

Item: Board of Governors Minutes, March 1996
Call Number: Board of Governors Fonds UA-1, 54.15

Additional Notes:

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Minutes of a meeting of the Board of Governors held on March 19, 1996 at 4:00 p.m. in University Hall.

Present:

Mr. Allan C. Shaw
Chairperson

Mr. David J. Almon

Mr. Gerald Clarke

Professor Joan Conrod

Mr. David Cox

Mr. J. Dickson Crawford

Mr. Fred S. Fountain

Dr. Elaine Gordon

Mrs. Patricia Harris

Ms. Margaret Langley

Dr. Frank Lovely

Ms. Bernadette MacDonald

Mrs. Ann Petley-Jones

Vice-Chairperson

Mrs. Josie Richard

Mr. John C. Risley

Honorary Treasurer

Dr. Colin Stuttard

Dr. Tom Traves

President

Regrets were received from Mr. Peter Bryson, Mr. James S. Cowan, Sir Graham Day, Mr. George W. MacDonald, The Honourable Jacqueline Matheson, Mrs. Patricia Roscoe, Mr. Kenneth C. Rowe and Mr. Geoffrey Stewart.

Also present were: Dr. George Piercey (immediate past Chairperson, Board of Governors); Mr. Eric A. McKee (Vice-President, Student Services); Mr. Brian Burnell (Eckler Partners Atlantic); Mr. Peter A. Stuart (Senior Vice-President and Chief Investment Officer, The Maritime Life Assurance Company); Mr. Ian Nason (Director, Financial Services); Mr. Michael Roughneen (Director, Personnel Services); Ms. Charlotte Sutherland (Director, Development Office); Mr. W. H. Lord (Director, Physical Plant & Planning); Ms. Julia Eastman (Coordinator of Policy Development); Mr. Brian D. Christie (Executive Director, Office of Institutional Affairs); Mr. William A. Straitton (Director, Capital Campaign); Ms. Mary Somers (Acting Manager, Public Relations); Mr. Leland Crowell (Coordinator, Employee Benefits & Payroll); Mr. Curtis Cartmill (Vice-President, Communications, Dalhousie Student Union); Mr. Stuart Watson (Acting Editor, "Dalhousie News"), and Ms. Joann Griffin (Secretary).

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m.

Approval of Agenda - Board members approved the agenda as distributed with one change; namely that Rationalization be considered in two components, one being as an item for discussion and the other as an *in-camera* item.

Minutes of Board of Governors Meeting of January 17, 1996

Mr. Risley moved and Mr. Fountain seconded a motion THAT the Minutes of the Board of Governors meeting held on January 17, 1996 be approved as distributed. The motion carried.

President's Report

Dr. Traves observed that his President's Report had been pre-circulated and that he would comment on rationalization later in the meeting. He drew attention to a new brochure on Ocean Studies, which had been distributed to everyone at the meeting, and noted that it offers an excellent overview on our efforts in that area. He extended congratulations to those responsible for producing this brochure.

Dr. Traves then noted that congratulations and appreciation were certainly in order to all the sports teams at Dalhousie that have done so well this year and he expressed how proud we are of their achievements. Further congratulations were extended to the current student leaders in view of the significant increase in the level of participation that resulted in an excellent turn out for the student elections.

Dr. Traves then commented that the Faculty Staff Appeal component of the Capital Campaign has received excellent indications of support with 90 active canvassers committed to helping to ensure a high participation level from faculty and staff for the campaign. He then acknowledged the generous support for the campaign that has already been received from the students.

Further to what was contained in his President's Report regarding the UTECH technology transfer consortium, Dr. Traves noted that the responses received for funding represent the largest grant in the country for projects of this kind. He noted that Mr. Gordon Owen, Manager, Technology Transfer is to be congratulated on his initiative in heading up this project.

Introduction of Professor Dawn Russell, Incoming Dean of Law

Dr. Traves observed how pleased he is about the appointment of Professor Dawn Russell as incoming Dean of Law and noted his appreciation for the Board's endorsement of Professor Russell's appointment as Dean of the Faculty of Law for the period April 1, 1996 to June 30, 2001. He reviewed the search process and noted how positive an experience it had been. He concluded by observing that he anticipates that Professor Russell will do the same superb job as Dean that she has done while acting Dean and he noted the considerable experience she has in the Law School, and in practice, along with the leadership qualities she brings to the position.

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Professor Russell then noted that she is honored to have the opportunity to serve the Law School and that she is proud of its tradition of excellence. She observed that her top priority will be to manage that tradition of excellence and rebuild as necessary.

Items for decision

1996-97 Tuition Fees

Mr. Shaw noted that Board Members had received a Report on the 1996-97 Tuition Fee Recommendation dated March 1996 which contained an analysis of the factors considered in the development of the tuition fee recommendation.

Mr. Risley briefly reviewed the development of the tuition fee schedule for 1996-97 by first noting the assumption of a reduction of 9.9% in our government grant for 1996-97 that had been contained in the Ninth Report of the Budget Advisory Committee released on December 8, 1995 which resulted in the likelihood of a general increase in all tuition fees of 12% over the 1995-96 level. He explained that more recent advice that has been received from the Nova Scotia Council on Higher Education (NSCHE) and the Minister of Education and Culture suggests we might expect a reduction in our operating grant of 7% to which has resulted in the recommended general increase of 9.7% for tuition fees for 1996-97 except in Science, Engineering, Health Services Administration, Recreation and Health Education where lower percentages have been applied in recognition of market factors.

During the discussion that ensued some concern was expressed about the possibility that the recommendation to reduce the level of fee increase may be premature considering the future inevitability of the need to raise fees and the hope was expressed that, in the budget planning process, the quality of the academic product will receive more attention. It was also noted that the previously planned differential increases in Arts, Commerce, Education, Social Work, Nursing, Recreation, Physical Education, Health Education, Kinesiology, Health Services Administration, Law, Science, and Engineering have been eliminated in recognition of market factors.

Dr. Traves commented that the modest increase currently being proposed appears to be the wisest approach at the moment based on the available information.

Mr. Risley moved and Dr. Gordon seconded a motion THAT, on the recommendation of the Finance and Budget committee and the Student Relations and Residence Committee, the Board of Governors approve the tuition fee schedule as shown in the final column of Appendix B of the Dalhousie University Report to the Board of governors 1996-96 Tuition fee Recommendation dated March, 1996. The motion carried.

A copy of Appendix B, referred to above, is attached to these minutes.

Changes to DFA Collective Agreement

Mr. Shaw noted that information had been pre-circulated about the proposed changes to the Dalhousie Faculty Association Collective Agreement regarding administrative stipends that are payable to Librarians.

Mr. Cox moved and Mr. Risley seconded a motion THAT the Board of Governors approves a change in the Collective Agreement with the Dalhousie Faculty Association by the replacement of Appendix IX with the revised Appendix IX approved by the Association/Board Committee at the meeting of December 19, 1995 and subsequently approved by the Dalhousie Faculty Association. The motion carried.

Amendments to the Dalhousie Staff Pension Plan

Mr. Shaw commented that information had been pre-circulated about the proposed amendments to the Dalhousie Staff Pension Plan. Mr. Roughneen observed that Amendment No. B and Amendment No. 4 are essentially a result of editorial recommendations from the Superintendent of Pensions, and that Amendment No. 5 relates to a further incremental improvement on the Post Retirement Interest Assumptions (PRIA) arising out of the contribution reduction agreement.

Mr. Risley moved and Mr. Cox seconded a motion THAT on the recommendation of the Pension Advisory Committee as well as the Employee Groups Executives, the Board of Governors approve, as presented:

1. Amendment No. B to the Pension Plan Text effective 1 January 1988 to 31 December 1991 to bring the Plan into full compliance with the Pension Benefits Act of Nova Scotia;
2. Amendment No. 4 to the Pension Plan Text effective 1 January 1992 to bring the plan into full compliance with the Pension Benefits Act of Nova Scotia; and
3. Amendment No. 5 to the Pension Plan Text to further reduce the Post Retirement Interest Assumptions (PRIA) as follows:
 - a) Prior to June 30, 1994 from 5.0% to 4.95%;
 - b) On or after June 30, 1994 but before June 30, 1996 from 4.7% to 4.65%; and
 - c) On or after June 30, 1996, set at 4.55%

The motion carried.

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1996-97 Finance and Budget Committee recommendations for interim spending approval

Mr. Risley commented that as our financial year ends on March 31 and the 1996-97 Operating Budget cannot come forward for approval until we know our level of government funding for 1996-97, we are therefore seeking approval, as has been done in previous years, for interim spending approval.

Mr. Risley moved and Mrs. Ann Petley-Jones seconded a motion THAT in order to allow the continued operation of the University until such time as the 1996-97 Operating Budget is given final approval, it is recommended that the Board of Governors authorize expenditures of up to 25% of the preliminary 1996-97 Operating Budget model contained in the Ninth Report of the President's Budget Advisory committee which went to the Board for information at the December 12, 1995 meeting. The President, or his designate, is authorized to approve expenditures in excess of 25% in special cases to permit the orderly management of the University. The motion carried.

Items for discussion

Rationalization

Dr. Traves reported that the current advice we have received indicates that Cabinet will consider a final recommendation to approve the Metro Halifax Universities Consortium Business Plan later this week or early next week. He noted that their approval of the plan is expected, and we also anticipate receiving a decision on the level of funding to be granted over the next three years so we can begin to plan around that. He commented that he would inform the Board about discussions surrounding a possible merger between Dalhousie and TUNS later in the meeting during the *in-camera* session.

“Beyond the Campus : An Assessment of the Economic Social and Cultural Impacts of Nova Scotia Universities”

Mr. Shaw noted that this item was placed on the agenda at the request of Dr. Wainwright and that background information had been pre-circulated. Dr. Wainwright observed that the “Beyond the Campus” document was a joint production of the Council of Nova Scotia University Presidents (CONSUP) and the Nova Scotia Confederation of Faculty Associations (NSCUFA). He then noted that the economic contribution that Universities make is not a matter of public debate or knowledge and he strongly encouraged Board members to take any opportunity they could to make the figures known, and to create and foster debate on these matters. After a brief discussion it was agreed that advice would be sought from the Public Relations Office and subsequently a report would be brought back to the Board about the most effective way to disseminate information about our economic, social and cultural contributions.

Items for information

Actuarial Valuation : Dalhousie University Staff Pension Plan as of June 30, 1995

Mr. Shaw observed that the Actuarial Valuation of the Dalhousie University Staff Pension Plan as of June 30, 1995 prepared by Eckler Partners Atlantic had been pre-circulated. Mr. Roughneen then explained that the University is required to conduct and file a valuation of the Staff Pension Plan every three years. He then noted that the purposes of the actuarial valuation are as follows:

1. for funding of the Plan for the purpose of accumulating assets to provide for the benefits in advance of their actual payment;
2. to meet the statutory filing requirements under the Income Tax Act and the Pension Benefits Act of Nova Scotia; and
3. for the accounting of the costs of the Plan in the financial statements of the University.

Mr. Brunell of Eckler Partners Atlantic briefly noted that the valuation determined the funded position of the plan as of June 30, 1995 and determined the cost of benefits accruing up to the time of the next valuation, and he then offered to respond to any questions. No questions were raised.

Dalhousie Student Union : Administrative changes and future direction

Mr. Shaw noted that he was pleased when Mr. Cox asked if he could make a presentation to Board Members so that they could be informed about administration changes and the future direction of the Dalhousie Student Union. Mr. Cox then gave a detailed and comprehensive presentation that impressively illustrated a year of significant progress and improvements to the management of the Dalhousie Student Union and the Student Union Building for which the DSU has perpetual management responsibility. At the conclusion of his presentation, Mr. Cox was greeted by an enthusiastic round of applause and commended for his remarkable leadership and for his many accomplishments while serving as President of the Dalhousie Student Union.

Adjournment The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m. with Board Members only being asked to remain for an *In-Camera* session.

Mrs. Carol D. Young
Honorary Secretary

Mr. Allan C. Shaw
Chairperson

DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY
1996-97 Tuition Fee Levels by Program

Faculty/Program	1996-97		
	1995-96 Tuition Fee	per BAC IX	Recommendation
Arts and Social Sciences	3,095	3,600	3,395
Dentistry			
DDS	4,725	5,625	5,515
Dental Hygiene	3,730	4,345	4,260
Education	3,470	4,055	3,470
Graduate Studies			
Masters	Undergraduate + 166	Undergraduate + 200	
Doctorate	Undergraduate + 333	Undergraduate + 400	
Thesis only	890	1,150	1,125
Health Professions			
Social Work	3,470	4,055	3,805
Nursing and Physical Education	3,855	4,485	4,230
Recreation and Health Education	3,855	4,485	3,895
Health Services Administration	3,855	4,485	3,930
Pharmacy, Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, and Human Communication Disorders	4,195	5,030	4,935
Law	4,320	5,175	4,740
Management			
Commerce and Certificate in Public Admin.	3,125	3,600	3,430
Medicine			
MD	4,725	5,625	5,515
Postgraduates	1,115	1,415	1,390
Science			
BSC	3,585	4,180	3,895
Engineering	3,680	4,180	3,895

Assumptions:**General Increase**

All except Education, Recreation, Health Ed.			
Health Services Admin. Science and Engineering	6.0%	12.0%	9.7%
Education	6.0%	12.0%	-
Recreation & Health Education	6.0%	12.0%	1.0%
Health Services Admin	6.0%	12.0%	1.9%
Science	6.0%	12.0%	8.6%
Engineering	6.0%	12.0%	6.4%

BAC IX Differentials

Arts and Social Sciences	-	135	-
Management	-	100	-

BAC III Differentials

Dentistry			
DDS	334	334	334
Dental Hygiene	167	167	167
Education	167	167	-
Graduate Studies			
Masters	34	34	34
Doctorate	67	67	67
Thesis Only	150	150	150
Health Professions			
Social Work	167	167	-
Nursing, RPHE, HSA	167	167	-
Pharmacy, PT, OT, HCD	334	334	334
Law	334	334	-
Medicine			
MD	334	334	334
Postgraduates	167	167	167
Science			
BSC	167	167	-
Engineering	134	134	-