

Item: Board of Governors Minutes, January 1991
Call Number: Board of Governors Fonds UA-1, 57.5

Additional Notes:

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BOARD OF GOVERNORS
DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

AGENDA

Tuesday, January 22, 1991 - 4:00 p.m.
Board and Senate Room

1. Minutes of Board Meeting of December 11, 1990 (enclosed)
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Board Matters
 - (a) Appointment of Alumni representative
4. Staff Matters
5. Reports of Standing Committees
 - (a) Audit Committee (Mr. Shaw)
 - (b) Buildings and Grounds Committee (Dr. Curry)
 - (c) Development Committee (Dr. Curry)
 - (d) Finance and Budget Committee (Mr. Doane)
 - (e) Staff Relations Committee (Mrs. Green)
6. Ex Gratia Payments to Retired Staff (enclosure)
7. Campus Plan Steering Committee (Mr. Cowan)
8. Presentation on Department of Physical Plant and Planning (Mr. Lord)
(enclosure)
9. Other Business
10. In Camera - Report on D.S.A. Negotiations

Enclosures for Board Members' Information

- Minutes of Joint Statutory Committee Meeting on 15 November 1990
- Financial Statements: - Staff Pension Trust
- Retirees' Trust Fund
- University Affairs - January 1991

Board
Matters

Appointment of Alumni Representative

Mr. Piercey informed the Board that a recommendation had been received from the Alumni Association that

Mr. David Almon be appointed a member of the Board of Governors to complete Mrs. Nancy Kimber MacDonald's term of office to 30 June 1993.

On motion (Aldrich/Lougheed) this appointment was approved.

Staff
Matters

Appointments

Dr. Stairs presented the following recommendations for Board consideration:

Appointment of Professor Thomas A. Cromwell as Dean and Weldon Professor of Law for a five-year term effective 1 July 1991. Motion (Lane/Lougheed) CARRIED.

Reappointment of Professor J. Douglas Myers as Dean of Henson College for a five-year term effective 1 July 1991. Motion (Crawford/Zwicker) CARRIED.

Deaths

Dr. Stairs reported the recent deaths of former faculty members:

Professor Harry S. Granter (King's), who had taught in the Department of History at Dalhousie and had been serving as Assistant Dean of Student Services in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences at the time of his death on December 22, 1990.

Dr. Michael J. Keen, who had taught in and served as Chairman of the Geology Department and had also served as Assistant Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science while at Dalhousie. In the mid 1970's Dr. Keen had moved to the Bedford Institute of Oceanography where he was employed at the time of his death on January 8, 1991.

Dr. Harold L. Scammell, who had served as Registrar at Dalhousie for many years and whose death had occurred on January 21, 1991.

The Board noted the great contribution these individuals had made to Dalhousie during their years of service, and asked that the Board's sympathy be expressed to their widows.

Honours

Dr. Stairs reported that Dr. T. J. Murray, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, had been named an Officer of the Order of Canada, and that Dr. H. Reuben Cohen, the University's Chancellor, had been elevated from Member to Officer in the Order's New Year's list. Mr. Piercey said he intended to write and offer congratulations to these gentlemen on behalf of the Board.

Reports of
Standing
Committees

Audit Committee

Mr. Shaw reported that the Committee had reviewed the Pension Plan and Retirees' Trust Fund statements (pre circulated to Board Members for information) at its December meeting, and had also examined the final report of the Auditor General. He explained that in 1989/90 the Auditor General had examined the operations of the seven largest universities in the province and had looked at four areas: Financial Management; Capital Expenditures and Projects; Fixed Asset Utilization and Control; and Purchasing Practices. The Report indicated that Dalhousie's performance was satisfactory in all areas except in its operating policies and procedures relating to the use and control of fixed assets. The Audit Committee, Mr. Shaw told Members, had considered the question of a fixed asset management system in the past and had decided this was not a priority at the present time. The Auditor General's report had also made 59 specific recommendations for changes and improvements, many of which have or will be implemented or discussed with the appropriate Board committees. The report, Mr. Shaw said, was generally supportive of the University's policies and practices, and where possible and feasible the University would move to make the recommended changes and improvements.

The Audit Committee, Mr. Shaw added, had also received a summary report from the Auditor General which contains a number of suggestions that did not appear in the individual reports to the seven institutions examined. The second report calls for greater government involvement at a detailed level in university operations, which causes the University concern. The report will require more detailed study and the Committee will report further on this at a future meeting.

Buildings and Grounds Committee

In the absence of Mr. Newman, Dr. Curry reported that an international team of architects and urban designers had been selected to assist the University in the development of its Campus Plan, and said that Mr. Cowan would report further on this later in the meeting. Dr. Curry also reported that \$500,000 had been received recently from the provincial government to carry out detailed engineering planning and some upgrading on the Tupper Building. These funds had to be expended by the end of March 1991.

Development Committee

Dr. Curry reported that approximately 5000 mailings had been sent out in connection with the Planned Giving Program and that 36 responses had indicated interest in getting involved with the program. Further mailings were planned. Dr. Curry then called on Mr. Doane to report on the Annual Fund. Mr. Doane first introduced two Theatre students, Campus Criers Chris Little and Rosemarie MacDougall, who presented a brief skit during which they announced that the \$1 million goal had now been reached in the Annual Fund. Mr. Doane commented that donations to the Fund were up 12% in donors and 29% in dollars over last year. Mr. Doane also

thanked Board Members for their 89% contribution level to date. In closing, Dr. Curry congratulated Mr. Doane and his hundreds of volunteers, staff in the Development Office, Alumni and friends of the University who have contributed so much to the success of the Annual Fund this year.

Finance and Budget Committee

Mr. Doane reported that, based on six-month actual and six-month projections, it now appears the \$410,000 deficit budgeted for 1990-91 might be reduced to a short-fall of \$188,000. Among a number of items which have contributed to the reduced deficit was the larger than expected enrolment this year. The Committee, he said, was still considering the budget for 1991/92 and it appears that, unless more revenue becomes available or expenditures can be reduced, a budget cut of 1.67% will be necessary. The 1991/92 budget book has been approved and will now be considered by various committees. Final approval is expected in the spring.

Staff Relations Committee

Mrs. Green reported that the Committee had considered the recent ruling by the Supreme Court of Canada concerning mandatory retirement and intended to proceed in accordance with terms of the Pension Plan and provisions of collective agreements. These provisions, Mr. Mason explained, require normal retirement at age 65, but there are provisions for post retirement appointments. In answer to a query by Dr. Vinci whether this matter had been discussed with the DFA, Dr. Stairs responded that the Association and other groups would be advised of the Board's decision. In response to a question by Dr. Tindall, Mr. Mason said the University had received clear legal advice that the ruling of the Supreme Court of Canada overruled that of the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia, and further that the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission would no longer hear appeals on the grounds of mandatory retirement.

**Student Union
Award**

Mr. Lougheed announced that the Dalhousie Student Union had been chosen by the Association of College Unions-International as one of the facilities to be included in its "Reference Guide of Outstanding College Union Facilities" this year. He said students were very pleased about receiving this award. The President's Office would be provided with a copy of the guide. The Board extended its congratulations to students.

**Ex Gratia
Payments**

Mrs. Green, Chair of the Staff Relations Committee, presented a recommendation that

The Board of Governors approve ex-gratia payments to 90 retirees who have received this payment in prior years and who do not qualify for pension indexation under the terms of the Dalhousie Staff Pension Plan; the sum of these individual payments being \$85,046.

The motion (Green/Palmer) CARRIED.

Campus Plan

Mr. Jim Cowan, Chair of an advisory committee appointed by the President last fall to develop a campus plan, had been invited to the meeting to present a report on this item. Mr. Cowan explained that the purpose of the Campus Plan was to establish some guidelines for the University to take a look at itself and decide how it wanted to develop over the next period of time. The Committee, had recognizing the need for expert assistance, had begun a process of selecting consultants through public invitation to groups interested in submitting proposals. More than thirty responses had been received from all over North America and beyond, and of those, 13 were asked to submit formal proposals. These proposals were short-listed to four groups who were interviewed before Christmas. The Committee ultimately selected a group of internationally known architects and urban designers led by the Halifax firm of Brian MacKay-Lyons as consultants in developing the Campus Plan. The group chosen includes two leading American architects, William Mitchell and Charles Moore, and two Italian architects of equal stature, Giancarlo DeCarlo and Attilio Gobbi.

Mr. Cowan told Board members that the firm chosen was renowned for its "participatory design" process and the consultants would be seeking comments, suggestions and visions from within and outside the university community. As part of this open process, Mr. Cowan said the consultants would be holding a seven-day series of workshops commencing on January 29 in the Arts Centre. During the afternoon sessions small groups would deal with specific topics such as housing, faculties, infrastructure, campus as ideal city, public places and town and gown, and the evening sessions would cover larger general topics. In addition, two public lectures would be given in the Dunn Theatre on the evenings of February 1 and 2 by Mr. Moore and Mr. DeCarlo respectively. The workshops and lectures would be widely advertised on campus and throughout the area starting tomorrow, and further information was available from Mr. Lord's office. This participatory process, Mr. Cowan said, would provide an opportunity for everyone to become involved and to contribute their views, and the quality and quantity of public input would be very important to the designers in developing a final conceptual campus plan for the university. When questioned, Mr. Cowan said the cost of hiring this group of consultants would be about \$200,000, and that the Committee aimed to have the consultants' final report by the end of May.

Presentation
on Physical
Plant and
Planning

Mr. Lord was invited to comment on a document (pre circulated) which, he explained, was an update to a report he had made to the Buildings and Grounds Committee and the Board in 1987. After noting the wide scope of the Department's responsibilities, Mr. Lord briefly commented on items contained in his report including the Department's organization, administration, engineering services, systems and budget, space planning, architects, environmental services, and security and parking. He spoke about the major challenges facing the Department and answered a few questions by Board Members.

Other
Business

Dr. Tindall, who was attending today's meeting as DFA observer, expressed disappointment over the lack of progress being made in negotiations currently under way with staff in Henson College.

Notice of
Motion by
Student Union

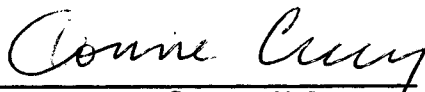
This item had been added to the agenda earlier. Mr. Manson explained that the Chaplain's office had set up a support centre in space provided by Mr. McKee in one of the university's houses to help students who were having problems dealing with the Gulf War crisis. The Student Union supported this endeavour and Mr. Manson presented a motion from the students (seconded by Mr. Aldrich) asking that

The Board of Governors support the Chaplains in this endeavour and encourage all members of the Dalhousie community to support this endeavour.

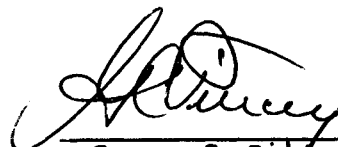
Mr. Crawford noted that there were others besides students who were experiencing stress because of the Gulf situation, and Mr. Manson hastened to assure the Board that the Chaplains' services were available to all members of the Dalhousie community. On a voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

Adjournment
for In Camera
Session

The business of the regular meeting having been completed, the Board moved into an in camera session at 5:20 p.m. to receive a report on negotiations with the Dalhousie Staff Association, and to discuss the Notice of Motion introduced earlier by Mr. Loughheed relating to these negotiations.



Donna M. Curry, M.D.
Honorary Secretary



George C. Piercey, Q.C.
Chairperson

Board of Governors
22 January 1991

EX-GRATIA PAYMENTS TO RETIREES

Each year the Board considers making ex-gratia payments to retirees who do not qualify for pension indexation under the terms of the Dalhousie University Staff Pension Plan.

There are 90 retirees who will receive this payment if it is approved by the Board. They each retired prior to 1982 when new provisions for pension indexation were introduced in the Pension Plan.

The original formula used to calculate these ex-gratia payments was:

$\$6.00 \times (\text{total years of University service to normal retirement date}) \times (\text{years since retirement to 30 June 1983}).$

Since the inception of this arrangement the dollar weight in the above formula has been adjusted upwards. Last year it was approximately \$7.51. Generally the upwards adjustment has been the same percentage indexation as would apply under the Pension Plan. This year's adjustment is 1.45% bringing the dollar weight to \$7.62. On this basis the total payment will be \$85,046. Adequate provision has been made in the 1990/91 operating budget for those payments.

The appropriateness of this level of pension supplementation is under review and a further adjustment for this year may be proposed later. However, we recommend this payment be approved now since it is usually paid early in the new year.