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Item: Senate Minutes, April 1995

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DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

MINUTES

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SENATE MEETING

Senate met in regular session on Monday, 10 April 1995 at 4:00 p.m. in the University Hall, Macdonald Building.

Present with Mr Dunn in the chair were:

Amey, Barrett, Bérard, Bankier, Birdsall, J. Black, Blair, Bradfield, C. Camfield, Cassin, Chandler, Clark, Clarke, Conrod, Curri, Earl, Egan, Farmer, Fingard, Gregor, James, Kimmins, Kussmaul, Landymore, D.M. Lewis, Lydon, MacKay-Lyons, MacLennan, Richards, Ritchie, A.M. Simpson, Sinclair-Faulkner, Smith, Stuttard, Sullivan, Taylor.

Invitees: M. MacDonald.

Regrets: Clovis, M. Crowley, DeMéo, Fernandez, Gilroy, Haley, Hare, Hobson, Laidlaw, Lane, Mann, McCabe, McIntyre, Maxner, T.J. Murray, O'Shea, Roald, Schlech, M.H. Tan.

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

95:038

Minutes of the Meeting of 13 March 1995

The minutes of the meeting of 13 March 1995 were approved upon motion (M. Bradfield/J. Ritchie).

95:039

Nomination to Senate Committees

On behalf of the Senate Committee on Committees, Mr Blair tabled the following names for election or nomination to the following bodies:

Senate Nominee as Representative to the Board of Governors

W.C. Breckenridge (Medicine)

Lester B. Pearson Institute Advisory Committee

G. Beanlands (Management)
I. McAllister (Science)
T. Shaw (FASS)
W. Schlech (Medicine)

After the requisite calls for further nominations, Mr Dunn declared the nominees elected.

95:040

SFPC Report on the Tuition Fee Policy

Ms Conrod presented a report (previously circulated) from SFPC, in response to a request by the Budget Advisory Committee, concerning the current tuition fee policy and process. The report recommends changing the requirement to set tuition fees in January, suggests means for better consultation with students, and calls for establishing student assistance at a constant ratio of assistance to total tuition.

It was moved (J. Conrod/P. Farmer)

that Senate receive the report of SFPC.

Mr Bradfield suggested that students in some professional programmes could be charged higher differential fees with no loss to total enrollments. Mr Chandler replied that the Faculty of Health Professions was experiencing some problems with current differential fees. He called for a portion of differential fees to be returned to the unit in which those fees were generated. Mr Kimmins said that not all differential fees should be returned to the generating unit but that a satisfactory formula could be developed.

Mr Clark pointed out that Dalhousie's fee increase this year would likely be one of the lowest in Nova Scotia.

The question having been called, the motion carried.

95:041

Rationalization

Mr Clark referred to the first part of his Report (appended), which relates to this item. The report referred to wide distribution of a consultants' study, commissioned by Dalhousie, showing the savings which would come from administrative rationalization of universities in the Halifax Metropolitan Area and to the schedule of meetings of CONSUP with the Nova Scotia Council on Higher Education (NSCHE). He added that five of nine members of the NSCHE had come to the end of their terms and replacements had yet to be appointed.

Report of the President

Mr Clark commented on his written report (appended). He added that there were dire predictions about concerning the impact of the federal budget on university funding. He noted the success of the Island Sustainability, Liveability, and Equity, developed by Dalhousie in concert with several other institutions, in obtaining funding from CIDA.

Mr Clark also reported that the Council of Ministers of Education wish to see that all first and second year courses be fully transferable among Canadian universities and that he had referred this information to Senate. Ms Curri said that this item would be taken up by SCAA at its next meeting.

Mr Sullivan asked if the President could comment further on the predictions he had heard about the impact of the federal budget. Mr Clark said that he could only report that it was thought that the West and Atlantic Canada would be most disadvantaged.

Mr Sinclair-Faulkner asked if courses accepted for credit from other universities would automatically be accepted as acceptable prerequisites at Dalhousie. Mr Clark said that such a decision would be up to Senate. Mr Bradfield asked if transferability would apply only to universities. Mr Clark said that the CMEC request included other institutions. Ms Curri said that Dalhousie already transferred credits from the second-year of CEGEPs in Québec.

95:043

Question Period

Mr Bradfield asked if plans to hire a recruiting officer for Southeast Asia and a Labour Relations Officer were consistent with recommendations of the Budget Advisory Committee and also asked from which budgets these appointments would be funded. Mr Clark replied that a person in Hong Kong has been retained as a recruiter for Dalhousie from funds from the central administration budget. He said that an advertisement for a Labour Relations Officer has been made public and that this position, too, would be funded by the central administration budget. He noted that these positions would be filled, while other positions in the central administration which had been vacated would not be filled at this time.

Mr Sinclair-Faulkner asked if Dalhousie would have a representative at the inter-university "Partnerships" meeting scheduled for 18 and 19 May. Mr Clark said that Dalhousie had yet to be invited to this meeting.

95:044

For Information - Senate Reform

Mr Dunn reported that the Steering Committee was hoping to bring forward to a May meeting of Senate a document outlining aspects of the implementation of Senate Reform.

95:045

In Camera - Report of the Honorary Degrees Committee

Mr Clark presented a supplementary report of the Honorary Degrees Committee. It was moved (H. Clark/D. Egan)

that Senate approve the slate of names brought forward by the Honorary Degrees Committee.

The motion carried by the requisite two-thirds majority.

95:046	
Adjournment	
The meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.	. upon motion (E.McKee/B. Clarke).
Secretary	 Chair