

Item: Senate Minutes, June 2003
Call Number: Senate fonds, UA-5

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DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

APPROVED MINUTES

OF

SENATE MEETING

SENATE met in regular session on Monday, June 23, 2003, in University Hall, MacDonald Building.

Present with Mr. Fraser in the chair were the following:

Ben-Abdallah, Blunden, Caldwell, Caley, Campbell, Cercone, Cochrane, Corke, Coughlan, Cunningham, Earl, Galarneau, Guy, Hamilton, Jalilvand, Jost, Lahey, N. MacDonald, MacInnis, MacLean, McGrath, McIntyre, Meagher-Stewart, Moore, Murphy, Neumann, Pelzer, Rowe, Schroeder, Scott, Scully, Sommerfeld (Recording Secretary), Stroink, Stuttard, Traves, Ugursal, Whyte, Workman.

Regrets: Barnes, Binkley, Breckenridge, Coffin, Connolly, DasGupta, Downe-Wamboldt, El-Hawary, Elliott, Emodi, Finley, Grantmyre, Harvey, Huebert, Kwak, Loudon, B. MacDonald, Macrae, Maes, McNiven, Neves, Parpart, Partridge, Phillips, Rajora, Rathwell, Russell, Starnes, Watters.

Absent: Hankey, Hart, Keast.

Invitees: R. LeBlanc, S. Nugent, F. Woodman.

2003:054.

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was ADOPTED as circulated.

2003:055.

Draft Minutes of Previous Meeting

I) **Approval**

The minutes of the meeting of April 21, 2003 were ADOPTED as circulated.

ii) Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

iii) Approval

The minutes of the meeting of April 28, 2003 were ADOPTED as amended.

iv) Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

v) Approval

The minutes of the meeting of May 15, 2003 were ADOPTED as amended.

vi) Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

2003:056.

Report of the Chair

The MPHEC at its April 28, 2003 meeting approved Dalhousie's proposal for a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Studies program. Mr Fraser invited Mr. Scully to reiterate comments made at the June 9, 2003 meeting regarding possible reasons for delay in the approval of this program by the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission (MPHEC). Mr. Scully commented that with new or modified program proposals, that there was a clear expectation from MPHEC that there be adequate consultation with other universities where such programs in any way overlap with those of other institutions, particularly local institutions. The Advisory Committee which reports to MPHEC on programs had urged in this instance, more consultation with St. Mary's University. He noted that in the internal review of proposals at Dalhousie, the Senate Academic Priorities & Budget Committee (SAPBC) needed to pay particular attention to whether there was clear documented evidence of timely, thorough and formal consultation with other Universities, otherwise delays and possible opposition at the MPHEC level could be anticipated. Mr. Fraser noted that SAPBC was in the process of revising the New and Modified Program Proposal form and these points would be included in the revision.

Mr. Fraser noted that Mr. Eric McKee, by memo dated May 28, 2003, had notified the Secretary of Senate that the Report of the *ad hoc* Committee to Consider Revisions to the Code of Student Conduct would not be completed until the fall. The original target date for the report was May 2003.

Mr. Fraser reported that the Senate at its March 24, 2003 meeting referred back to the Steering Committee, the Faculty of Health Professions proposed change to Senate's regulations concerning criteria for appointment of Professor Emeritus, specifically a modification to the requirement that a candidate must have held a full-time appointment for at least ten years prior to retirement. At its June 4, 2003, meeting, the Senate Steering Committee considered further the proposed modification and President Traves' March 28, 2003, memo confirming that while the current policy normally required past service at Dalhousie for ten years in the rank of Professor, he was quite willing to consider recommendations of candidates who have not met the "ten-year rule" for reasons related to unusual career patterns, but who otherwise satisfy the University's high standards for the exceptional recognition. The Steering Committee members were in general agreement that the "ten-year rule" be retained for the time being.

2003:057.

Question Period

Mr. McGrath asked Mr. Traves what actions the Council of Nova Scotia University Presidents had taken to assure that higher learning was on the provincial election agenda. Mr. Traves responded that at a meeting of that group earlier in the week, the matter had been discussed extensively. He commented that there had been extensive communication with all three major political parties and a lobbying process vis-a-vis the platforms of each Party was being undertaken.

Mr. Scott repeated an inquiry made at a previous meeting regarding where the funds that were allotted to the University through the Canadian Research Chair funds could be found in the budget, and as well, as regards to the Atlantic Innovation Fund (AIF), where the overhead money for the University from those grants showed in the budget. Mr. Traves responded that an answer to these questions was being prepared with the Vice-Presidents and he was awaiting that response so as to be as accurate as possible.

2003:058.

Changes to the Graduation List

Mr. Fraser reported that in accordance with Senate procedures, subsequent to Senate's May 15, 2003, approval of the May Graduation List, the following names were added to the list:

Bachelor of Arts: Aaron Petrie (King's); Coralee Clarke did not meet honours requirement, so Advanced Major degree awarded

Bachelor of Commerce (Co-op): Maris A. MacDonald.

Bachelor of Computer Science (Co-op): Christian A. Duguay.

Diploma in Dental Hygiene: Kelly Drake, inadvertently left off the Faculty of Dentistry's May graduation list).

Bachelor of Engineering: Robert Jollimore (Civil Engineering with distinction); Jennifer Crowdis (Metallurgical Engineering), degree completed in December 2002 but inadvertently omitted from May Graduation List; Corey Hennessey (Metallurgical Engineering), degree completed in December 2002 but inadvertently omitted from May Graduation List; Andrew Taylor (Metallurgical Engineering), degree completed in December 2002 but inadvertently omitted from May Graduation List. In addition, Distinction was added to the degrees awarded to Jaymi T. Cormier, Ashley Harris and James A. London.

Bachelor of Science (Nursing): Jacqueline McNabb, grades received May 20/03 from Athabasca.

Bachelor of Science: Melissa F. Drake, grade received from Athabasca May 15/03; Jean-Daniel Comeau, late grade change received May 15/03 for Dalhousie class.

2003:059.

Senate Nominating Committee

Mr. Fraser welcomed Ms. Woodman, Chair of the Senate Nominating Committee, to the meeting.

a) Nomination of Vice-Chair of Senate

Mr. Fraser relinquished the Chair *pro tem* to Mr. Coughlan. On behalf of the Senate Nominating Committee, Ms. Woodman **moved**:

THAT Lloyd Fraser, Henson College, serve as Vice-Chair of Senate for a second term, July 1,2003 to June 30, 2006.

After the requisite three calls for further nominations, the motion was **CARRIED**.

Mr. Fraser resumed the Chair.

- b) Nominations to Senate , Board and University Committees

On behalf of the Senate Nominating Committee, Ms. Woodman **moved**:

THAT the people listed in Ms. Woodman's June 13, 2003, memorandum to the Secretary of Senate, distributed with today's agenda, be elected to serve on the designated committees.

After the requisite three calls for further nominations, the motion was **CARRIED**.

Mr. Fraser thanked Ms. Woodman and the Senate Nominating Committee members for the significant work involved in assembling this roster of nominees.

2003:060.

Senate Steering Committee

- i) *Nominations to the University Librarian Review Committee*

On behalf of the Senate Steering Committee, Mr. Fraser **moved**:

THAT the Senate approve the following nominations to serve as Senate's four appointees on the University Librarian Review Committee: David Chen (Faculty of Engineering), Colin MacLean (Henson College and member of the Senate Library Committee), Karen Mann (Faculty of Medicine), and Ron Tetreault (Department of English and member of the Senate Computer & Information Technology Planning Committee).

The motion was **CARRIED**.

- ii) *Nominations to the Senate Nominating Committee*

On behalf of the Senate Steering Committee, Mr. Fraser **moved**:

THAT the Senate approve the following nominees to serve on the Senate Nominating Committee: Allan Jost (Faculty of Computer Science) and Stan Cameron (Faculty of Science) for a second term, September 1, 2003 to August 31, 2006, and Jean Hughes (Faculty of Health Professions) for the three-year term, September 1, 2003 to August 31, 2006.

The motion was **CARRIED**.

2003:061.

Senate Academic Priorities and Budget Committee (SAPBC)

- i) *Proposed Degree Program: Bachelor of Engineering (Computer Engineering)*

On behalf of the SAPBC, Mr. Fraser **moved**:

THAT the Senate approve the Faculty of Engineering's proposal to establish a Bachelor of Engineering (Computer Engineering) program.

Mr. Fraser invited Mr. Caley and Mr. Nugent to speak to the proposal. Mr. Caley summarized the intent of the proposal as one to change what was currently an option in the Bachelor of Electrical Engineering program to an accredited computer engineering program. He indicated that it involved the addition of one course from the Faculty of Computer Science with that Faculty's assurance that it would be able to absorb students in this proposed program into that required course. He pointed out that to date, Dalhousie had been one of a few universities with an Engineering Faculty that did not offer such an accredited computer engineering program. Mr. Nugent commented that having this program should help to retain students who would otherwise leave to seek the program elsewhere.

The motion was **CARRIED**.

- ii) *Proposed Name Change: Department of Ophthalmology to Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences*

On behalf of SAPBC, Mr. Fraser **moved**:

THAT the Senate approve the Faculty of Medicine's request to change the name of its Department of Ophthalmology to the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences.

Mr. Fraser invited Ms. MacDonald and Mr. LeBlanc to comment on the proposal. Ms. MacDonald noted that the new name is a better reflection of that department's activities over the past number of years, including a substantial increase in visual science research. Similar name changes have occurred in Faculties of Medicine at the University of British Columbia, University of Toronto, and the University of Ottawa, for example. She reported that there was extensive consultation within the Faculty of Medicine on the name change and as well, the SAPBC received agreement on the change from the Faculties of Science and Health Professions. Mr. LeBlanc reiterated Ms. MacDonald's comments noting that the change would put visual sciences within a more advantageous profile within the Faculty of Medicine and the University as well as with universities across Canada, from the perspective of funding agencies in particular. Mr. LeBlanc also took the opportunity to introduce Dr. Allen Cruiz, the new designated Head of the Department of Ophthalmology as of July 1, 2003, who accompanied him to this meeting.

The motion was **CARRIED**.

iii) *Proposal to Amalgamate Henson College and Continuing Technical Education*

On behalf of the SAPBC, Mr. Fraser **moved**:

THAT the Senate approve the amalgamation of Henson College and Continuing Technical Education in a new senior academic unit to be called the Dalhousie University College of Continuing Education, and that the amalgamation under this new name take effect July 1, 2003.

Mr. Fraser invited Mr. Scully to comment. Mr. Scully referred to the excerpt from the minutes of the SAPBC meeting of June 2, 2003, that had been previously circulated with the agenda for the June 9, 2003, Senate meeting which failed to meet a quorum. Given that the matter had received unanimous approval at SAPBC and with the permission of the Chair of Senate, the current motion was brought to the June 17, 2003, meeting of the Board of Governors and was approved with the understanding that any final approval would be pending approval by Senate.

Mr. Cochrane noted that while there were several pockets of excellence in continuing education at Dalhousie, this particular amalgamation enabled a combining of resources, expertise, history and reputation of two of those centres, and would enable a collaborative approach to continuing education while exploiting the "brand", that is, Dalhousie University Continuing Education, more so than in the past. He indicated that the faculty and staff of both Henson College and Continuing Technical Education endorsed the proposal.

Mr. Stuttard, in reference to Mr. Scully's memo of May 26, 2003, on page 2, paragraph 2, inquired as to which recommendations as listed in "Attachment B" would not be acted upon. Mr. Scully responded that at this point he could not specify as some involve the

President's Office directly, such as those regarding financial matters, and others would be more appropriately within the realm of those directly involved with the College of Continuing Education itself.

Mr. McGrath inquired as to the physical space to be occupied by the proposed College of Continuing Education. Mr. Traves responded that the former Henson College would be housed in the City Centre Atlantic in the space previously occupied by ITI, indicating that Dalhousie had negotiated agreement to sublease that space for seven years. Costume Studies would also be housed in that space as it had received a significant rent increase in current quarters. There would be no change in the current location of the Continuing Technical Education component.

Mr. Jalilvand asked whether the College would be setting policies for continuing education activities in other units or whether it would serve as a means of information, communication and promotion of continuing education activities. Mr. Scully responded that it would be the latter with a vision to benefit from the aggregate of success in continuing education activities across the campus.

The motion was **CARRIED**.

2003:062.

Enrollment Planning and Management Report #4

Mr. Fraser invited Mr. Scully to comment. Mr. Scully noted that the plan as set for the academic year 2003-04 was deemed to be sound overall, with some unpredicted shortfalls in some areas and increases in others. He stated that this would not be a typical year given the Ontario cohort. He noted that the Report did identify areas where specific preparation was needed and that this work had been done. He pointed out on page 7 of the Report the indication of institutional initiatives on quality of student learning and curricula which were well supported by the Deans, and as well issues related to recruitment of new faculty, in particular the development of five year staffing plans for Faculties.

In response to a question from Mr. McGrath, Mr. Scully indicated that the number of anticipated students as identified in the Plan to 2007 would be reviewed on a regular basis to determine if those numbers continued to be realistic.

Mr. Traves commented on a recent survey conducted by the MPHEC on the graduates of the class of 1999 that was an update of a survey done on the graduates of 1996, reporting on where those graduates were in 2001 in relation to a variety of demographic factors. He noted that roughly one quarter of the 1999 graduates in 2001 were residents outside of Nova Scotia, but were residents in Nova Scotia prior to going to university. At the same time, of those who resided outside of Nova Scotia prior to coming to Nova Scotia for university, approximately twenty percent stayed in Nova Scotia after graduation at least

until 2001, thus largely off-setting the "brain-drain" resulting from those graduates who had left the Province. He noted that this data provided a key message for recruiting students from outside Nova Scotia, as well as for lobbying for support from government.

Mr. Stuttard inquired about plans to increase the enrollment in the Faculty of Medicine. Mr. Scully responded that government funding had been allotted to increase enrollment by eight for the coming year, but whether this would continue for the next four years was unknown at this time.

Mr. Scully noted the listing of Committee members in the Report and extended his thanks to those members for their committed work.

2003:063.

2003-2004 University Operating Budget

Mr. Fraser reported that the 2003-2004 University Operating Budget had been on the agenda for the June 9, 2003, Senate meeting which had been cancelled due to lack of quorum. He noted that there had been a full discussion of the BAC XXVII Report both at SAPBC and at Senate, and SAPBC had discussed the Operating Budget as well. However, that Budget did proceed to the Board prior to this meeting of Senate. Ms. McIntyre inquired as to the fringe benefit rate which was not identified in the materials received. She noted that the rate began last year at 11.9% of all salaries, it was raised to 12.1% during the course of the year, and in the budgets received by the Deans on June 16, 2003, the benefit rate was 16.1 % with a pension adjustment noted in a very small footnote. She asked if the budget currently under discussion included the 16.1% fringe benefit rate for all salaries, how the 33% increase in fringe benefits was decided upon, and the financial implications for non-operating budgets in terms of costs to Faculties. Mr. Traves responded that the principal drivers of fringe benefits were the pension fund adjustments and the rising costs related to health care benefits which are essentially user-driven. He stated that he would seek further clarity with Vice-President Mason on the matter and report back to Senate.

2003:064.

Report of the President

Mr. Traves extended his thanks to all members of Senate for their service over the past year to Senate as well as to students and to respective Faculties, indicating that there had been many significant accomplishments in terms of programs offered, research activities and community relationships, as well as to overall development of the institution.

2003:065.

Other Business

On behalf of Senate, Mr. Fraser extended thanks to those elected Senators whose terms end June 30, 2003: Wayne Hankey, Frank Harvey, Carolyn Watters, Don Cunningham, Rita Caldwell, Barbara Downe-Wamboldt, Karen Neves, Robert Blunden, Leonard MacLean, Paul Murphy, Richard Rowe, Stephen Workman, John Connolly, David Scott, Gerhard Stroink, Pat Keast.

Mr Fraser also thanked those retiring Academic Administrators whose administrative appointments end June 30: Tom Emodi, Dean of the Faculty of Architecture and Planning; William MacInnis, Dean of the Faculty of Dentistry; Chris Moore, Acting Dean of the Faculty of Science; Colin Starnes, President of King's College; and Garth Coffin, Principal of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College.

2003:066.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Mo El-Hawary, Chair of Senate

Denise Sommerfeld, Secretary of Senate