

Item: Senate Minutes, March 1991

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DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

MINUTES

OF

SENATE MEETING

Senate met in regular session on Monday, 11 March 1991 at 4:00 p.m. in the Senate and Board Room.

Present with Ms. P. Lane in the chair were:

Angelopoulos, Arklie, Barkow, Bankier, Berard, Birdsall, Bradfield, Burns, Carlson, Clark, Clarke, Curri, Dykstra, Eberhardt, Fry, FuUerton, Furrow, Haffey, Johnson, Klassen, Kwak, Maguire, McKee, McNulty, Murray, O'Shea, Retallack, Ritchie, Sherwin, Singh, Stairs, M.J. Stewart, Surette, J.E. Sutherland, Walker, K.S. Wood, Young.

Invitees: B.D. Christie, J. Cowan, M.D. MacDonald, B. MacKay-Lyons.

Regrets: Carruthers, R.F. Chandler, Cochrane, A.D. Cohen, Coulombe, Fernandez, J. Fox, Gilroy, J. Gray, Haley, Hawkins, Konok, Purdy, Rees, Sullivan, Tamlyn, M.H. Tan, Treves, Zakariasen.

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m.

91:033.

Minutes of Previous Meetings

The minutes of the meeting of 28 January 1991 and the minutes of the special meeting of 31 January 1991 were approved as circulated; and the minutes of the meeting of 11 February 1991 were approved with the following correction:

p. 1(91:023), last line: Add "Mr. A. Singh asked that his negative vote be recorded.

upon motion (A. Singh/J. Barkow).

91:034.

Nominations from the Senate Committee on Committees

On behalf of the Senate Committee on Committees, Ms. Angelopoulos nominated the following individual to the committee named.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC ADMINISTRATION

G.R. Langley (Medicine) - 1993

Following the requisite calls for further nominations, the individual named was declared elected.

91:035.

For Information - Revised Functions of the Senate Committee on Academic Administration

The Secretary reported that the Steering Committee of Senate had approved a revised list of academic regulations under the jurisdiction of the Senate Committee on Academic Administration (appended). These revisions were prepared by the Registrar, in her capacity as Acting Chair of the Committee, and reflect only a re-wording to correspond with the actual and traditional practice of the Committee.

91:036.

For Information - Proposal from Leisure Studies Division

The Secretary reported that Senate Committee on Academic Administration, in response to a request from the Leisure Studies Division of the School of Recreation, Physical and Health Education had passed the following motion:

that, pending further consideration of the proposed revisions to the Bachelor of Recreation program, the first-year intake to the Bachelor of Recreation program be suspended for 1991-92, and that the College of Arts and Science increase its enrolment appropriately.

91:037.

Report of the President

Mr. Clark commented briefly on his report (appended). He noted that, recalling his recent international trip, three impressions stood out particularly. First, the problems of universities seem to be universal. University authorities in Indonesia and the Philippines shared with him their concern about continuing budget reductions along with increasing enrolments. Second, he noted the high regard in which Canadian development assistance in education is held in the rest of the world. Finally, he said that he was convinced that Dalhousie needed to develop further international linkages along the lines of those the University has already begun. He added that the oft-made charge that a decline in the number of visa students at Canadian universities was due to the imposition of differential tuition fees was inaccurate. Rather this decline stemmed from the fact that other countries, e.g. Australia and the United Kingdom, have done a better job of recruiting students and promoting their programs in developing countries.

Mr. Clark reported on the winter meeting of the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada. He noted the generally dismal financial prospects facing universities across the country. He noted, however, that his meeting with the Board of Directors of the Corporate-Higher Education Forum suggested that business in Canada was taking a keen interest in the future of education, including higher education.

Mr. Clark said that little progress had been made recently in the Role and Capacity exercise being undertaken by the universities in the Province, due in part to the recent change of leadership in the

Government and the merging of the Department of Advanced Education back into the Department of Education. The players were waiting to gauge the attitudes of the Minister, Mr. Giffin. Mr. Clark suggested that part of a regular

meeting of Senate or, perhaps, a special meeting be devoted to discussion of the Role and Capacity exercise.

Finally, Mr. Clark reported on the success of the Annual Fund, which has exceeded its one million dollar goal.

Mr. Bradfield asked if there had been discussion at the AUCC meeting of how Canadian universities should address the matter of human rights violations in the countries in which they had educational agreements. Mr. Clark said that the question had not been taken up at the recent meeting, but he noted that there is continuing discussion within the Association about a general policy in this area.

Mr. Retallack said that he found some irony in the growing interest of the corporate world in higher education as governments progressively reduced their contributions to universities. Mr. Clark said that business leaders have expressed concern that Canada, which spends a very high proportion of its Gross National Product on education, has a disappointing record of performance according to a number of educational indicators.

91:038.

Campus Plan

Ms. Lane welcomed Mr. J. Cowan, chair of the President's Advisory Committee on the Campus Plan, and Mr. Brian MacKay-Lyons, whose consortium is preparing the Plan. Mr. Cowan reported briefly on the process to date. He said that the plan is being developed with the participation of members of the campus community and the University's neighbours. Further opportunities for involvement with the process will be available during a second set of public meetings and workshops in April.

Mr. MacKay-Lyons gave an overview prepared by the planners of some of the major ideas which have emerged to date. The first set of workshops, held in January, led to the development of a working brief (appended). Currently, the planners are meeting with different Faculties and other interested groups. Mr. MacKay-Lyons explained several diagrams showing different development possibilities based on various definitions of the University's boundaries and various options for vehicular traffic. An overriding theme emerging from the first set of workshops was the need to develop University Avenue as a major public space, and Mr. MacKay-Lyons outlined some of the ways in which that might be done. He said that the second set of workshops, scheduled from 6-14 April 1991 and including three major evening sessions on 8, 10, and 12 April would recapitulate the ideas which emerged from the first workshops and the subsequent discussions and would attempt to develop them further.

Mr. Bradfield asked about parcels of land the University owned west of Oxford Street and about the present Grace Hospital site. Mr. MacKay-Lyons said that larger-scale plans did take into account the University Avenue area from South Park Street to the Quadrangle. In general, the planners had understood most people suggesting that Dalhousie attempt to consolidate its physical presence and intensify its identity within a defined area.

Ms. Sherwin said that she found it difficult to take seriously such a grand attempt at planning in the current climate of fiscal restraint. Mr. Clark replied that, despite current problems, Dalhousie needed to plan for the future, including the nature and form of future physical development.

91:039.

Question Period

Mr. Singh asked if there was any response to a 1300-name petition calling for a non-smoking policy in the Life Sciences Centre. Mr. Clark replied that the matter had been discussed by the Buildings and Grounds Committee of

the Board and that further discussions would occur. He said that no satisfactory area had been found in which to permit smoking. Ms. Stewart said that the petition was attempting to address a serious problem for students, staff, and faculty and should be addressed as quickly as possible.

Mr. Haffey asked about the process of revisions to the University Governance Document. The Secretary reported that a draft of the document had been discussed at the 14 February meeting of the Steering Committee and that further discussion would take place at the 14 March meeting of that Committee.

Mr. Bradfield asked how long the position of Director of Finance had been vacant and what was being done to fill it. Mr. Clark replied that the position had been vacant since Christmas and that steps were being taken to fill it.

Mr. Singh asked if international visa students would be able to take advantage of cooperative education programs. Mr. Clark replied that problems relating to the placement of **visa students in** cooperative programs existed across the country. He noted that visa students were permitted by the Department of Employment and Immigration to take up job placements; difficulties arose, however in finding adequate placements for those students in government departments, whose policies allowed employment only of citizens and/or landed immigrants and in businesses who saw cooperative placements as means to recruit future employees.

Mr. Bradfield asked if members of the University, travelling on University business, booked first class or executive-class seats or used limousine service to travel to the airport. Mr. Clark replied that he could only report his surprise at seeing, from his seat in economy-class, members of the faculty in the first-class section.

91:010.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m. upon motion (S. Haffey/J. Barkow).