

DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY
APPROVED MINUTES OF
SENATE MEETING

Senate met in regular session on Monday, May 14, 2012, at 2:00pm, in University Hall, MacDonald Building.

Present with Mr. Lloyd Fraser in the chair were the following: Amirault, Arron, Beale, Becke, Boudreau, Canning, Castleden, Cox, Crago, Cunningham, DasGupta, Denike, Dionne, Doman, Garduno, Gibson, R. Gilbert, Gorsky, E. Hughes, Leach, Leavitt, MacLaren, MacLennan, Mansour, Marrie, McLarney, Moore, Pegg, Pelot, Pierce, Pinder, Rapaport, Rogers, Ross, Schellinck, Shukla, Singleton, Summerby-Murray, Susko, Traves, Watters.

Regrets: Bennett, Bisset, Boran, Bourne-Tyson, Brooks, Chen, Cochrane, Farina, Gardner, M. Gilbert, Grant, J. Hughes, Johnston, Leon, Macy, Magill, Meynell, Miller, Mitchell, Noble, Packer, Rahemtulla, Stadnyk, Tillotson, Wach.

Absent: Langille, Matte, Shepherd, Thorburn, Webster, Westwood.

Guests: C. Connors, K. Crombie, J. Newhook, J. Wright.

2012:038

Adoption of the Agenda

The May 14, 2012 agenda was **adopted**.

2012:039

Consent Agenda

Approval of Draft Minutes of March 12, 2012 Senate Meeting

THAT Senate approve the draft minutes of the March 12, 2012 Senate meeting.

Approved by Consent.

Approval of Draft Minutes of April 9, 2012 Senate Meeting

THAT the Senate approve the draft minutes of the April 9, 2012 Senate meeting.

Approved by Consent.

SAPRC: Termination of the Global Information Network Institute

THAT Senate approve the proposed termination of the Global Information Network Institute.

Approved by Consent.

SPGC: Name Change for Department of Anesthesia

THAT Senate approve the change in name of the Department of Anesthesia to the Department of Anesthesia, Pain Management and Perioperative Medicine.

Approved by Consent.

SPGC: Senate nominations to University Committees

THAT the Senate representative on the Investment Committee and Dal Pension Trust Fund and Dal Retirees Trust Fund for the term July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2015 be Iraj Fooladi, Faculty of Management.

THAT a Senate representative on the University Hearing Committee for the term July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2015 be Jill Grant, Faculty of Architecture and Planning.

THAT a Senate representative on the University Transportation Demand Management and Security Committee for the term July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2015 be Muhammad Habib, Faculty of Architecture and Planning.

Approved by Consent.

SLTC: Academic Schedule Principles

THAT Senate approve the revision to the Academic Schedule Principles.

Approved by Consent.

2012:040

Matters Arising from the April 9, 2012 Senate Minutes

The revised Scholarly Misconduct Policy is on the agenda today for discussion and it is anticipated that it will return for approval at the June 11 Senate meeting.

2012:041

Chair of Senate's Report

Mr. Fraser congratulated Lori Turnbull, Associate Professor of Political Science who, with the late Peter Aucoin, received the Donner Prize for the book they co-authored, *Democratizing the Constitution: Reforming Responsible Government*. Mr. Fraser then recognized the Bachelor of Commerce Co-op Program upon receiving accreditation from the Accreditation Council of the Canadian Association for Co-operative Education Council for six years. Finally, Mr. Fraser congratulated Scott MacMillan, who teaches in the Bachelor of Music Program, on his receipt of two East Coast Music Awards.

Mr. Fraser offered condolences to the family and friends of Leo Charles Vining, Cecilia MacDonald, and Robert Stanley Tonks who recently passed away.

Mr. Fraser thanked Senators and Senate Standing Committee members who had completed the recent survey. Recommendations from the survey will be brought forward at the June 11th Senate meeting. Mr. Fraser then noted that the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission has given conditional approval to the termination of the Master of Applied Health Services Research.

Mr. Fraser welcomed all DSU Senators who started their terms on May 1, 2012: Jamie Arron, President; Aaron Beale, Vice President, Academic & External; Navid Rahemtulla, DSU Senator; Jonathan Magill, Returning DSU Senator; Martin Miller, DSU Senator; and Ben Bisset, DSU Graduate Senator.

Mr. Fraser reported that, in accordance with the provisions of the Senate Constitution, the number of elected Academic Unit Senate members allocated to each Faculty for the period July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2015 had been calculated, and had been approved by the Senate Planning and Governance Committee. With the addition to Senate of the Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture, there will now be 17 ex-officio academic administrators. This will result in an increase in the number of elected Academic Unit members from 48 to 51. Based on the number of eligible faculty members, and the student enrolment in each Academic Unit on December 1, 2011, there will be no change in the number of Senate seats allocated to each existing Faculty; the three new seats are allocated to the Faculty of Agriculture.

Mr. Fraser concluded his report by encouraging Senate members to attend the upcoming Dalhousie convocation ceremonies and noted that there were several Dalhousie representatives who attended the recent Nova Scotia Agricultural College (NSAC) convocation.

2012:042

President's Report

Mr. Traves reported that the merger with NSAC is now scheduled to occur on September 1, 2012 to ensure that all legal matters are addressed. The transition is continuing with this adjusted schedule. Mr. Traves reported on his recent trip to Brazil as part of a Canadian delegation of University Presidents. He noted that the Government of Brazil has created a scholarship program, providing 100,000 scholarships over four years to Brazilian students who will attend universities all over the world, providing new potential partnerships for Dalhousie. There is a desire to expose these students to new cultures and academic processes. Brazil is a growing country; therefore, there is a huge opportunity for research in Brazil. One limitation of the scholarship program will be linguistic barriers, but there is language training as a part of the scholarship program. Mr. Traves noted that some measure of reciprocity must be created, sending students to Brazil with Portuguese language training as well. Due to the presidents' visit, 12,000 of the aforementioned scholarships will be allocated to Canada.

2012:043

Senate Nominating Committee: Nomination of Vice-Chair (Academic Programs)

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

THAT Senate elect Carolan McLarney, Faculty of Management, to serve a second term as Senate Vice-Chair (Academic Programs) for the period of July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2015.

The motion **CARRIED**.

2012:044

Senate Learning and Teaching Committee

Alan Pinder, Chair, Senate Learning and Teaching Committee (SLTC), presented the Draft Policy on Submission of Student Assignments and Use of Originality Checking Software. During his presentation, Mr. Pinder noted that students at Dalhousie and other Canadian Universities have challenged for the removal of originality software because they had no choice but to submit their intellectual property to a company that profited from it. Mr. Pinder then indicated that SLTC had recommended minor changes to the wording of the existing policy to emphasize that originality checking software is a tool that is used to help ensure that all students are evaluated on the basis of their own work. The draft policy proposes that before originality checking software is used in a class, students must be informed both in the course syllabus and orally at the first class. Students wishing to choose an alternative method of attesting to the authenticity of their work would need to inform their instructor of this intent within the first three week of the class. Faculty members would need to provide such students with a choice, from a prescribed list, of two alternative methods of attesting to the authenticity of their work.

In discussion of the Draft Policy, several questions and concerns were raised, including:

- The submission by students of additional drafts or annotated bibliographies should not imply any obligation on the faculty member to provide feedback on that material.
- The proposed policy does not state that the drafts must be submitted electronically.
- Faculty would be required to keep track of which students opted to not use originality software. In large classes this could be a significant workload issue.
- Concerns were raised regarding the difficulty of ensuring that the oral explanation of the policy had occurred on the first day of class.
- Concern was expressed that this might unnecessarily limit faculty members' ability to detect plagiarism.

Mr. Fraser indicated that the Draft Policy would go back to the Senate Learning and Teaching Committee for further review and would be presented again to Senate at a later date.

2012:045

Senate Academic Programs and Research Committee

Draft Joint Doctoral Program Policy

Mr. Bernie Boudreau, Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies presented the Draft Joint Doctoral Program Policy. He noted that this is a standard approach for students in France and in Europe to complete a PhD, and this academic arrangement is becoming increasingly popular. Students will receive one PhD and two parchments; one from each academic institution.

On behalf of the Senate Academic Programs and Research Committee, Mr. Fraser **MOVED:**

THAT Senate approve the proposed draft Joint Doctoral Program Policy.

The motion **CARRIED**.

Draft Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans Policy

Ms. Martha Crago, Vice President, Research, presented the Draft Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans Policy and she noted that the existing policy has only been revised to match the Tri-Council requirements. One fundamental change is with respect to the level of review required for undergraduate non course-based (thesis) research.

On behalf of the Senate Academic Programs and Research Committee, Mr. Fraser **MOVED:**

THAT Senate approve the draft Policy on Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans.

The motion **CARRIED.**

2012:046

Senate Academic Programs and Research Committee: Draft Scholarly Misconduct Policy

Mr. Fraser welcomed Julia Wright, Chair, Ad Hoc Committee on Scholarly Integrity Policy, and Karen Crombie, University Legal Counsel to the meeting to present the Draft Scholarly Misconduct Policy. Ms. Wright noted that the current policy is neither sufficiently clear nor transparent. Parts of the policy are outdated and inadequately address various issues, including anonymous complaints. The university was notified in February 2012 of a change in the eligibility requirements from the Tri-Council. The President is to confirm compliance by June 1, 2012 or explain the university's timeframe on the policy. Feedback on the initial draft policy has been carefully reviewed. On the basis of this feedback the revised draft was prepared and was reviewed by the SAPRC. Feedback on the revised draft will be further considered, with SAPRC expected to make its final recommendation on June 4, 2012. It is anticipated that the final proposed policy will be presented to Senate for approval at its meeting on June 11.

Ms. Wright indicated that the working group's recommendations reflected a desire to ensure that allegations of misconduct are pursued only on the basis of evidence, that there is appropriate recognition of disciplinary variations, that confidentiality is carefully protected, and that there is much greater transparency and accountability in the processes to be followed.

A question arose as to whether investigators should be comprised of members of particular council groupings or if they should be from a different council. Ms. Wright noted that it is the role of the SIO to select the investigators appropriately. Flexibility in the policy is necessary due to a variety of variables. The policy does not specify which unit the SIO would come from. The Vice President, Research selects the SIO. Issues were also raised regarding the amount of communication between the complainant and the respondent. Ms. Wright stated that it is not an adversarial process. In order to maintain a safe environment for the complainant and the respondent, there is no need for a face-to-face interaction. Mr. Fraser thanked Ms. Wright and Ms. Crombie for presenting the draft Scholarly Misconduct Policy and noted that it is anticipated that the Policy will return to Senate in June for approval.

2012:047

Question Period

There were no questions.

2012:048

Other Business

There was no other business.

2012:049

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 3:55pm.