motion was **CARRIED** without dissent.

Mr. Stuttard then reported the need to add nine further names to the May graduation list plus the names of five B.Sc. (Agriculture) graduands that had been omitted from the NSAC graduation list. The reasons for the additions were given in correspondence to the Secretary of Senate. Mr. Stuttard read the names of the additional graduands:

B.Sc. - Enman El-Batrigi  
Cassandra Mailman  
Natalie Pike  
Patricia Poggie

B.A. - C. Mathew Barrie

David Mullally

B.A. Advanced Major - Erin Phillips

B.Sc. (Agriculture) - Gregory Morris  
Damien Betts  
Natalie Brady  
Amy Lemmon  
Sherri Robbins

Mr. Stuttard also noted that two further names were included as late additions, but actually had been included on Senate's original list: Andrew Cranmar (B.A.) and Terris Bourne (B.Sc. in Computer Science). The NSAC students had received their degrees at the NSAC convocation.

A motion to add those names to Senate's list of graduands for May, 2000, was put and the motion was **CARRIED** without dissent.

### **2000:57.**

#### Question Period

In response to Mr. El-Hawary, the Chair clarified that any further graduation list errors, if found, could be corrected by rescinding degrees, but no more additions would be made. If there were any other students found to be qualified to graduate, their names would be on the fall graduation list.

Mr. Ugursal asked why a sign bearing the name of Saint Mary's University had appeared on one of the former Halifax Infirmary buildings mentioned in the TUNS/Dalhousie amalgamation agreement. Mr. Traves explained that Gerard Hall was a former nurses residence which Saint Mary's University had sought to use while making renovations to its own students' residence building. This temporary arrangement had been made between Dalhousie and the government of Nova Scotia to allow Saint Mary's University to house students until the Saint Mary's renovations were completed. The long term plans for the building were still for it to be demolished. Mr. Traves expressed frustration regarding the longer term arrangements; it was now about 4 years since the amalgamation agreement, and all this time had been taken to get a formal indication of the disposition of the land. When the terms finally were presented by the government of Nova Scotia to Dalhousie University about a month ago, they included a cost of demolition of \$6m and payment of \$2.8m to the Ministry of Health. Dalhousie would also have to accept any liability due to contamination of land. The cost was higher than the preliminary estimation of the value of the property which was \$5m. The government estimated the land value \$7m for commercial use, but such use was not contemplated by Dalhousie. Given those terms (including 90 days to complete the deal), Mr. Traves questioned the intention of the government to transfer the Infirmary property to Dalhousie University. How serious was the proposal? Had it been made with the expectation of rejection? Or was it simply an opening negotiating position, which he thought was more likely. He would have more to report within the next 90 days, after environmental and engineering studies had been completed by Dalhousie.

Mr. Bradfield asked whether the new student ID numbers, specifically the two zeros, indicated the date of first registration as the current year 2000, or was their inclusion simply a coincidence? Ms. MacGillivray responded that the zeros did not signify date of registration, but she would pursue the possibility of using ID numbers to show this in future.

Mr. Bradfield also observed that the announced extension of the pension contribution holiday would save the University an amount greater than the savings gained through across-the-board budget cuts; therefore,

did the Administration intend to rescind those cuts, or accumulate the savings in a reserve fund to be applied to future operating budgets, or did it have other usages in mind for the pension holiday savings? The question would be referred to the Vice-President Finance and Administration.

**2000:58.**

Senate Nominating Committee

Mr. Boran, Chair of the Senate Nominating Committee, asked that the following motion be put:

**That the following nominations be approved:**

**To the Senate Committee on Academic Administration, Emilia Satos Montero (FASS), re-appointed for the term July 2000-June 2003; Mysore Satish (Engineering), re-appointed for the term July 2000-June 2003; Leonard MacLean (Management), re-appointed for the term July 2000-June 2003; and Edna Staples (Science), re-appointed for the term July 2000-June 2003;**

**To the Senate Discipline Committee, Stephen Butt (Engineering), for the term July 2000-June 2003; and Joseph Murphy (Dentistry), for the term July 2000-June 2003;**

**To the Senate Computing and Information Technology Planning Committee, Steven Mannell (Architecture), re-appointed for the term July 2000-June 2003; Art Sedgwick (Computer Science), re-appointed for the term July 2000-June 2003; and David Persaud (Health Professions), re-appointed for the term July 2000-June 2003;**

**To the Senate Committee on the Environment, Karolyn Waterson (FASS), re-appointed for the term July 2000-June 2003; and Raymond Coté (Management), re-appointed for the term July 2000-June 2003;**

**To the Senate Committee on Instructional Development, Tim Little (Engineering), re-appointed for the term July 2000-June 2003; Susan Mansour (Health Professions), re-appointed for the term July 2000-June 2003; and Susan Holmes (Henson College), for the term July 2000-June 2003;**

**To the Senate Library Committee, Denise Somerfeld (Health Professions), re-appointed for the term July 2000-June 2003;**

**To the Ombudsperson Advisory Committee, Gita Dinha (Medicine), re-appointed for the term July 2000-June 2003;**

**To the Advisory Council on Athletics, Nila Ipson (Elected senator), re-appointed for the term July 2000-June 2001;**

**To the University Hearing Committee, Mary Anne White (Science), re-appointed for the term July 2000-June 2002;**

**To the University Security and Parking Committee, Michael Gray (Medicine),  
re-appointed for the term July 2000-June 2001.**

The motion was duly put; there were no further nominations, and the nominees were declared elected to their respective committees. In response to a question from Mr. Wainwright regarding the composition of the Senate Library Committee, Mr. Boran noted that there were some six additional nominations pending, and the membership could include more than one person from some Faculties.

**2000:59.**

Nominations for Vice-Chair of Senate

Given the constitutional requirements regarding contested elections, the Chair confirmed his earlier e-mail message that the election of Vice-Chair of Senate would take place at the July 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of Senate. The two nominations presented to the Senate by the Nominating Committee were Mohammed E. El-Hawary (Engineering) and Dale Poel (Management). There were no further nominations from the floor.

**2000:60.**

SAPBC: Proposed Master of Health Services Administration/Master of Business Administration

On behalf of the SAPBC, Mr. Stuttard moved:

**That the proposal for a combined Master of Health Services Administration  
and Master of Business Administration program be approved.**

The motion was **CARRIED** without dissent.

**2000:61.**

1999-2000 Annual Report of the Senate Library Committee

On behalf of the Senate Library Committee, its Chair, Mr. White, moved:

**That the 1999-2000 Annual Report of the Senate Library Committee be  
adopted.**

Mr. White confirmed for Mr. Bradfield that he was aware that the proposal to amalgamate Science and Social Science and Humanities reference desks and collections was opposed by Librarians as well as users, but could not recall whether this had been discussed by the whole committee.

Mr. Tindall understood that the Faculty of Science had passed a motion against the amalgamation of those services and wondered whether the Senate Office had been notified of this motion. The question then was raised whether the amalgamation would proceed despite the opposition to the plan.

Mr. Maes replied that the amalgamation would go ahead. However, it was a co-location rather than a true amalgamation, because separate services would continue as requested by the Faculty of Science. Ms. Binkley noted that students and faculty members in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences had expressed support for the amalgamation as being very advantageous, not least because it would reduce the athletic

prowess now required of FASS members to use those library services.

Mr. Faulkner asked the Chair of Senate about the procedure the Senate intended to follow regarding the recent motion against the amalgamation adopted by the Faculty of Science, given the possibility that the amalgamation might alter employment agreements and might lead to grievances being filed. The Chair observed that the motion had not yet been communicated to the Senate Office.

Mr. Bradfield asked for clarification regarding whether the proposed changes would constitute amalgamation or not. Mr. Maes replied that he had argued that the proposed changes, in his opinion, were not an amalgamation plan, but were a co-location to improve the efficiency of the library. No one had yet demonstrated that the changes would be detrimental to the users of science library services.

In response to Mr. Wainwright, Mr. Maes agreed that some library staff did not agree with the changes, but stressed that the needs of all users would be better served by the new arrangement. Most questions put to reference desk librarians were not discipline-oriented and could be answered by all librarians. Of greater concern was the fact that only 25% of the campus (sic) actually had library cards.

Ms. McIntyre objected to the intrusiveness of comments made by previous speakers regarding the operations of an administrative unit, and questioned their relevance to the motion. Mr. Whyte thought the discussion was important, but also wondered how some comments pertained to the motion. In response to Mr. Tindall, Mr. White clarified that library staff were not represented on the Senate Library Committee, and the committee that had proposed the amalgamation was a Killam Library Committee, not the Senate Library Committee. The latter had not adopted any position regarding the proposed amalgamation.

The motion to adopt the Senate Library Committee's annual report was CARRIED.

## **2000:62.**

### Report of the President

Mr. Traves conveyed three items of information. The first concerned a recent announcement about an arrangement between two Faculties at Dalhousie and a large, local company, Knowledge House (KH), involved in promoting various educational activities. That company had launched a program loosely based on the International Baccalaureate which was available to students in at least one Halifax school. Students coming to the University with a high-school international baccalaureate could be admitted with advanced standing in some programs. In the Knowledge House arrangement, students would undertake co-operative work terms and problem-based learning through information technology. The company had approached the University some time ago about the possibility of giving advanced standing to graduates of their program. They had invited several faculty members to become consultants for KH and some were contracted to design a curriculum to meet the standards expected for advanced standing in the Faculty of Science. Mr. Traves understood that the Faculty of Science and the Faculty of Management had agreed to this arrangement, and the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences was considering the proposal. Students could take the KH program alone, but the Faculties' arrangement with KH would make advanced standing at Dalhousie a certainty in advance for students who completed the program. The significance of the arrangement included its exclusivity to Dalhousie, although other Universities could enter a similar arrangement. There were potential financial and recruitment benefits to Dalhousie. Also, advanced standing was an arrangement between the Faculty and the Registrar and was not a matter requiring legislative approval.

Mr. Traves' second item concerned new opportunities grants announced by the Canada Foundation for Innovation. Four faculty members at Dalhousie had been awarded grants totaling \$500,000. However, matching funds were needed for three of these. The general issue of matching funds was a very important one and various possibilities were being explored.

The third item concerned an Atlantic Innovations or Initiatives Fund revealed in a recent newspaper "scoop", according to which the Federal Government would provide some \$700m to Atlantic Canada. Dalhousie was active in promoting Federal attention to university issues in Atlantic Canada. Pressing issues included the ACOA matching funds for CFI grants, and facilities renewal. Mr. Traves would report back when more information was available.

Returning to the Knowledge House proposal, Mr. Crocker asked whether Dalhousie would get fees only if a student was admitted with advanced standing. Mr. Traves responded that completion of a KH program would automatically give advanced standing in a program of a participating Dalhousie Faculty. Mr. Wainwright expressed reservations about arrangements with education businesses which believed that classroom teaching was obsolete and that the future of education lay in the Internet.

Ms. Binkley clarified that the Knowledge House Global Baccalaureate involved a combination of Science and Management and was not the same as the International Baccalaureate which related largely to Arts and Social Sciences and Humanities. Mr. Traves responded that his comparison was only notional and not meant to mislead anyone or to confuse the new Global Baccalaureate with the existing International Baccalaureate. The former would be oriented to specific programs in the participating Faculties and would not apply to general admission to the University. He also agreed with Mr. Wainwright's points; he was not endorsing a mechanism of instruction, only the degree of preparation of students for admission to Dalhousie.

### **2000:63.**

#### Acknowledgments

The Chair acknowledged Senators whose terms were ending and presented Mr. Kipouros with a memento of his past service as Vice-Chair of Senate.

### **2000:64.**

#### Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.