

Item: Senate Minutes, November 2007
Call Number: Senate fonds, UA-5

Additional Notes:

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DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

Draft Minutes of **Senate Meeting**

Senate met in regular session on Monday, November 26, 2007, at 4:00 p.m. in University Hall, Macdonald Building.

Present with the Chair of Senate, Mr. Lloyd Fraser, were the following: Barker, Binkley, Bodorik, Breckenridge, Butler, Camfield, Chowdhury, Cochrane, Cook, Croll, Dunphy (Recording Secretary), Fanning, Frank, Gault, Geldenhuys, Johnston, Jones, Kesselring, Kroeker, MacLaren, McConnell, McLarney, Nowakowski, Pelzer, Persaud, Roberts, Robinson, Ross, Schellinck, Schroeder, Scrimger, Shaver, B. Smith, Taylor, Tindall, Tipping, Traves, Tschirhart, Voegeli, Watters, Wheeler, Yeung.

Regrets: Adshade, Campbell, Grundy, Haslam, Helland, Leon, Maes, Moukdad, Richard, Rutherford, Saunders, Singleton, Slonim, Sutow, Thornhill, Webster.

Absent: El-Hawary, El-Masry, Garduno, Gray, Harman, Johnson, Pegg, Plug, Precious, Scherkoske, J. Smith, Spence Wach, Wanzel.

Guests: S. Brousseau, T.S. Cameron, G. Hebb, T.L. Maloney, A. Power

2007:122

Call to Order

Mr. Fraser called the meeting to order and thanked Senators for their patience while the Board of Governors and Senate investigate new seating arrangements for their respective meetings. He noted that the layout for the meeting today is on a trial basis and feedback from Senators is welcomed.

2007:123

Adoption of Agenda

The November 26, 2007 agenda was **ADOPTED**.

2007:124

Draft Minutes of October 29, 2007 Meeting

- a) Approval
The minutes of October 29, 2007 were **APPROVED**.
- b) Matters Arising
There were no matters arising.

2007:125

Question Period

Mr. Tindall had two questions for the President. First, he wished to know how many individuals are on the Board's team in this round of negotiations with the Dalhousie Faculty Association (DFA), and secondly, how many of those served on the Board's team during the previous contract negotiations. Mr. Traves indicated that there were five members on the bargaining team and, of those members, the Deans of Science and Law and the Associate Vice-President Academic, were members of the previous committee. The Assistant Vice-President Personnel Services was chair of the negotiating team and he has since retired and been replaced by the Director of Academic Relations. The Vice-President (Finance and Administration), previously represented by the Assistant Vice-President Financial Services in the

previous negotiations, is serving on the committee for this round. Mr. Traves asked Mr. Taylor, a member of both teams, for confirmation. Mr. Taylor responded that the Dean of Law had not been on the team in the previous round.

2007:126

Senate Nominating Committee: Standing Committee Nominations

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

THAT Ms. Claire Campbell of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences be elected to the Senate Steering Committee for the term December 1, 2007 to June 30, 2009;

THAT Ms. Katherine Harman of the Faculty of Health Professions be elected to the Senate Academic Appeals Committee for the term December 1, 2007 to June 30, 2010;

THAT Ms. Elaine Toms of the Faculty of Management be elected to the Senate Computing and Information Technology Planning Committee for the term December 1, 2007 to June 30, 2010; and

After the requisite three calls for further nominations, the nominees were declared elected to their respective Senate Committees.

2007:127

Senate Academic Priorities & Budget Committee: Name Change Request – Centre for International Business Studies to the Centre for International Trade and Transportation

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

THAT the Senate approve the name change for the Centre for International Business Studies to the Centre for International Trade and Transportation.

Mr. Fraser invited Mr. Greg Hebb, Director, Centre for International Business Studies, and Mr. David Wheeler, Dean, Faculty of Management, to introduce the name change proposal. Mr. Hebb provided a short historical background and noted that ‘International Business Studies’ does not clearly reflect the Centre’s current focus and its activities over the last five or so years which have all been related to trade and transportation matters. The name change therefore is not a change in strategy or focus of the Centre, but a change to better represent what the Centre does and will continue to do.

The motion **CARRIED**.

2007:128

Senate Steering Committee

a) Senate Nominating Committee Nominations

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

THAT Senate appoint Ms. Brenda Richard of the Faculty of Health Professions, to be elected to the Senate Nominating Committee, for the term December 2007 to June 2008, and

THAT Mr. Blyth Archibald of the Faculty of Management, to be elected to the Senate Nominating Committee, for the term December 2007 to August 2010.

After the requisite three calls for further nominations, the nominees were declared elected to the Senate Nominating Committee.

b) Senate Committee on Learning and Teaching Recommendations

Mr. Fraser reminded Senators that when Senate received the annual report from the Senate Committee on Learning and Teaching (SCOLT) last spring there were a number of recommendations that were referred to the Senate Steering Committee (SSC). As part of the meeting package for today, Senators have received the deliberations of the SSC on a number of those recommendations; in a number of cases the recommendations require further study or have been referred to other bodies for consideration. The recommendations respecting the membership and terms of reference for SCOLT are before Senate today for approval.

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

THAT the Senate approve the Libraries' Information Literacy Coordinator be added to the membership of the Senate Committee on Learning and Teaching. In addition, the terms of reference be revised to reflect the following changes: "Office of Instructional Development and Technology (OIDT)" to "Centre for Learning and Teaching (CLT)"; and "Executive Director, Instructional Development and Technology" to "Director, Centre for Learning and Teaching."

The motion **CARRIED**.

2007:129

Senate Committee on Academic Administration: Subcommittee on Academic Integrity Composition Recommendation

Mr. Shaver, Chair of the Senate Committee on Academic Administration – Subcommittee on Academic Integrity (SCAA-AI) reported that the subcommittee currently has seven members and it has been suggested that its mission would be further advanced by the addition of two members: the Chair (or Co-Chair) of the Senate Academic Appeals Committee and the Information Literacy Coordinator, Killam Library. Currently, the Chair of the Senate Discipline Committee is a member and it seems advisable to also include the Chair of the Senate Academic Appeals Committee. In addition, the position of Information Literacy Coordinator for the Killam Library has evolved into a role where the SCAA-AI would be well served to have this individual as a permanent member of the committee.

On behalf of the Senate Committee on Academic Administration, Mr. Shaver **MOVED**:

THAT the Senate approve that the composition of the Senate Committee on Academic Administration, Sub-Committee on Academic Integrity, include the Chair of the Senate Academic Appeals Committee and the Information Literacy Coordinator for the Killam Library.

The motion **CARRIED**.

2007:130

Senate Academic Appeals Committee 2006-07 Annual Report

Mr. Stan Cameron, Chair, Senate Academic Appeals Committee (SAAC), was invited to present the committee's annual report. Mr. Cameron advised that the SAAC has had nine cases to consider in 2006-2007 and the results of each case are provided in the report, with the exception of two cases which are still pending. Outstanding business for the committee includes the consideration of the draft revised terms of reference of the SAAC which has been under review for several years. Mr. Cameron then invited questions on the report. Mr. Fraser responded that the proposed changes to the terms of reference are a matter which the Senate Officers will pursue and he noted that the Officers' priority had been to see the changes to the discipline process completed before approaching the revised terms of reference for

SAAC. The Legal Counsel Office is aware of the SAAC's proposed changes and the issue will be addressed in due course. SSC will continue to follow up on this matter and report back at a later date.

2007:131

Ratifications of Decisions of the Academic Integrity Officers

Mr. Dunphy **MOVED**, seconded by Ms. Binkley:

THAT the Academic Integrity Officer agreed penalties, as listed in the Secretary of Senate's November 19, 2007 memo, be ratified.

Mr. Tipping expressed some concern about the first and third agreed penalties as listed for November 14, 2007. In the first case Mr. Tipping felt that the AIO was acting as an enforcement mechanism for its decision in that the student was instructed to print out each sheet of the exam completed and fax it to the AIO. Mr. Tipping inquired if this is within the mandate of the AIO. Mr. Tipping's second concern dealt with the statement "No notation will be placed on the transcript; however, it should be placed in the Senate record that this student has committed an academic offence." Mr. Fraser stated that he would attempt to respond to the second comment and then ask Mr. Dunphy to respond to the first point. He noted that in all cases when a matter is dealt with by the AIO, a student who is found to have committed an academic offence is registered with the Senate Office and recorded in the database. This may not always be clear to students and it appears that the AIO in this case was taking pains to ensure the student realized this fact. In regard to the first point, Mr. Dunphy indicated that he had not spoken with the AIO but it would appear to him that the intent was to make sure that the student was educated around issues of plagiarism and academic integrity. Mr. Shaver added that this particular remedy and the way it has been described would serve to confirm that the remedy had actually been undertaken by the student. If, as another example, the remedy had been to attend a writing centre workshop, then there would be independent evidence of attendance to confirm completion.

Mr. Tipping **MOVED**, seconded by Ms. Voegeli:

THAT the first November 14, 2007 AIO agreed penalty be ratified separately from the balance of the agreed penalties as listed in the Secretary of Senate's November 19, 2007 memo.

The motion **CARRIED**.

Mr. Fraser indicated that Senators would now vote on the balance of the agreed penalties in the main motion.

The main motion **CARRIED**.

Mr. Tipping asked that once an agreed decision has been made by an AIO that there be no further contact with the student in regard to the decision and requested that this be considered within the procedures before ratification of the decisions. Discussion followed on the role of the AIO and whether it is appropriate for that person to be involved in ensuring that assessed penalties are fulfilled by students.

At the conclusion of the discussion, Mr. Fraser noted that there will undoubtedly be a variety of other issues which will need to be addressed as we go forward because it is a new process. Mr. Fraser said that he and the Secretary of Senate will follow up on this matter.

Mr. Dunphy **MOVED**, seconded by Mr. Butler:

THAT the first November 14, 2007 AIO agreed penalty, as listed in the Secretary of Senate's November 19, 2007 memo, be ratified.

The motion **CARRIED**.

Mr. Shaver stated that in light of the issue being raised, he would like to inform Senate that the SCAA Subcommittee on Academic Integrity has been reviewing penalties, sanctions, remedies, consequences and the issue regarding follow-up on remedies will now be added to the discussions.

2007:132

Making an Impact: The President's Strategic Focus, 2007 – 2010

Mr. Traves indicated that he had reviewed the Senate focus group material and noted that there were some very helpful observations. It was his intention to take this away and re-write portions of the document and then bring the document back to Senate for a final discussion. It would be helpful to have one more conversation about the document before it becomes final and implementation begins. Mr. Traves stated that he will bring the document back to Senate early in 2008.

2007:133

Chair's Report

Mr. Fraser noted that the Senate Call for Nominations memo was available as a hand-out at the front entrance and encouraged Senators to look at the various opportunities that present themselves through the various Senate committees and to consider volunteering for a position or suggesting other individuals who may be interested in serving. He noted that two key committees with current vacancies are the Senate Committee on the Environment and the Senate Discipline Committee. In addition to the current vacancy list the Senate Steering Committee has established the Senate ad hoc Committee on Governance which will review the terms of reference for each Senate Standing Committee. Mr. Butler, Vice-Chair of Senate, will chair the committee and Senators are encouraged to consider offering for this committee or suggesting someone who could contribute to this group.

2007:134

President's Report

Mr. Traves stated that he would like to comment at the next meeting of Senate on the Mclean's rankings and other evaluation data that is available to the University. Mr. Traves informed Senators that Dalhousie will start negotiations with the provincial government in mid-December for a new multi-year Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on university financing. The other area of discussion with the provincial government has been the review of student aid arrangements. University presidents will contribute to that review process and President Barker, University of King's College, will play an active role in that regard. As well, the federal government is involved in a review of student aid mechanisms and the degree to which the mechanism that links provincial systems and federal systems operates effectively. Research funding for graduate students and student grants to aid students with financial needs will be priorities that universities will press with the federal government during discussions on the next federal budget.

2007:135

Other Business

There was no other business.

2007:136

Adjournment

The meeting **AJOURNED**.