

Item: Board of Governors Minutes, February 1991
Call Number: Board of Governors Fonds UA-1, 57.6

Additional Notes:

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BOARD OF GOVERNORS
DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

AGENDA

Tuesday, February 19, 1991 - 4:00 p.m.
Board and Senate Room

1. Minutes of Board Meeting of January 22, 1991 (enclosed)
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Board Matters
 - (a) Schedule of Meetings for 1991-92 (enclosed)
4. Reports of Standing Committees
 - (a) Buildings and Grounds Committee (Mr. Newman)
 - (b) Development Committee (Dr. Curry)
 - (c) Staff Relations Committee (Mrs. Green)
5. Report on Campus Planning Sessions (Mr. Cowan)
6. President's Report
7. Other Business
8. In Camera - Report on D.S.A. Settlement

Additional Enclosure

- University Affairs - February 1991

Minutes of a Meeting of the
Board of Governors held on Tuesday,
February 19, 1991 at 4:00 p.m. in
the Board and Senate Room

Dalhousie University
Halifax, Nova Scotia

PRESENT: Mr. George C. Piercey,
Chairperson
Mr. Charles Aldrich
Dr. Marie Battiste
Mr. Daniel Campbell
Dr. Howard C. Clark
President
Mr. Ralph Cochrane
Mr. George T.H. Cooper
Mr. J. Dickson Crawford
Dr. Donna Curry
Honorary Secretary
Mr. Fred J. Dickson
Mr. H. Lawrence Doane
Mr. Fred S. Fountain
Mrs. Lorraine Green
Honorary Treasurer

Mr. Donald A. Kerr
Dr. Patricia Lane
Mr. Thomas E.G. Lynch
Mrs. Annemarie Macdonald
Ms. Bernadette Macdonald
Dr. Albro MacKeen
Mr. Donald Manson
Sr. Patricia Mullins
Mr. Norman Newman
Judge Ian Palmeter
Mrs. Ruth Pulsifer
Dr. Judith A. Ritchie
Ms. Patricia Roscoe
Mr. Allan C. Shaw
Vice-Chairperson
Dr. Donald Sobey
Miss Barbara Walker

Also present were Dr. Denis Stairs (Vice-President, Academic and Research); Mr. Bryan G. Mason (Vice-President, Finance & Administration); Mr. Eric A. McKee (Vice-President, Student Services); Mr. Henry E. Eberhardt (Vice-President, External); Mr. Brian C. Crocker (University Secretary & Legal Counsel); and Ms. Elizabeth A. Merrick (Secretary).

Regrets were received from: Mr. David Almon, Dr. Wayne Bell, Dr. Fay Cohen, Hon. T. Alex Hickman, Mr. Joseph Loughheed, Mr. George MacDonald, Hon. Jacqueline Matheson, Ms. Maxine Tynes, Mrs. Peggy Weld, Mr. Sherman Zwicker.

Minutes

The Minutes of the Board meeting held on January 22, 1991 were approved as circulated.

Agenda

Items added to the agenda included an announcement by Mr. Cochrane, a presentation by Ms. Lara Morris and Chris Bellon, and a report on the pension proposal by Mr. Shaw. These are reported on below.

Student Union Elections

Mr. Cochrane announced that Mr. Brian Hill and Mr. Tom Digby had been elected as the Student Union's representatives on the Board, and that Mr. Peter Pottier and Ms. Hilary Wells had been elected the new President and Vice-President of the Student Union respectively. The students would take office on May 1st.

Schedule of Meetings

A schedule of Board meetings for 1991-92 (Appendix A) had been pre circulated. Dr. Clark drew attention to the revised dates of the October and December meetings in 1991, and noted that the date of the May meeting next year would be finalized when Convocation dates for the spring of 1992 became known. The June 1992 meeting would be held a week later than usual to allow time for the audited financial statements to be prepared for Board consideration.

Reports of
Standing
Committees

Buildings and Grounds Committee

Mr. Newman said this committee had met today and had covered an extensive agenda. A report would be made to the Board in March.

Development Committee

This committee had no report.

Staff Relations Committee

Mrs. Green presented the following motion:

That the Board of Governors ratify the collective agreement with the Dalhousie Staff Association, subject to its ratification by the Association.

The motion, seconded by Dr. Lane, was approved.

Mrs. Green regretfully reported that Dean-elect Thomas Cromwell had submitted his resignation, and that an Acting Dean was being sought while the situation in the Law School was being reviewed. Mr. Cooper asked that the Board have an opportunity to discuss the situation in the Law School, and it was agreed to hold this discussion during the in camera session at the end of the regular meeting.

President's
Report

Dr. Clark elaborated on his written summary (Appendix B) about events and functions which had occurred in various places he had visited during his recent trip to South East Asia. He had met with alumni in Hong Kong, Kuala Lumpur and Auckland and noted that while the gatherings were small in number, the alumni had been enthusiastic and pleased to have contact with the University. Dr. Clark had visited Nepal in connection with the CIDA-funded project there linking Dalhousie and Tribhuvan University. While there had participated in the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding for the project. At meetings of the ACU executive heads held in Delhi, Dr. Clark had spoken with a number of his counterparts and learned that all Commonwealth universities were feeling pressures from government interventions. While on vacation in Goa he had met a number of influential people and had some very interesting discussions comparing Canadian federalism with India's government system. During his visit to the Philippines, Dr. Clark had visited the CIDA-funded project linking Dalhousie with the University of the Philippines (Los Banos). He commented on the decentralization of CIDA projects there, and the environmentally pleasant campus at Los Banos, where he had participated in the opening of a new wing of the building occupied by the Institute of Environmental Science and Management. He had also visited a number of agricultural projects in the area in which the IESAM was involved. In Jakarta, Dr. Clark had participated in discussions relating to Dalhousie's EMDI Project III. That project, he said, was the largest CIDA-funded project (\$30,000 over a five-year period) in any Canadian university, was very impressive in its scope and complexity, and was regarded internationally as the very forefront of what is happening in environmental management. While in Indonesia Dr.

Clark said he had visited Jogjakarta to sign an exchange agreement in Environmental Studies between Dalhousie and Gadjra Mada University. That university, he commented had more than 60 exchange agreements around the world and a faculty who had a far better understanding of where the world was going because of these exchange agreements.

Dr. Clark told Board members that his trip to South East Asia had left him with three major impressions: (a) that all universities in all countries face exactly the same problems associated with under-funding, the increasing level of government intervention, and the need to seek out alternative funding sources and thus the need to develop alumni and development programmes; (b) that internationally Canada was held in high regard, as was CIDA and IDRC whose projects were very impressive. Dalhousie, itself, was well known and very highly regarded through its EMDI project in Indonesia; and (c) that Canadians faced a serious problem, relative to South East Asian countries through our lack of international awareness in a rapidly changing world. Dr. Clark stressed the importance for Dalhousie, and other Canadian universities, to become more "internationalized" and aware of what is happening in other parts of the world. When asked how this lack of international awareness might be addressed, Dr. Clark suggested possible steps the university might take would include the development of exchange agreements with other institutions and finding international donors for the university. He thought it important to find ways to send Canadians elsewhere and to bring more foreign students to Canada. Dr. Lane noted that Senate's report on its review of international development studies at the University would contain ways of raising Dalhousie's image. Senate also planned to hold another forum about global change to see what more Dalhousie could be doing.

Campus Plan

Mr. Jim Cowan reported that at the consultants' initial round of workshops a few weeks ago there had been good participation from all segments of the university and city. The consultants felt they had gained a good insight into a range of issues facing the university. At a second round of workshops to be held the second week of April the consultants would present various options to the university for discussion. As a result of those discussions the consultants would prepare a final plan for the university by the end of May. The Campus Planning Committee would continue to monitor the campus plan to ensure it is rational and one that can be implemented over a period of time.

Campus Safety

Ms. Lara Morris and Ms. Chris Bellon, representing the Dalhousie Women's Group, were invited to address the Board about the concerns women students have regarding safety on campus. After outlining some of the activities of the Group in its on-going awareness campaign relating to campus safety and the issue of violence against women, Ms. Morris said she would like to see the reality of these issues addressed by the university community. In light of anti-rape campaigns across campuses elsewhere and the risk of

lawsuits now faced by universities for their negligence in informing students about safety, Ms. Morris said the Women's Group had felt it timely to make the Board aware of the situation and to ask the Board to deal with safety problems which have been identified by the group. These problems included the lack of lighting in dark spots on campus, particularly around the Killam and Tupper buildings; the lack of foot-patrols by security guards; the university's failure to inform students when incidents took place on campus (such as in the Donald Way situation); and the slow university's slow response to remedy safety problems brought to the its attention. All these issues, she said, affected faculty, staff and students on campus. She said the Security Office was generally supportive of efforts to improve safety for women on campus, and she asked the Board to ensure that Security and the Sexual Harassment Advisory Committee had adequate budgets to do their jobs. In closing, Ms. Morris said students would like to see more sensitivity shown by the university about safety issues brought to its attention, some positive improvement in the release of information about incidents on campus as they happen, and more encouragement given to the reporting of incidents.

Ms. Newman asked that a copy of Ms. Morris' presentation to the Board be provided to Mr. Lord who was responsible for campus security. He also suggested that students could help improve safety on campus by undertaking to provide a walk-home service and highly visible foot patrols on campus, and by encouraging students to use those services. Mr. Cochrane indicated that the Student Union was looking into providing these services and wondered whether more support for security would be included in the campus plan. Mr. Newman said the matter would probably be raised after the consultants next presentation.

Dr. Clark, in responding to the issues raised by Ms. Morris, assured those present that senior administration was very aware of and concerned about the whole issue of security on campus. Major improvements had been made in lighting on campus in past years, he said, and the University would continue to make improvements as money became available. With regard to incidents on campus, Dr. Clark responded that because of its location and the difficulty in controlling public access to its campus, the University would always have this problem to face. Dr. Clark said he was concerned about Ms. Morris' reference to the university's lack of response to calls about safety problems and about the lack of sensitivity shown by persons receiving these calls. He asked that situations of this nature be brought to the attention of Vice-Presidents Mason or McKee, or himself, so they could be addressed.

Dr. Ritchie commented that while lighting on campus had improved, she had found that calls to the administration to correct lighting problems were not received warmly and often were not responded to for several weeks. A process needed to be put in place to ensure that lighting on campus was in working order at all times, and

calls about safety problems needed to be taken more seriously and with more sensitivity by people receiving such calls. As discussion ended Ms. Bellon reiterated the need to allay students' false sense of security on campus by improving the flow of information between the administration and the students, and pointed out the need to have buildings patrolled as well as the campus. These suggestions by students, she said, were made to prevent incidents from happening on campus.

At Mr. Shaw's suggestion, it was agreed that the Board would be provided with a full report on security issues, including information about security issues that arise on a monthly basis, action taken to address security issues, and patrols actually carried out in buildings and on campus. The Chairman thanked Ms. Morris and Ms. Bellon for bringing their concerns before the Board.

Pension
Proposal

Mr. Shaw referred to the Financial Strategy Committee's recommendation which the Board had approved last year to use a portion of the pension surplus to reduce the University's debt and to make some improvements in pension benefits. That proposal had subsequently been approved by most union groups, but CUPE had made several counter-proposals which the FSC has considered. Meanwhile, due to fluctuating market conditions, Mr. Shaw informed the Board, the pension surplus on which the original proposal had been based no longer existed, and the possibility of putting the pension proposal on hold had been discussed with the Pension Advisory Committee. Since then, Mr. Mason had prepared another proposal (Appendix C) for the Board's consideration. This second proposal which was before the Board today, Mr. Shaw said, was basically the same as the original proposal, except that it would be for a one-year period instead of three and would be reviewed by all groups at the end of the first year to see if it would be appropriate to continue. Mr. Shaw explained why he thought the pension proposal should be saved, and asked that the Board allow him and Mr. Mason to take the modified proposal to employee groups. The proposal, he assured the Board, would not proceed without the full agreement of all unions on campus. It was moved by Mr. Shaw, and seconded by Mr. Lynch, that

The Board amend its motion of 15 May 1990 with respect to the Financial Strategy Committee's pension proposal so that reductions in employee and employer pension contributions and improvements in pension benefits be implemented on a partial basis, with the understanding that the Board and the employee groups would review the pension surplus situation after the first year to determine if an extension of the program would be possible.

During discussion period Mr. Mason answered Members' questions about the cost implications of the proposal and explained that the provision to improve pension benefits met the condition CUPE had put on the proposal. Board Members noted that the provision to

calculate pensions on an employee's best three-year average salary was a very generous move on the University's part. Mr. Mason indicated that this part of the provision relating to improvements in pension benefits was not a condition of the proposal and would be developed through the Pension Advisory Committee.

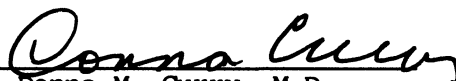
When put to the Board for a vote, the above motion was APPROVED.

Financial
Strategy
Committee

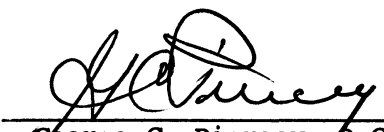
It was decided to defer presentation and discussion on the FSC's quarterly report until the next meeting of the Board.

Adjournment
for In Camera
Session

The business of the regular meeting having been completed, the Board moved into an in camera session at 5:40 p.m. to receive a report on the tentative settlement with the Dalhousie Staff Association, and to discuss the situation in the Law School.



Donna M. Curry, M.D.
Honorary Secretary



George C. Piercey, Q.C.
Chairperson

DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Schedule of Meetings for 1991-92

Note: Meetings of the full Board of Governors will ordinarily commence at 4 p.m. and will be held in the Senate and Board Room in the Arts and Administration Building unless otherwise advised. All meetings are open except for "in camera" portions of the meeting. Board members will receive agenda and documents in advance of all scheduled meetings.

Tuesday, September 17, 1991

Tuesday, October 22, 1991

Tuesday, November 19, 1991

Tuesday, December 10, 1991

Tuesday, January 21, 1992

Tuesday, February 18, 1992

Tuesday, March 17, 1992

Tuesday, April 21, 1992

Tuesday, May 19, 1992 (or Tuesday, May 26)*

Tuesday, June 23, 1992

*subject to 1992 Convocation schedule

DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Proposed Schedule of Meetings for 1991-92

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