

Item: Senate Minutes, October 2004
Call Number: Senate fonds, UA-5

Additional Notes:

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DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

APPROVED MINUTES

OF

SENATE MEETING

SENATE met in regular session on Monday, October 4, 2004 at 4:00 p.m. in the University Hall, Macdonald Building.

Present with Mr. Fraser in the Chair were the following: Barker, Barkow, Breckenridge, Caley, Camfield, Cleave, Cochrane, Cook, Coughlan, Coxon, Das Gupta, Dauphinee, Evans, Finley, Finbow, Hicks, Houlihan, Jalilvand, Jost, Klein, Kwak, Livingston, Maes, McGrath, McIntyre, McMullen, McNeil, Morgunov, Murphy, O'Brien, Oppong, Pelzer, Pronk, Rajora, Richard, Russell, Satish, Scrimger, Scully, Sommerfeld (Recording Secretary), Stone, Stuttard, Swanston, Traves, Wallace, Zalezsak, Zuck.

Regrets: Beazley, Butler, Earl, El-Hawary, Farrell, Hamilton, Meagher-Stewart, Phillips, Precious, Rutherford, Stroink, Sullivan, Taheri, Taylor,

Absent: Ben-Abdullah, Binkley, Bond, Cercone, Corke, Danielson, Dunphy, Horackova, MacDonald, Scott, Wanzel, Whyte.

Invitees in attendance: A. Kaiser, A. Power.

2004:069

Adoption of the Agenda

Mr. Fraser called the meeting to order at 4:00. The following items were added to the agenda: #9. *In Camera* - Report from Honorary Degrees Committee, and under #10. Other Business: 10.1 Senate Representatives to the Review Committee for the Vice-President Research. The agenda was **ADOPTED** as amended.

2004:70

Draft Minutes of Previous Meetings

i) Approval

The minutes of the meeting of September 13, 2004 were **ADOPTED** as corrected.

ii) Matters Arising

Mr. Fraser asked Mr. Scully to respond to the matter of vehicle safety in the Dalplex parking lot. Mr. Scully replied that he was awaiting information from Mr. Mason.

Mr. Scully stated that, in reference to Enrolment Planning and Management, enrollment for the current academic year was expected to be increased by 300-350 students.

Mr. Stuttard commented that in relation to the report from Mr. Traves on the Conflict of Interest Policy,

that he was pleased to see the need for more education identified in the Report and that he hoped such education would lead to possible revisions to the Policy to enable a more obvious means of providing feedback on eventual outcomes to the individual/s who raised issues.

2004:71

Senate Academic Appeals Committee - Annual Report 2003-04

Mr. Fraser asked Mr. Kaiser, Chair of the Senate Academic Appeals Committee (SAAC) to present the Report. Mr. Kaiser began by noting the jurisdiction of the SAAC as the adjudicative body of Senate dealing with concerns over fairness in evaluation, and for the Senate Discipline Appeal Board (SDAB), as the body which hears appeals of decisions by the Senate Discipline Committee. Mr. Kaiser noted that in the recent year, there was an increase in cases arising for the SDAB.

Mr. Kaiser commented on the motions from the SAAC that had been presented to the Senate Steering Committee on March 9, 2004, a copy of which was attached to the Report, noting motions that were intended to provide a comparative analysis of appellate structures at other Canadian universities as a basis to enable possible revisions to the SAAC procedures and processes. Mr. Kaiser summarized the progress made to date on implementing the motions. He noted that one motion had yet to be addressed and that was in regards to the development of a Statement of Principles on fairness in evaluation which would govern the whole University, as well as for the development of resources and educative sessions for faculty and students to elucidate reasonable evaluative expectations for both in terms of course evaluative methods and processes.

Mr. Kaiser noted the requirement for each SAAC panel to have a member with legal training which usually meant a SAAC member from the Faculty of Law. While SDAB panels did not have this requirement, having such a member had been helpful in particular situations where external legal counsel was used by the student filing the appeal. He suggested that should a member of the Faculty of Law not be available/eligible to serve on, legal advice from another resource should be readily available to those panel members who have no legal training.

Mr. Kaiser commented on the matter summarized in the Report on a decision ratified by the Senate in September 2003 and regrettably where written reaction regarding an appeal heard from a student in the Faculty of Health Professions had not been passed to the SAAC in a timely fashion. This matter and the nine-month delay in being informed of it, had caused much concern for the SAAC with those concerns being relayed in a letter addressed to the President and the Chair of Senate in June 2004. Mr. Kaiser made reference to a memorandum from Vice President Scully which he had just received and was distributed at the meeting. The memorandum contained points of clarification on the matter from the Faculty of Health Professions, specifically that the concerns spoke “..to process and not to the decision of the Panel”, and that “the concerns originated not from the School of Nursing but from representatives on the Faculty of Health Professions, namely the Chairs of the Faculty’s Studies Committee and of the School’s Studies Committee”. Mr. Kaiser stated that the SAAC had received oral reassurances to their concerns in a recent meeting with the Chair of the Senate. Mr. Kaiser stated that the SAAC continued to await a formal written response to the concerns as requested in the June correspondence to the President and the Chair of Senate.

Mr. Kaiser noted that problems with the appropriate management of documents for cases by the Senate Office were being addressed with the expectation that such problems would be decreasing. He noted that as the caseload of the SAAC increased, perhaps as a result of what appeared to be an increased litigious

approach by students in such matters, that the burden for the SAAC members had increased. He cited an example of the extensive number of hours required for the processing of individual cases. He concluded by emphasizing that the principles of adjudicative fairness needed to continue to be followed by all concerned. He added that the SAAC was cautiously optimistic that processes were evolving in the appropriate direction but he would be more sure of that following the analysis of comparative appellate structures at other universities referred to above.

Mr. Fraser thanked Mr Kaiser and the members of SAAC for their work, dedication and efforts over the past year including the work of reviewing and revising structures and processes.

Mr. Scully commented that Recommendation #5 of the Report, particularly point (a) that “Dalhousie develop a Statement of Principles on fairness in evaluation, which governs the whole University”, could be undertaken by the Senate Committee on Academic Administration. Mr. Stuttard inquired as to whether the question of fairness of student evaluation of professors and been investigated to date and if not, could it be. Mr. Scully responded that the process and procedures for evaluation of professors may be within the mandate of the Senate Committee on Learning and Teaching (SCOLT) and suggested that the matter might be referred to that Committee for further investigation. Mr. Fraser stated that the Senate Steering Committee could consider the matter further with a view to determining where the issue might be best addressed.

Ms. Stone expressed support for the development of a statement of principles on fairness for the University, stating that she hoped it should include a statement on academic freedom for students as well as faculty. She also expressed support for investigating the matter of fairness in the evaluation by students of faculty. Mr. Dauphinee asked about the details included in the reporting of cases. Mr. Kaiser responded that while SAAC cases were brought to Senate for ratification, SDAB were not, and it was practice to inform Senate of the number of cases brought forward in a manner so as to protect the privacy of those concerned.

Mr. Fraser thanked Mr. Kaiser for the presentation and discussion of the Report of the SAAC. Ms. Sommerfeld expressed particular thanks to Mr. Kaiser who continued to assist in the work of the SAAC despite being on a six-month sabbatical leave.

2004:72

Maritime School of Social Work - Name Change

On behalf of the Senate Academic Priorities and Budget Committee, Mr. Fraser **MOVED**:

THAT the Senate approve the recommendation to change the name of the Maritime School of Social Work to the School of Social Work.

In response to a question, Ms. McInyre clarified that the School of Social Work would bear the name of the University as would any other in the University, and hence be generally referred to as the Dalhousie School of Social Work.

The motion was **CARRIED**.

2004:73

Senate Nominating Committee

Mr. Fraser called on Mr. Jost to present the Report of the Senate Nominating Committee. Mr. Jost referred to a memorandum dated September 27, 2004 and circulated with the agenda which listed the nominees for the University Tenure and Promotions Panel, and a memorandum dated September 30, 2004, which was circulated at the meeting, which listed a nominee to the Senate Library Committee.

On behalf of the Senate Nominating Committee, Mr. Jost **MOVED:**

That the people listed in Mr. Jost's memoranda of September 27 and 30, 2004 to the Secretary of Senate be elected to serve on the designated committees.

Following the three requisite class for further nominations, the nominees were **declared elected** to their respective committees.

2004:74

Chair's Report

Mr. Fraser stated that the following reports had been received by the Senate Office: the 2003-04 Annual Report of the Dalhousie University Institute for Research in Materials, and the 2003-04 Health Law Institute Annual Report.

Mr. Fraser reminded members of a memorandum that had been distributed recently regarding the 2004 Statutory Joint Meeting of the Members of Senate and Board of Governors [6+6]. Mr. Fraser stated that Senate members to this meeting would be the three officers of Senate, Mr. Butler who is a member of the Senate Academic Priorities and Budget Committee, Mr. McNeil who is a member of the Senate Steering Committee, and Ms. Houlihan from the Dalhousie Student Union. Mr. Fraser reiterated a previous request to Senators for possible agenda items for discussion at that meeting.

Mr. Fraser reminded the assembly of the 2004 Fall Convocation ceremonies, two of which were scheduled for Saturday October 16, 2004, one on Sunday October 18, 2004, and a special convocation on Friday October 22, 2004 marking the 250th Anniversary of the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia with the awarding of an honorary degree to Chief Justice Beverley McLachlin. He encouraged senators and their faculty colleagues to attend these convocations to show support to graduating students and their families.

Finally, Mr. Fraser made reference to the document, Senate Forum, March 2004: Report and Recommendations which had been circulated for information with the agenda. The Report contained a summary of the issues presented and discussed at the Forum and provided summary recommendations for proceeding further. The Senate Steering Committee (SSC) had referred those recommendations to the various Senate bodies as indicated, with deadlines for reporting back to SSC. Presentation and discussion at Senate would follow.

2004:75

President's Report

Mr. Traves summarized the enrolment numbers as of October 1, 2004, as compiled and reported by the Atlantic Association of Universities. The enrolment for Dalhousie rose 2.8% over the previous year, an

increase in full time student enrolment of 369 students, while the overall enrolment for Nova Scotian universities was 1% overall with some universities having a decrease in enrolments. He noted that international student enrolment increased by 6%, and that the first year enrolment from high school decreased by slightly over 300 students with the implication of this loss of student revenue year to year. The recruitment group in the Registrar's office was making specific effort to place emphasis on recruiting from the high schools, citing the example of the up-coming Open House on October 22-23, 2004. Mr. Traves noted that enrolment numbers in conventional programs increased by 471 students, while those programs which are ERBA exempt experienced a drop in enrolments. While most Faculties increased enrolments by varying numbers, the Faculty of Computer Science for example, experienced a 16 % drop in enrolments which followed a drop in enrolment in 2003-04. Mr. Traves summarized the budget implications arising from the enrolment data given that the tuition revenue base for the University would be less than anticipated for the short and long term.

Mr. Traves stated that the Nova Scotian Universities were in active discussion with the Nova Scotia government regarding a long-term funding plan. A particular concern for Dalhousie was in relation to the pension shortfall. It was anticipated that approximately \$2.7 million dollars would be needed in the next year to balance the shortfall, which would mean absorption of any discretionary funding within the University budgets and possible tuition fee increase, should a long-term funding agreement not be reached.

2004:76

Question Period

Mr. McGrath asked Mr. Traves how he planned to assure that student stake-holder consultation would be integral to discussions with the Nova Scotia government regarding long-term funding arrangements. Mr. Traves responded that the usual process was to gather information from within the University community, including students, to determine priorities which were then used to set the University's budget through the Budget Advisory process through to the board of Governors. In addition, the University practice has been to lobby the provincial government in relation to the annual operating grant allotted to universities, and these lobby efforts had included an emphasis on requests for multi-year funding. Mr. Traves expected these practices to continue, including consultation with students as well as all university constituents.

Ms. Pelzer commented on recent published statistics on the percentage of gross domestic product (GDP) spent by various countries on post-secondary education, noting that Canada was listed as spending 2.5 % while other countries such as Great Britain, spent in the range of 1.1% to 1.3 % while still providing good university education but without charging tuition fees. She wondered if perhaps the money spent in Canada on universities was being spent as wisely as it could be. Mr. Traves responded that he understood that the 2.5% figure for Canada included both government grants and tuition incomes to universities whereas for those countries with the lower GDP, tuition fees were not included in that number. He added that approximately 75- 80% of university expenditures in Canada went to wages and benefits. Ms. Pelzer re-iterated her point that examining the differences between the costs factors in Canadian Universities and those of other countries would be beneficial.

Ms. Stone commented in regards to the Immigration Framework Discussion Paper released by the Nova Scotia government in early August and the response of Dalhousie to that framework in terms of international students and subsequent implications for student services, recruitment, programmes, and resources. Mr. Traves agreed that Dalhousie attracted a large number of international students to Nova Scotia and agreed that attention was needed to the resources available to these students. He noted one

improvement in terms of resource assistance had been the relaxation of rules whereby international students could be employed while studying and for a year following graduation. He added that competence in the English language was a significant concern and that it was being discussed within the Office of the Vice President Student Services as regards service and support programme development. Other issues had larger implications in terms of the broader community and coordination of efforts with those within the University needed to be emphasised for best outcome.

2004:77

In Camera: Report of the Honorary Degrees Committee

The assembly moved *in camera* to consider and vote on one honorary degree candidate following which the assembly returned to open session.

2004:78

Review Committee for the Vice-President -Research

Mr. Fraser **MOVED:**

THAT the following be appointed as the representatives of Senate to the Review Committee for the Vice President Research: Marjorie Stone, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences; Farid Taheri, Faculty of Engineering; and Harold Cook, Faculty of Medicine.

Mr. Stuttard inquired about the appropriateness of having a representative to the Committee from the same Faculty as the incumbent. Mr. Traves replied that given the significant external research funding and the research activities and issues within that Faculty, he believed it was appropriate.

The motion was **CARRIED**.

2004:79

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m..

DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

APPROVED MINUTES

OF

SENATE MEETING

SENATE met in regular session on Monday, October 25, 2004 at 4:00 p.m. in the University Hall, Macdonald Building.

Present with Mr. El-Hawary in the Chair were the following: Barker, Barkow, Beazley, Ben-Abdullah, Binkley, Bond, Breckenridge, Butler, Caley, Camfield, Cercone, Cleave, Cochrane, Cook, Corke, Coughlan, Coxon,, Dauphinee, Evans, Finley, Fraser, Hamilton, Hicks, Houlihan, Jalilvand, Jost, Livingston, Maes, McGrath, McIntyre, McNeil, Murphy, Oppong, Pelzer, Pronk, Richard, Russell, Scrimger, Scully, Sommerfeld (Recording Secretary), Stuttard, Sullivan, Swanston, Taheri, Taylor, Traves, Whyte, Zuck.

Regrets:, Das Gupta, Dunphy, Farrell, Klein, MacDonald, Meagher-Stewart, Phillips, Precious, Rajora, Stroink, Stone, Stuttard, Wallace, Zalezsak,

Absent: Earl, Finbow, Horackova, Kwak, McMullen, Morgunov, O'Brien, Rutherford, Satish, Scott, Wanzel,.

Invitees in attendance: M. Mason, A. Power.

2004:080

Adoption of the Agenda

Mr. El-Hawary called the meeting to order at 4:07. The following item was added to the agenda under #10.1: Senate Steering Committee: Nomination to the Senate Nominating Committee. The agenda was **ADOPTED** as amended.

2004:081

Draft Minutes of Previous Meeting

i) Approval

The minutes of the meeting of October 4, 2004 were **ADOPTED** as circulated.

ii) Matters Arising

Mr. Scully stated that as noted on page 3 of the minutes, as Chair of the Senate Committee on Academic Administration he was awaiting direction from the Chair of Senate regarding Mr. Scully's suggestion that SCAA might undertake to review Recommendation # 5 in the Report of the Senate Academic Appeals Committee regarding the development of a statement of fairness in evaluation.

Mr Scully responded to the matter of vehicle security in the Dalplex parking lot whereby Mr. Finley had suggested that he had been told that funds for video surveillance in that parking lot had been cut from the

Dalplex budget. Mr. Scully stated that he had learned that there never had been a budget submission for that item. He noted that the fundamental challenge to such surveillance was one of cost-benefit, adding that such surveillance was very costly to purchase and maintain. He added that in periods when break-ins and theft were known to be high such as in the summer months, security measures took a greater emphasis with the result that several thefts were thwarted. Mr. Scully concluded by stating that security was very much of a community issue, with perhaps more of a “neighborhood watch” means of enhancing security being needed for the Dalhousie community.

Mr. Finley suggested that the cost to victims of theft was high, and that having surveillance equipment, though costly to install, might serve as a deterrent to theft and thus provide a significant though less clearly measurable benefit.

2004:082

Approval of Degrees

Mr. El-Hawary reported that the following degrees and diplomas had been approved by him as the Chair of Senate, on behalf of the Senate, and the Registrar of Dalhousie University, in consultation with the Provost of the College of Arts and Science and the Deans, and as identified in the correspondence to the Secretary of Senate as follows:

College of Arts and Science

As recommended by Dean Marian Binkley, Provost of the College of Arts and Science, on behalf of the College of Arts and Science:

Bachelor of Arts	120
(Distinction 5; Honours 17; First Class Honours 3)	
Bachelor of Arts Advanced Major Conversion	4
Bachelor of Arts Honours Conversion	3
Bachelor of Arts Major Conversion	1
Bachelor of Science	56
(Distinction 4; Honours 4; First Class Honours 2)	
Bachelor of Science Advanced Major Conversion	1
	TOTAL 185
	(166 last year)

Faculty of Architecture and Planning

As recommended by Dean Grant Wanzell, on behalf of the Faculty of Architecture and Planning:

Bachelor of Environmental Design Studies	54
(Distinction 5; Sexton Distinction 1)	
	TOTAL 54
	(60 last year)

Faculty of Computer Science

As recommended by Dean Nick Cercone, on behalf of the Faculty of Computer Science:

Bachelor of Computer Science	29
(Distinction 2; Sexton Distinction 2; First Class Honours 1)	
Bachelor of Science (Computer Science)	2

TOTAL 31
(28 last year)

Faculty of Dentistry

As recommended by Dean David Precious on behalf of the Faculty of Dentistry: 0
(1 last year)

Faculty of Engineering

As recommended by Dean William Caley on behalf of the Faculty of Engineering:

Bachelor of Applied Science 1
Bachelor of Engineering 2
Diploma in Engineering 20
TOTAL 23
(27 last year)

Faculty of Graduate Studies

As recommended by Dean Jan Kwak on behalf of the Faculty of Graduate Studies:

Master of Applied Computer Science 10
Master of Applied Health Services Research 1
Master of Applied Science 30
Master of Architecture (First Professional) 17
Master of Architecture (Post Professional) 3
Master of Arts 52
Master of Business Administration 26
Master of Business Administration (Financial Services) 102
Master of Business Administration (Information Technology) 9
Master of Computer Science 20
Master of Development Economics 3
Master of Electronic Commerce 2
Master of Engineering 47
Master of Environmental Design Studies 1
Master of Environmental Studies 5
Master of Health Informatics 1
Master of Health Services Administration 3
Master of Laws 3
Master of Marine Management 19
Master of Nursing 3
Master of Public Administration 1
Master of Public Administration-Management 2
Master of Science 59
Master of Social Work 29
Master of Urban/Rural Planning 11
Doctor of Philosophy 38
TOTAL 497
(463 last year)

Faculty of Health Professions

As recommended by Dean Lynn McIntyre on behalf of the Faculty of Health Professions:

Bachelor of Health Science 2

Bachelor of Science (Health Education)	1
Bachelor of Science (Kinesiology)	4
Bachelor of Science (Nursing)	24
(Distinction 4)	
Bachelor of Science (Occupational Therapy)	3
(Distinction 1)	
Bachelor of Science (Recreation)	1
Bachelor of Social Work	20
(Distinction 3)	
Diploma in Disability Management	10
Diploma in Health Science	16
Diploma in Health Services Administration	2
Diploma in Nurse Practitioner Studies for Remote and Under-Served Communities	7
	TOTAL 90
	(58 last year)

Faculty of Law

As recommended by Dean Dawn Russell on behalf of the Faculty of Law:

Bachelor of Laws	6
	(3 last year)

Faculty of Management

As recommended by Dean Abolhassan Jalilvand on behalf of the Faculty of Management:

Bachelor of Commerce	9
(Distinction 1)	
Bachelor of Management	11
	TOTAL 20
	(23 last year)

Faculty of Medicine

As recommended by Dean Harold Cook on behalf of the Faculty of Medicine:

Doctor of Medicine	1
	(4 last year)

TOTAL GRADUATING CLASS: 907
(833 last year)

Mr. McGrath **MOVED**:

That Senate approve the awarding of degrees and diplomas to the candidates previously approved by the Chair of Senate on behalf of the Senate, and the Registrar of Dalhousie University, in consultation with the Provost of the College of Arts and Science and the Deans, and as identified in the correspondence to the Secretary of Senate.

The motion was **CARRIED**.

2004:083

Senate Nominating Committee

On behalf of the Senate Nominating Committee, Mr. Jost **MOVED**:

THAT Philip Rossen of the Faculty of Management, Department of Business Administration, be elected to serve on the Senate Computing and Information Technology Planning Committee for the term October 2004 to June 30, 2007.

Following the requisite three calls for further nominations, the nominee was declared elected.

2004:084

Presentation to Senate: Vice President (Finance & Administration)

Mr. El-Hawary introduced Mr. Bryan Mason, Vice-President (Finance & Administration) for the University. Using a slide presentation, Mr. Mason reviewed the general financial position of the University including the operating budget, endowment and pension funds, capital activities and challenges. He referred Senators to the University website for more detailed reports on the topics he would be presenting. Highlights of Mr. Mason's presentation included;

- The total revenue for the University for 2003/04 was \$377.3 million which included a Provincial Operating Grant of \$105.6 million (28% of total), and tuition fees of \$77.9 million (20% of total).
- Growth in revenue for the University over the last ten years had shown an increase of 60% in operating revenue, 56% in endowment revenue, 66 % in ancillary revenue, and 103% in research revenue.
- Most revenue growth in 2002-03 and 2003-04 was due to tuition increases rather than increases to the government grant. Negotiations with government to increase the government operating grant continued.
- With revenue growth, there has been expenditure growth with the 2003/04 expenditures totalling approximately \$205.7 million. A volatility in some expenditures such as energy and insurance were noted. A budget surplus of \$728,000 was carried over to the 2004-05 as a reserve.
- Unit Budget totals for 2003-04 were reviewed with compensation being the primary expenditure. Of the total costs of \$175.901 million, 79.9% was assigned to academic costs, 4.1% to academic support, 7.4% to administration, 0.6 % to general costs such as legal and auditor costs, 6.3% to facilities management, 1.6% to student services, and 0.1 % to ancillary costs.
- The approved budget for 2004-05 had included an anticipated increase of 600 new students. That actual enrollment number was realized at approximately 300 with the impact on budget being a revenue shortfall of \$100-200,000. He noted that students enrolled in full cost recovery programs were not counted in the general revenues of the University for budget purposes but were credited as a cost recovery to the respective Faculties. He noted that the numbers included an increase in International Student enrollment with the tuition fee differential revenue total for this year being \$360,000; summer enrollment increase resulting in extra revenue of approximately \$100,000; and revenue resulting from an increase in students enrolled in more expensive courses and taking extra courses.
- Endowment assets for 2004 were listed as \$283 million, a gain of 25.6% over the previous year. Expenditures totalled \$14.9 million with Student Support receiving \$6.2 million; \$5.0 million to Academic Chairs and Salaries; and \$2.3 million to Library, Research, Equipment, Facilities.
- Pension Fund Investment Returns for the last four years were reviewed noting that the Plan was funded on the basis of an assumed annualized return of 7.5% per year which may or may not be achieved in any one year. Assets in the fund over the four years had decreased while liabilities had increased. A deficit of \$31 million was projected for 2005 requiring an increase in employer contribution as in the previous three years.

- Facilities renewal activities were reviewed noting the completion of Risley Hall; renovations to Howe Hall and the Law School, and the current construction of the management building. Planning for future projects included a Life Sciences Research Institute (funded by the Federal and Provincial governments); and renewal projects for the central heating system, Fenwick Towers, the existing management building, and a central chemical storage. Approximately \$7 million was projected for spending on Facilities Renewal for 2004-05 .

In response to questions, Mr. Mason summarized the residence renewal plan and residence utilization; the background to the Board's decision regarding withdrawal of funds from the pension plan and pension plan returns; the location in the budget of auxiliary fees such as athletic fees paid by students; the status of the mortgage on Fenwick Towers and time-line for the renewal of that facility; and post-retirement accommodation for faculty.

Mr. El-Hawary thanked Mr. Mason for his presentation.

2004:085

Chair's Report

Mr. El-Hawary commented on the success of the Open House on October 22-23, 2004 and the Special Convocation ceremony on October 22, 2004 and at which an honorary degree was presented to Chief Justice Beverley McLachlin. He announced that the membership for the 2004 Statutory Joint Meeting of the Senate and the Board of Governors would be : for the Board - J. Cowan, B. Towler, C. MacNutt, D. Mills, J. Spatz, and C. McGrath; and for the Senate - M. El-Hawary, L. Fraser, D. Sommerfeld, D. McNeil, P. Butler, and J. Houlihan. The meeting would be chaired by Mr. Traves. Mr. El-Hawary asked Senators to submit agenda items for this meeting to the Senate Office.

Mr. El-Hawary stated that he had received a memorandum from Mr. McKee, Vice-President Student Services, regarding the Annual Report of the Ombudsperson 2002-03. Mr. McKee had spoken to the Ombudsperson for 2002-03 and concluded that for reasons of confidentiality, additional information that could be useful to Faculties could not be secured. However, in the Report for 2003-04, a similar pattern of cases did not re-occur. Mr. El-Hawary stated that in the event that cases arose in the current year, he had requested that the current Ombudsperson and Assistant Ombudsperson, relay to the Faculty concerned as much information as legitimately possible about those cases.

Mr. El-Hawary announced that the Officers of Senate were scheduled to meet with the Dean's Council concerning the Report of the Senate Forum on October 26, 2004 following which a concrete plan of action regarding the Forum's outcomes would be forthcoming.

2004:086

Question Period

No questions were posed.

2004:087

President's Report

Mr. Traves reported on the following:

- The successful outcomes of the Open House, October 22-23, 2004 were noted. Many potential

students attended from within Nova Scotia and the Maritime Provinces as well as from Maine, and Bermuda. He thanked Don Cunningham and Ann Marie Coolen in particular, for their work in spearheading the Planning Committee. Mr. Traves indicated that a de-briefing would be taking place with an evaluation of the process and overall outcomes to determine if and when another Open House might be held.

- At the three Fall convocation ceremonies, approximately 1000 students graduated. Mr. Traves noted that in the Spring 2005 with the increase of ceremonies from nine to thirteen, he hoped that faculty support for students would be more visible by an increased number of faculty attending the ceremonies. He encouraged Faculties to actively plan for this to occur.
- Senators were encouraged to regularly review the *Dalhousie News* on-line, noting it was intended to be updated on a daily basis. Contributions to the publication from all members of the Dalhousie community were encouraged as a means of enabling a wide dissemination of pockets of activity and information from the within the University.
- A tentative agreement had been reached between the Board of Governors and the Dalhousie Faculty Association for a three-year agreement, which had been reached over approximately four months of negotiation meetings.
- In terms of Memorandum of Agreement (MOU) discussions with the provincial government, a three-year agreement between government and the universities was being discussed. The discussions included the establishment of new levels of government grants for the three year period; agreement on a cap for tuition fee levels; and a general agreement on inter- university cooperation in areas such as research and development, and common purchasing practices in cooperation with the government. Another discussion point was on pension plan arrangements as related to the time-lines for meeting any deficiencies in pension plans over a period of years rather than in any one year. Mr Traves noted that if a cap were to be placed on tuition fee levels under such an MOU, flexibility for the University in terms of managing unexpected increases in fixed costs might become problematic. He added that each university would be responding individually to a final MOU.

2004:088

Other Business

I) Senate Steering Committee

On behalf of the Senate Steering Committee, Mr. El-Hawary **MOVED:**

THAT Laurette Goldenheuks of the Faculty of Medicine be appointed to serve on the Senate Nominating Committee, for the term October 2004 to August 31, 2007.

The motion was **CARRIED.**

ii) Update on Report of the Senate *ad hoc* Committee on Plagiarism

Mr. El-Hawary invited Mr. Scully to report. Mr. Scully responded by suggesting that he anticipated that Mr. El-Hawary would want to report as well. Mr. Scully stated that the Senate Committee on Academic Administration (SCAA) had begun the review of the recommendations assigned to it, and that review would continue through the November meeting, followed by a report on findings to Senate. He stated that the recommendations that had been directed to the Deans had been discussed at the Dean's Council. Several recommendations were viewed favourably and some had been implemented in Faculties while there was disagreement with others. In particular, there was significant disagreement with

recommendations regarding the devolution of the discipline process to the Faculties. He emphasized that there was no reticence amongst the Deans about the importance of academic integrity in the University. A Report on these discussions would be available in the near future for Senate's consideration.

Mr Coughlan commented that within the Faculty of Law, a Faculty Council meeting had been totally devoted to a discussion of the Report. He noted there was strong support for the notion that there should be increased efforts to preventing plagiarism through student programs, but were not in favour of the devolution of the discipline process to the Faculties nor for the proposals in the Report regarding informal settlement of allegations of plagiarism.

iii) Update on Enrolment Management

Mr. Scully stated that Enrolment Report #7 would be forthcoming in the near future. The document for this discussion, circulated at the meeting, provided the enrollment numbers for each Faculty and for both undergraduate and graduate programs. He noted that the "new from high school" numbers had decreased from last year's high, primarily due to fewer numbers coming to Dalhousie from Ontario. The Ontario universities had also experienced a decline in "new from high School" registrants from Ontario as well, noting this decline had not been forecasted. Mr. Scully stated that approximately 20% of Dalhousie students had given Ontario as their permanent address this year. He stated that there was a decline in numbers from Nova Scotia but a modest increase in numbers of students who gave Nova Scotia as their permanent address. There was an increase in International Students to 8.3% of the student body.

Mr. Scully commented that at other Atlantic universities, in terms of first year students there was an overall decline of approximately 12% with two universities at the 25% level, and for one of those, the decrease was from within the Maritime region recruitment pool. He noted that Dalhousie had done well to retain its share of that pool.

Ms. Bond inquired as to why the decline in Ontario enrollment had not been forecasted. Mr. Scully responded that while some decline had been anticipated, the extent was underestimated. As a result, recruitment efforts had been strengthened significantly for the coming year.

Mr. El-Hawary thanked Mr. Scully for his presentation.

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Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.