

Item: Senate Minutes, June 1999
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DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY
REVISED APPROVED MINUTES
OF
SENATE MEETING

SENATE met in regular session on Monday, June 14, 1999 at 4:00 p.m. in University Hall, Macdonald Building.

Present with Mr. C. Stuttard in the chair were the following:

Apostle, Bell, Benoit, Bleasdale, Bradfield, Brett, Carlson, El-Hawary, Emodi, Faulkner, Flagel, Furrow, Giacomantonio, Guppy, Ipson, Johnston, Kimmins, Kipouros, Lee, MacAulay, MacInnis, Maloney, McIntyre, Neumann, Pacey, Phillips, C. Powell, H. Powell, Rathwell, Ricketts, Rutherford, Sastri, Scully, Slonim, Tindall, Traves, Ugursal, White, Whyte.

Regrets: Binkley, Clements, Cunningham, Flood, Fooladi, Galley, Girard, Lohmann, MacDonald, MacKenzie, Maes, McConnell, Ruedy, Russell, Shafai, Starnes, Treves, Wainwright, Wallace.

99:068.

Adoption of Agenda

Mr. Stuttard noted that he would vacate the chair to participate in debate concerning the proposal for a joint QEII-Dalhousie School of Health Sciences, and proposed that the Vice-Chair, Mr. Kipouros, would preside over that debate. He also noted that item #6 (f) would be an additional item for information on the completion of the Senate Review of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences; the agenda was then adopted.

99:069.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of May 20, 1999 were adopted as circulated.

Changes to the May Graduation List

Mr. Stuttard drew members' attention to ten additions to the graduation list subsequent to Senate's approval of that list: 2 B.Sc.(Agr.); one B.Sc.; and 7 B.A. The reasons for these additions were set out in memoranda available in Senate Office.

99:070.

Question Period

Ms. Furrow raised concerns about the process for generating the 1999/2000 Timetable. The Department of English had received a phone call at four o'clock on a Friday afternoon requesting that within the hour two professors find new times for two already scheduled classes. She understood that the problems in finding rooms for English had been resolved, but wondered how widespread these types of last minute directives

had been, and what could be done to avoid this situation developing in the future. Mr. Bradfield noted that the Department of Economics had received an urgent fax requesting last minute changes in the scheduling of at least seven classes, one of which involved over 100 students and had been meeting at the same place and time for several years. Mr. Stuttard indicated that the matter would be raised with the Registrar.

Mr. Bradfield requested that now the financial statements for 1998/99 were completed Senators be provided with a detailed breakdown of the realised income and capital gains for the Endowment Funds for 1997/98 and 1998/99. Mr. Stuttard indicated that this was a matter for follow-up by the President's Office, specifically the Vice-President (Finance & Administration).

99:071.

Nominations

On behalf of the Senate Nominating Committee, Mr. Stuttard moved:

That Senate approve the nomination of Ruth Bleasdale to a second term as Secretary of Senate for the period June 1999 to June 2002.

Following the requisite calls for further nominations the motion was **CARRIED**.

On behalf of the Senate Nominating Committee, Mr. Stuttard moved:

That Senate approve the nomination to the Steering Committee of Dennis Farrell (Music/FASS), July 1999-June 2001; and Robin Whyte (Pediatrics/Medicine), July 1999-June 2001;

That Senate approve the nomination to the Senate Academic Priorities & Budget Committee of Michael Shepherd (Computer Science), July 1999-June 2001; Moira McConnell (Law), July 1999-June 2001; Don Clairmont (Sociology & Social Anthropology/FASS), July 1999-June 2001; John Crocker (Pediatrics/Medicine), July 1999-June 2000;

That Senate approve nomination to the Discipline Committee of Katherine Fierlbeck (Political Science/FASS), July 1999-June 2001;

That Senate approve the nomination to the Senate Committee on Academic Administration of Norman Scrimger (Computer Science), July 1999 -June 2002; Christine Barnes (Microbiology & Immunology/Medicine), July 1999-June 2002; Darcy Santor (Psychology/Science), Jan. 2000-June 2001; John Yogis (Law), July 1999-June 2002;

That Senate approve the nomination to the Academic Appeals Committee of Art Sedgwick (Computer Science), July 1999-June 2002; Helen Ryding (Dentistry), July 1999-June 2002; Diana Ginn (Law), July 1999-June 2002; Stephen Coughlan (Law), July 1999-June 2001; and Ian Mobbs (Anatomy & Neurobiology/Medicine), July 1999-June 2002.

After the requisite calls for further nominations, the motion was **CARRIED**.

99:072.

Nominations to the Senate Nominating Committee

On behalf of the Steering Committee, Mr. Stuttard moved:

That Senate approve the nomination to the Senate Nominating Committee of Denis Riordan (Computer Science), July 1999-August 2000; and Richard Dunlap (Physics/Science), January 2000-August 2000.

The motion was **CARRIED**.

99:073.

Diploma in Disability Management

On behalf of SAPBC, Mr. Stuttard moved:

That the proposed program Diploma in Disability Management, be approved with the following conditions:

- 1. the program will be exempt from ERBA and subject to the usual 5% administrative levy on tuition revenues; and**
- 2. transfers of funds are made from the Faculty of Health Professions to the University Library to cover the \$700 one-time and \$975 annual needs as identified in the library assessment report.**

Ms. McIntyre indicated that this proposal had been developed over two years and the Faculty of Health Professions was delighted it was now before Senate. She was also pleased to confirm, as of the previous Friday, the appointment of Dr. Fred McGynn as the first Academic Coordinator of the program. Dr. McGynn was a doctor of rehabilitation with three years of tenure track experience in a Boston area University. The proposed program had been voted the national program for the Workmen's Compensation Boards in Canada. Discussions concerning a French-language version of the program had begun, as had the exploration of articulation of this program with other types of programs at Ryerson and a community college. This was a landmark program in world of Workmen's Compensation Boards, but also the first University program of its kind in disability management in the country.

Mr. Powell asked whether there had been discussions with the division of Orthopaedic Surgery in the Department of Surgery and the division of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation in the Department of Medicine during the preparation of the proposal. Ms. McIntyre noted that disability management was distinct from the work of providing care for those who have been disabled or have suffered injuries. The medical advisory group in the WCB had vetted the program. The units mentioned by Mr. Powell would perhaps be more involved later at the stage of course development in the area of the program concerning planning returning to work and case management.

Mr. Brett wondered whether there were some general principles that determined ERBA exemptions. The Chair invited Mr. Christie to respond. Mr. Christie noted a few conditions for a program to be exempted. The program needed to be self-contained, with the teaching only carried out by one academic unit or at least only within one Faculty, so that no other unit would be disadvantaged because they were not reimbursed for

service teaching. The program also had to be a premium-fee program, that is, a program with a fee substantially higher than the norm for undergraduate programs. Normally the higher fees were justified by the cost of sustaining the program, and by the ability of the students to pay higher fees, usually through employer subsidization in whole or in part.

The motion was **CARRIED**.

99:074.

New Major in Agricultural Environmental Studies (NSAC)

On behalf of SAPBC, Mr. Stuttard moved:

That the proposed program, B.Sc.(Agriculture) with a Major in Agricultural Environmental Studies, be approved.

The motion was **CARRIED**.

99:075.

Bachelor of Science (joint major/combined honours) with a Concentration in Environmental Science

On behalf of SAPBC, Mr. Stuttard moved:

That the proposed program modification, B.Sc. (Joint Major/Combined Honors) with Concentration in Environmental Science, be approved on condition that the Faculty of Science makes a base budget transfer of \$8,600 to the University Library system for the acquisition of monographs on environmental science.

Ms. Furrow was unable to reconcile the proposed curriculum for this modified program with the requirements for the B.Sc., either Joint Major/Advanced Double Major or Honours, as they currently stood. At present we required one credit in a single humanities language subject for such degrees, but here two half credits in different subjects were being proposed as meeting this requirement. In addition, the proposed writing class, Science 1111.03, at present was only provisionally approved and was subject to review. This went against the College-approved principles for writing across the curriculum.

Mr. Ricketts sought clarification of the second paragraph of page 4 which appeared to suggest that the program would not prepare students for graduate work in Environmental Studies. Mr. Ryall responded that the intent had been to ensure that students would meet the requirements of the regular discipline-based degree, but he agreed that those who took this program would be better prepared for graduate work in Environmental Studies than those who had not. He welcomed Mr. Ricketts suggestion to insert "solely" after "aim" and to substitute "but primarily ensures" for "it does ensure." Mr. Stuttard clarified that this change to the proposal did not affect the motion before Senators.

Mr. Slonim wondered why students would not be required to take any Computer Science classes, given that students would need to utilize computers when they entered the workforce. Program proposals which did not accept this reality puzzled him. Mr. Ryall saw no impediment to making provisions for classes in Computer Science into the program; the list of classes in Appendix B was not intended to be exclusive or exhaustive. He also noted that in the Earth Sciences section several of the offerings were geographic information system classes, focussing on one of the primary uses of computers in environmental work.

There was also room for electives which were cross-disciplinary classes.

Mr. Ryall accepted Ms. Furrow's suggestion for a friendly amendment that would reintroduce into the program the requirements for a B.Sc. degree:

That it is understood that the existing requirements with respect to writing across the curriculum and distribution of classes will be met.

Mr. Brett noted that in preparing a similar document for a proposal in the area of Cognitive Science he had run into problems with the meaning of the term "Concentration", and the Registrar had asked that he use the term "Emphasis" instead. Mr. Ryall responded that for this proposal the Registrar's Office had suggested the term "Concentration".

The amended motion was **CARRIED**.

99:076.

Change of Division of Emergency Medicine to Department of Emergency Medicine

On behalf of SAPBC, Mr. Stuttard moved:

That the Faculty of Medicine's proposal to change the status of the Division of Emergency Medicine to that of a department (the Department of Emergency Medicine) be approved.

The motion was **CARRIED**.

99:077.

Proposed QEII HSC - Dalhousie School of Health Sciences

On behalf of SAPBC, Mr. Kipouros (in the Chair for this item) moved:

That the proposal for a Joint QEII Health Sciences Centre–Dalhousie School of Health Sciences be approved.

Ms. McIntyre introduced Michelle Brennan, Acting Director of Health Sciences Education at the QEII, and Susan Nassar, the Liaison Coordinator at Dalhousie for the new program. Senate had approved the eleven programs under the Bachelor of Health Science (Specific Health Discipline) on March 22, 1999, and on May 17, 1999 the Board of Governors had approved those programs. They were currently being reviewed by MPHEC and were expected to be on the agenda for the September meeting of that body. Senate was now being asked to consider the administrative structure for the programs. Mr. Stuttard had circulated to all Senators a definition of a School at Dalhousie, and Ms. McIntyre believed that the proposal fitted into that definition. The Director would be jointly accountable to the Dean of Health Professions and to the Vice-President of the QEII Health Sciences Centre. Objection had been raised that Health Sciences was everyone's term, but given that it was everyone's term, it would be no more confusing than any other designation. A formal administrative structure was necessary to facilitate interaction with other areas and bodies within the University such as the Registrar's Office, Student Services, and the Library.

Mr. Stuttard reported that the Dean of Medicine had sent him a memorandum objecting to the proposed

name of the School as inappropriate because most Canadian Universities understood Health Sciences to include the longer established health sciences of Medicine, Dentistry, Nursing, Occupational and Physical Therapy. He had given the example of McMaster University which had a Faculty of Health Sciences that included those professional schools. The Dean of Medicine supported the affiliation of the QEII Health Sciences Centre's Schools with the Faculty of Health Professions, but would "be more comfortable if the proposed structure for this affiliation was within the Faculty of Health Professions but not recognized officially at Dalhousie as being the School of Health Sciences." Unfortunately Dean Ruedy had been unable to attend this meeting to address this issue in person.

Mr. Stuttard had other concerns that meant he had to speak against the motion to establish the proposed School. With reference to the five criteria adopted by Senate in September 1998 for establishment of a new school, Mr. Stuttard did not see the need for a School since the existing QEII Health Sciences Education could supply all necessary administrative functions; no full-time Dalhousie employees would be members of this School and there was no other School within Dalhousie that was staffed entirely by adjunct appointees. Indeed, he doubted there was such a School elsewhere in any university. Several other programs were conducted at Dalhousie in collaboration with outside agencies: We collaborated with the Nova Scotia Agricultural College for the B.Sc. (Agriculture) and the Masters degree; with ITI for a Masters degree; with the Canadian Institute of Bankers for the MBA (FS). None of these external agencies had become a School within Dalhousie, or even a joint School of Dalhousie, and he saw no need for such an arrangement in this instance. All the functions that such a school would have were already functions of the QEII Health Science Education and its Allied Health Schools. The Director of that unit would be Director of the programs approved by Senate. A separate arrangement was not needed to administer these programs. An alternative arrangement possibly could involve the Director of the QEII Health Science Education reporting to the Dean for academic matters, with some arrangement similar to the collaborative programs run with other external agencies. In addition, there would be no physical presence of the School within the Faculty. Thus, of the five criteria adopted by Senate, the only one satisfied was the responsibility for an academic program, and so for these reasons he would vote against the motion. If an alternative were required he would suggest a motion to refer back to SAPBC.

Mr. Powell understood that QEII Health Sciences Centre was about to seek or was actually seeking a new Vice President of Research and Professional Development. Given the nature of that individual's responsibilities, which would include whatever we adopted today, he wondered what role the University had or would have in the search procedure for an someone who would have considerable influence in the development of these programs, wherever they were housed. Mr. Scully indicated that the University's role was to be announced. The process at QEII Health Sciences Centre was at a very early stage. There would be discussions involving the CEO of QEII Health Sciences Centre and the President's Office, given the variety of issues that needed to be addressed concerning the structure of the relationship between the two institutions. Mr. Powell hoped the University would have an important part in choosing the individual for this position. He would support the earlier speaker's suggestion that a decision on the proposed School be delayed until we had more information about that structure and the process by which the programs would be run.

Ms. Bleasdale noted that the minutes of SAPBC indicated that this had been an issue of extraordinary difficulty for SAPBC. At one meeting Ms. McIntyre had attempted to explain to the Committee what a virtual school would be, and at that point Ms. Bleasdale's understanding had been that Ms. McIntyre was going to bring back to SAPBC something much more tangible and concrete that would give Dalhousie Senate a very clear understanding of what it was approving. Ms. Bleasdale had been unable to attend the

last two meetings of SABPC, but was not surprised to discover that at the meeting at which the current proposal was finally adopted there had been three abstentions, three votes in favour, and one against it. Had she been there she would have voted against it. This had been a very troubling proposal for SAPBC; it was not common for that Committee to reflect on a proposal at three meetings, and then still come up with a clear split. That suggested to her that Senate needed to think very carefully before it moved on this. She would support Mr. Powell's suggestion for a postponement of this decision. A number of unknowns could easily, or not so easily, be clarified, and we could refer back to SAPBC with a clearer sense of what Senate wished. This would be appropriate since there was no need to rush into a commitment. Under its new guidelines for quality assurance, MPHEC would require a much more thorough vetting of any proposal to do with health care, and even though the present provincial government apparently supported the program proposals we did not need to be the ones making precipitate decisions regarding the administration of those programs.

Mr. Scully attempted to correct Ms. Bleasdale's suggestion that the School proposal had been considered at three meetings, but Mr. Stuttard noted that Ms. Bleasdale had been referring to the February meeting of SAPBC at which a discussion of the program proposals had included discussion of a virtual school. Mr. Scully noted that his conversations with the Executive Director of MPHEC had indicated that the program would be fast tracked, and we could expect to hear back no later than September or October 1999. It was his understanding that MPHEC would not seek clarification concerning the administrative unit responsible for administering the program, but would focus on issues of academic quality. The two issues which needed to be addressed were the name of the unit and the question of the use of the School structure. While he understood Dean Ruedy's position, like Ms. McIntyre he noted the confusion of nomenclature within universities and the variety of ways in which the terms health sciences and health studies were used. He believed that different kinds of partnership arrangements would generate new problems but also new opportunities surrounding the definition of a unit. It was not clear to him that any of the examples of partnerships in which Dalhousie was currently involved were directly analogous to the structure proposed here. While we needed criteria and guidelines such as those Mr. Stuttard had reiterated, there would be cases in which those guidelines would not be helpful, and we would have to carefully consider the wishes of the proponent of a proposal.

Mr. Ugursal was puzzled by the objections of the Faculty of Medicine to the name of the proposed School because when some members of the Faculty of Engineering had objected to the formation of the School of Biomedical Engineering, the Faculty of Medicine and the Chair of the Senate had argued against the position of members of the Engineering Faculty, going so far as accusing them of being parochial.

Mr. Bradfield was concerned that the School would be staffed by adjunct appointees and we would have no direct control in the hiring of these people. They would be teaching students who would be Dalhousie students, and if the student appealed an action taken by a professor, we would have control of the student but not of the professor because the latter would be adjunct. Mr. Christie urged Senate to adopt the proposed School. He echoed the comments of Mr. Scully: MPHEC seemed very sympathetic to the idea that the additional steps they had introduced for new health-related programs would not be necessary for this proposal. Senate had required this proposal to come forward by asking for an administrative structure for the Bachelor of Health Science programs, and the proposal seemed a reasonable way of dealing with a variety of issues that were identified in the proposal for those programs. As for the name, in its designation of areas of special emphasis, Senate had agreed that "Health Studies" was the appropriate collective name for the areas identified by the Dean of Medicine. Mr. Bradfield's comments suggested strong reasons for including this School within the Faculty of Health Professions. We wanted to bring both those delivering

and those taking the programs within Dalhousie. This would be ideal to break down barriers. Non-tangible benefits would include boosting the morale of those teaching, and controlling and assuring the quality of the programs. To turn the proposal down might be perceived as a slap in the face. He would remind members of SAPBC that one of the abstentions was from a student who had just begun to serve on that Committee and had felt lacking in his background knowledge. We should not step back from this innovation. He thought we had responded well to it so far.

Mr. Ricketts observed that adjuncts were Board appointments and control of their activities at Dalhousie was not a problem. The fact that the School would be entirely made up of adjuncts might be an issue. With reference to the graduate program in Agriculture, it was a full program of Dalhousie, with some limitations placed on it by the contract between Dalhousie and NSAC. The program did, in fact, function as though it were the equivalent of a school, that is a graduate program within a Faculty of Graduate Studies.

Mr. Traves thought that, understandably, this was a slightly confusing discussion because of the number of issues to be considered. The discussion regarding the School's name seemed pointless, since terms such as Management, Environment were socially and historically defined. What he was hearing was that we had approved a series of degree programs. Often a structure was approved before a program, but here we knew what we were getting. The next step was to approve the structure. We could acknowledge that this was not a normal situation because we would have the program delivered "beyond the borders" of the University, so we had to be innovative. He did not shrink from the challenge to innovate because he thought we were being called more and more to participate in a wider variety of educational endeavours and to be inclusive in the process. At the same time we needed to maintain our standards. The custom in the Faculty of Health Professions was to have Schools. Consequently, the next step was to pull their new programs -- 9 or 11 degree programs -- into the Faculty. It was the location of responsibility within the institution that was important. It resolved the issue of how to administer the 11 degree programs approved.

Mr. Faulkner questioned whether any faculty member in this School would have tenure at Dalhousie. Ms. McIntyre verified that none would, but as more sources of income were developed we would bring in new faculty who would be eligible for tenure. Mr. Faulkner thought that essential since tenure was crucial to the defence of academic freedom. Those with tenure could also protect the academic freedom of others. He also worried that for whatever reason less than half the members of one of Senate's hardest working committees recommended that we adopt this. When a lot of people abstain it is usually a sign that they had some personal stake (which would make abstention appropriate) or they had not made up their mind. He therefore moved:

That this motion be referred back to SAPBC for further consideration.

Mr. Rathwell also had not been at the last meeting of SAPBC; however, had he been there he would have voted for the joint School proposal. He had some questions about the unorthodox way of dealing with a unit which would be teaching a number of University programs, but did not see that we could have anything other than an unorthodox approach under the circumstances. If Senate had any reservations, it might be worthwhile ask that a detailed report be produced in one or two years following an independent review of the unit's effectiveness.

Mr. Stuttard asserted that a number of speakers had missed the point. Non-approval of a joint School of Health Sciences would not be a barrier to mounting the B.H.Sc. programs. Mr. Ricketts had claimed that with reference to the Masters degree at the NSAC there was no similarity, but NSAC was not a School of Dalhousie, yet its faculty taught programs leading to Dalhousie degrees. The Bachelor of Health Science

programs could all go forward because there was an organization to administer them -- the QEII Health Sciences Education in collaboration with the Faculty of Health Professions. Through the Dean's Office the Director of that program in the QEII Health Sciences Education could operate that program. In fact, that was what was going to happen. We had here a series of simple articulated programs, not eleven degree programs. They were a mixture of degree and diploma programs, with third-year exit for diplomas. The issue was the administrative structure. As he had said before, he did not believe we should be establishing a School of this University staffed entirely by people who were not employed by this University. He would ask that SAPBC look at that very carefully and come to a clearer decision on that issue.

Mr. Bell did not believe there was anywhere a requirement that a unit involve tenured faculty. His second concern was that a vote of SAPBC in which people abstained was in some way less than a majority vote of another kind. The number who chose not to vote had nothing to do with the validity of the vote. Mr. Ugursal agreed, commenting that if we sent this motion back we would be setting a very dangerous precedent in which the quality of a vote would be discussable. He objected to that, declaring that the vote at SAPBC as legal.

As a member of SAPBC, Ms. Bleasdale thought the comments of her colleagues were valuable and would be helpful to that Committee's reconsideration of this matter on the following Monday, and to reconsideration by Senate at its next meeting in two weeks time. Some Senators seemed as troubled as she by the lack of full-time members of Dalhousie in the proposed School. She was also troubled by one of Mr. Christie's reasons for supporting the formation of the School: that it would give Dalhousie control of the programs. She referred to the final paragraph on page 2 of the draft SAPBC minutes: "formation of the School would give some leverage in setting mechanisms to control the quality of the program delivered jointly with QEII HSC and could facilitate the future recruitment of Dalhousie faculty for the program." That seemed to suggest that Mr. Christie thought that at this point we did not have much leverage. That leverage was not clearly defined, as Mr. Powell had pointed out. For example, the new Vice-President for QEII would be crucial to these programs. Clearly Mr. Christie was looking forward, as were we all, to a growing body of full-time faculty members who would be involved in the programs. Ms. Bleasdale would be happy to go back to SAPBC to explore the possibility of securing at least one full-time faculty member for the program. She thought the precedent was frightening: where would this lead us? If the Provincial Health Department was interested in this proposal, perhaps they could come up with the money that would make full-time Dalhousie positions available immediately rather than two years down the road when the program would already have taken some form.

Mr. Christie objected that the draft minutes of SAPBC before Senate were not the approved minutes. He had already voiced his objection to the Senate Office that that particular section of the draft minutes did not accurately record his comments, but in his view they had not been corrected. Like Dean McIntyre, he had suggested that the proposed School would help in the future recruitment of tenure-track faculty at Dalhousie. He had no concern that we lacked control over the quality of the programs that Senate had already approved. Quality control mechanisms were already in place. Mr. Kimmins observed that this program represented a unique combination of partnerships, the triumph of the QEII Health Sciences Centre and the Faculty of Health Professions over a number of parochial interests that existed elsewhere in the province and in the region. He was distressed when those parochial interests even seem to intrude within our own institution. That fact that we had already approved the name of the program made Dean Ruedy's objection somewhat redundant; the time to have raised that issue would have been when the Baccalaureate had been brought to Senate in February. With reference to the issue of members not being employed by Dalhousie, within the academy the definition of employee was now much broader than in previous decades.

This was also true of tenure. Senate had recently approved continuing term appointments to replace tenure in clinical departments in the Faculty of Medicine. He understood Mr. Faulkner's concern about tenure, but that was an argument for having a School within the Faculty of Health Professions. The concerns raised today seemed best addressed by bringing this unit within the academy. He could not think of a more suitable structure, and saw no reason to refer the proposal back. The proposal represented a great deal of work under very difficult and no doubt frustrating circumstances which had necessitated compromises.

Ms. McIntyre believed the proposal to be a really good thing to bring in these professions and give them the opportunity to grow as part of the first of this type of multi-disciplinary degrees in the country. QEII Health Sciences Centre did not have an administrative structure to administer these programs. For example the (Allied Health) diploma schools had not had the tradition of a Committee on Studies; student appeals were dealt with by an individual. So, Dalhousie's Senate processes would never be exercised appropriately by using their structure. This was also unlike any other of these partnerships such as ITI since 100% of the curriculum was Dalhousie curriculum; and there would be no transfer credits. Every course would be approved by Faculty Council. Those committees authorized by Senate could not be created without this structure. That was needed, and students were entering in September -- applications were well over the number of available positions even before "we were allowed to advertise". We did not have the opportunity to second guess funding issues, there has been a long term commitment by the Department of Health for non-portable funding, which is more than could be said for any other funding at Dalhousie. Belonging to the School would allow adjuncts to participate as full faculty members.

Ms. Furrow was delighted by what had been the single most informative debate she had heard since joining Senate, and under the circumstances it would be an abdication of Senators' responsibility to send this back to the Committee. Mr. Ricketts would vote against the motion to refer back because Senate needed to make a decision. He added that the case of NSAC did not argue against the type of structure being proposed; if anything, it argued for it. The M.Sc.(Agr) program at NSAC was staffed and taught by non-Dalhousie faculty. The key issues were mechanisms of control, academic leadership, and enforcement of Senate procedures already in place.

The motion to refer the proposal back to the Committee was **DEFEATED**.

Ms. Bleasdale respectfully requested that should the proposal pass, the Faculty of Health Professions very carefully review its terms of reference because at present the individuals in the proposed School would not have representation on the committees to which Dean McIntyre had referred. Ms. McIntyre was confident that members of the new School could be accommodated within the committee structure. She also noted that the collaborative program in Nursing which included the Yarmouth School of Nursing was 100% staffed by non-Dalhousie employees.

The motion was **CARRIED**.

99:077.

Review of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences

Mr. Stuttard informed Senators that the Report of the Senate Review Committee for the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences had been accepted by SAPBC and was available in Senate Office. SAPBC had no recommendations for Senate action with respect to this Report.

99:078.Update on BANNER

Ms. Bleasdale brought to members' attention a problem which the Banner Project Team had encountered. At present the student transcripts generated by Banner would not be able to record median grades for each class. The problem would be satisfactorily resolved over the next 12 to 16 months; in the meantime, however, Senate would need to consider suspension for one year of its policy concerning median grades. Because of the variety and magnitude of tasks involved in getting Banner up and running in time for the new academic year, the Project Team and the Student Information System Policy Advisory Committee (SIS-PAC) had had to categorize and prioritize those tasks according to what was crucial and what might be postponed for a brief period. The Student Information System Policy Committee was aware that a number of years ago Senate had concluded that median grades were crucial to the students and to those who had reason to review students' transcripts. Ms. Bleasdale assured Senators that the Registrar and the Vice-President (Academic & Research), as well as other members of SIS-PAC, were fully committed to rectifying this problem as quickly as possible. At the next Senate meeting members would be asked to vote on this issue. Those better able to address the problem would be in attendance to address concerns and answer questions.

Mr. Faulkner and Mr. Brett were concerned about the ability of Banner to go back and retroactively insert median grades once the Banner system had resolved the problem. Ms. Bleasdale understood this would be possible. Ms. Bleasdale invited Mr. Slonim to discuss his more technical questions with Ms. Virginia Lee, Project Manager. She reminded members that those working directly and indirectly with Banner were feverishly juggling an enormous array of tasks. Mr. El-Hawary reminded members that the median grade was crucial to determining issues such as whether a student should be dismissed. Perhaps the Registrar's Office could be approached to make available to faculty the raw data from which medians could be calculated manually. Ms. Guppy noted that the omission of median grades could disadvantage those of our students applying for graduate or professional programs, and wondered what the alternative was.

99:079.Schedule of 1999-2000 Meetings

The Schedule of 1999-2000 Meetings was deferred until the next meeting.

99:080.Report of the President

Mr. Traves spoke briefly to two matters. He thanked those who had participated in the nine Convocation ceremonies this Spring. Secondly, he reported that the Operations Committee of the Board had accepted a recommendation to refer the University budget to the Board for its meeting June 22, 1999. Based on numerous statements of government officials and the provincial budget, the proposed Dalhousie budget was balanced. However, two areas of uncertainty remained: political uncertainties surrounding the approval or rejection of the provincial budget; and the annual uncertainty about enrolments and the assumptions about tuition revenue based on enrolments. Mr. Stuttard suggested that any questions or comments be offered through the e-mail senate-list@ac.dal.ca.

99:081.Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6 pm.

