



**DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY
APPROVED MINUTES
OF SENATE MEETING**

Senate met in regular session on Monday, February 10, 2014, at 4:00pm in University Hall, Macdonald Building.

Present with Lloyd Fraser in the chair were the following: Ali, Baur, Baylis, Beale, Becke, Boran, Boudreau, Bourne-Tyson, Brooks, Byers, Cooper, Cox, Crago, Cross, Cunningham, Eldridge, Florizone, Goodday, Gruzd, Habib, Harman, Hartigan, Hoyle, Hughes, Kesselring, Kozey, Langille, Leon, MacDonald, MacLennan, Manion, Mansour, Mitchell, Moore, Mopoho, Pegg, Pinder, Shukla, Stadnyk, Steeves, Summerby-Murray, Taylor, Wach, Watters, Woodman, Yiridoe.

Regrets: Barrett, Doman, Gibson, Gray, Macy, Marrie, Matte, Mazzanti, Packer, Stanish, Treiger.

Absent: Burton, Cochrane, Denike, Dionne, Grant, Hewitt, Jha, Khan, Killham, Leach, McLarney, Persaud, Ross, Shepherd, Smirnov, Webster.

2014:12

Approval of Agenda

The February 10, 2014 agenda was **approved** with one addition under other business: Senate Nominating Committee: Senate Academic Programs and Research Committee Nomination.

2014:13

Consent Agenda

Minutes of December 9, 2013 Senate Meeting

THAT Senate approve the draft Senate minutes of December 9, 2013.

Approved by Consent.

2014:14

Matters Arising from the December 9, 2013 Senate Minutes

The Chair noted that Ms. Watters, Vice-President, Academic & Provost, had previously indicated that she was awaiting a report from a group whose mandate includes reviewing the funding of 18 Indigenous Black and Mi'kmaq students within the IB&M program in the Schulich School of Law. Ms. Watters provided an update, indicating that she had met with several individuals to discuss the IB&M funding, and that she anticipated receiving the report by the end of February. She would report further on the matter after she had received the report.

2014:15

Chair of Senate Report

Mr. Fraser expressed condolences on behalf of Senate, on the passing of Dr. Franco Medioli on January 31, 2014. He was remembered as a professor in the Department of Earth Sciences, Faculty of Science, from 1965 to 1996. Warm congratulations were extended to Dr. Ford Doolittle, Professor Emeritus in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Faculty of Medicine. He was awarded NSERC's highest honour, the Gerhard Herzberg Canada Gold Medal for Science and Engineering.

The report of the facilitated discussion on certificates and diplomas has been circulated to Senate and a work group has been established to develop proposed policy and procedures related to certificates and diplomas at Dalhousie. This group will be chaired by Claude Caldwell, Associate Dean Academic, Faculty of Agriculture and will report to the Senate Academic Programs and Research Committee (SAPRC). An initial report is anticipated in April with a final report expected by the end of May.

The Senate Planning and Governance Committee is seeking nominations for three positions. Two positions are for faculty members on the Search Committee for the Vice-President, Finance and Administration; the third is for a faculty representative on the Board of Governors.

The Senate Nominating Committee has been developing a new process for the nomination of Officers of Senate. A call for suggested names and expressions of interest for the Chair of Senate will be sent to Senators and the University community for the July 1, 2014 vacancy. Names are requested by the end of February. In conclusion, Mr. Fraser stated it had been a great privilege to serve in the role and he encouraged others to consider it.

Items attached to the agenda for information included the approval by SAPRC of the suspension of enrolment in the Italian Studies Second Major and Honours programs, and the approval of two graduands between convocations, on January 20th and 29th, 2014.

2014:16

President's Report

Mr. Florizone reported that the feedback indicates that the *100 Days of Listening Final Report* has been well received and there is general validation of the priorities outlined, with three proposed additions: undergraduate research, faculty recruitment and retention, and the overall vision for Dalhousie. A strategic vision session with the Senate Planning and Governance Committee (SPGC) is being planned, with a vision statement and strategic directions then being drafted in consultation with SPGC and brought back to Senate for discussion. Following Senate discussion, it is anticipated that a vision and strategic directions document would return to Senate for approval no later than May. The strategic directions document would then be forwarded to the Board of Governors for its approval.

Mr. Florizone noted that there has been an increase of approximately 25% in applications for admission in comparison with the same dates last year. Offers have been made to 3,205 of those applicants so far, up by 33% over last year. The increase is distributed across a broad range of Faculties and geographic regions. Potential factors driving this increase include: improved efficiency in application processing; Dalhousie's strong brand in Ontario; increased recruitment and marketing in Western Canada; expanding international markets; and a continuation of the growing market share in Nova Scotia.

The Province of Nova Scotia has announced a 1% increase in the university operating grant for 2014-15. The senior administrative team aims to build on this positive momentum, exploring ways to further partner with the Province to advance shared goals.

There has been a review of the Provost role and the related administrative structure at Dalhousie. An external review team visited Dalhousie January 30-31. A report will be presented in the coming weeks.

Dr. Preston Smith, Senior Associate Dean, Faculty of Medicine, has announced he will be leaving the university to become the new Dean of Medicine at the University of Saskatchewan. In light of Dr. Smith's plans, and the lack of a Search Committee recommendation for the appointment of a new Dean, Dr. Tom Marrie has agreed to postpone his retirement and remain as Dean until June 2015. The Deanship search process will resume in the fall. Subsequent discussion focused on the complex nature of recruitment and selection of a new dean and on succession planning for the future.

The next senior recruitment process will be for the Vice-President, Finance and Administration. The university has hired the search consultant to support the search. Search committee members are being identified according to university policy and it is anticipated that the search committee will hold its first meeting in March.

2014:17

Senate Planning and Governance Committee: Draft Senate Procedure for Approval of Honorary Degree Candidates

The Senate Constitution was silent on the Senate procedure for approval of Honorary Degree candidates so the Senate Planning and Governance Committee (SPGC) had prepared proposed procedures for Senate's consideration.

On behalf of the Senate Planning and Governance Committee, Mr. Fraser **MOVED**:

THAT Senate approve the Senate Procedure for Approval of Honorary Degree Candidates, effective immediately.

The motion **CARRIED**.

2014:18

Senate Honorary Degrees Committee

Draft Senate Honorary Degrees Committee Criteria and Procedures

Criteria and procedures for the Senate Honorary Degrees Committee did not previously exist, though the committee's Terms of Reference specify that it should recommend criteria to Senate and develop procedures. Policies and practices at other U15 universities had been reviewed as part of the committee's process of developing proposed criteria and procedures for Dalhousie.

A question was raised regarding the wording related to diversity in the section on Criteria for Selection. It was suggested that the sentence, "Every effort will be made to select candidates who are reflective of the diversity of the University community and of Canadian society" be replaced with "As well, there will

be attention to the goals of diversity and inclusivity to which Dalhousie is committed in terms of gender, ethno-racial diversity, Aboriginality, and official languages.” The proposed wording was patterned on wording used by the Royal Society of Canada and was thought to reflect a stronger commitment to diversity than the original wording. The proposed change in wording was accepted as a friendly amendment.

On behalf of the Senate Honorary Degrees Committee, Mr. Florizone **MOVED:**

THAT Senate adopt the Criteria and Procedures for Nomination of Honorary Degree Candidates, as amended, effective immediately.

The motion **CARRIED.**

In-Camera: Honorary Degree Nominations for Fall 2014-Spring 2015

Mr. Fraser announced that the Senate session would go *in camera*, and asked that all non-senators leave the meeting. When Senate returned to open session, Mr. Fraser announced that the slate of Honorary Degree nominations had been approved.

2014:19

Senate Learning and Teaching Committee: Draft Accommodation Policy

The Senate welcomed Quenta Adams, Advising and Access Services, Student Services, and Karen Crombie, University Legal Counsel. Ms. Adams indicated that the proposed policy is a revision of the current policy, and has been widely distributed to the Dalhousie community for consultation with faculty and students. Legal counsel has approved its wording to align with the provincial Human Rights policies. Feedback had been incorporated from a variety of individuals to streamline the policies and procedures.

Subsequent discussion explored the nature of the consultation process, definition of undue hardship, accommodation procedures, and the length of the accommodation process for students.

On behalf of the Senate Learning and Teaching Committee, Mr. Pinder **MOVED:**

THAT Senate approve the draft Accommodation Policy, effective September 1, 2014.

The motion **CARRIED.**

Question Period

There were no questions.

2014:20

Other Business

Senate Nominating Committee: Senate Academic Programs and Research Committee Nomination

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

THAT Corinne MacDonald, Faculty of Engineering, be appointed to the Senate Academic Programs and Research Committee for the term February 2014 to June 2017.

The motion **CARRIED**.

2014:21

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:00pm.