

Item: Senate Minutes, September 2004
Call Number: Senate fonds, UA-5

Additional Notes:

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DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

APPROVED MINUTES

OF

SENATE MEETING

SENATE met in regular session on Monday, September 13, 2004 at 4:00 p.m. in the University Hall, Macdonald Building.

Present with Mr. El-Hawary in the Chair were the following: Barker, Barkow, Beazley, Binkley, Bond, Camfield, Cercone, Cleave, Cochrane, Cook, Corke, Coughlan, Coxon, Danielson, Dauphinee, Dunphy, Earl, Evans, Finley, Fraser, Hamilton, Horackova, Houlihan, Jalilvand, Jost, Klein, Livingston, MacDonald, Maes, McGrath, McIntyre, McMullen, McNeil, Morgunov, Murphy, O'Brien, Oppong, Pelzer, Pronk, Rajora, Richard, Russell, Rutherford, Scrimger, Scully, Sommerfeld (Recording Secretary), Sullivan, Taylor, Traves, Wanzel, Whyte, Zuck.

Regrets: Breckenridge, Butler, Das Gupta, Farrell, Hicks, Meagher-Stewart, Phillips, Precious, Stroink, Stone, Stuttard, Swanston, Taheri, Wallace, Zalezsak,.

Absent: Ben-Abdullah, Caley, Finbow, Kwak, Satish, Scott.

Invitees in attendance: M. A. Daye, P. Manuel, A. Power, L. Sorge, J. Viebert, T. Wright.

2004:055

Adoption of the Agenda

Mr. El-Hawary called the meeting to order at 4:05. The agenda was ADOPTED as circulated.

2004:56

Draft Minutes of Previous Meetings

i) Approval

The minutes of the meeting of July 12, 2004 were ADOPTED as circulated.

ii) Matters Arising

Mr. El-Hawary stated that in regards to the Report of the Senate ad hoc Committee on Plagiarism, the recommendations of the Report had been forwarded to relevant Senate Committees and to the Vice-President Academic and Provost for discussions with the Deans.

Copies of a memorandum from Mr. Traves to Mr. El-Hawary, dated September 10, 2004, were distributed. This memorandum contained a response to a question raised at the July 12, 2004 meeting of Senate regarding the Senate Policy on Conflict of Interest and the 2002-03 and 2004-05 annual reporting of decisions.

2004:57

Senate Discipline Committee Annual Report 2003-04

This item was deferred as the continuing Co-Chair of the Senate Discipline Committee was not available to present the Report at this meeting.

2004:58

Senate Committee on Academic Administration (SCAA)

Mr. El-Hawary invited Mr Scully to present the following items to Senate.

- i) Changes to the Admission and Graduation Requirements for the Faculty of Science

On behalf of the Senate Committee on Academic Administration, Mr. Scully **moved:**

THAT:

- a) **the admissions standard for the Faculty of Science be increased to 75%;**
- b) **the minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 be required for the awarding of a BSc in the Faculty of Science; and**
- c) **that a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 be required for the awarding of diplomas in the Faculty of Science.**

Mr. Scully noted that this recommendation had been approved by both the Faculty of Science and the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

The motion was **CARRIED**.

- ii) Proposed Academic Dates 2005-06

On behalf of the Senate Committee on Academic Administration, Mr. Scully **moved:**

THAT the schedule of academic dates for 2005-06 be approved.

Mr. Scully noted these dates had been determined using the Senate -approved Academic Schedule Principles.

The motion was **CARRIED**.

- iii) Annual Report on Grading Consistency Amongst Faculties/Grade Inflation Report

Mr. Scully commented that the Report on Undergraduate Grading Patterns in Six Faculties: 1998/99 - 2002/03 had been developed in cooperation with the Office of Institutional Analysis and shared with the Deans prior to consideration by the SCAA. He stated that the Report was being provided for information, noting that it addressed implicitly and explicitly, a variety of questions that were raised from time to time about grade inflation and grading practices in universities generally as well as at Dalhousie. He stated that the Report covered a five year period, and reflected the grading differences amongst Faculties at Dalhousie and within the Dalhousie context.

On behalf of the Senate Committee on Academic Administration, Mr. Scully **moved:**

THAT the Senate receive the Report on Undergraduate Grading Patterns in Six Faculties: 1998/99 - 2002/03.

The motion was **CARRIED**.

- iv) Hood Colour for the Master of Applied Health Services Research

On behalf of the Senate Committee on Academic Administration, Mr. Scully **moved:**

THAT the hood for the degree of Master of Applied Health Services Research be white silk/sky blue silk border with white piping.

The motion was **CARRIED**.

- v) Policy for the Scheduling of Classes/Examinations on Saturday and Holy Days: Revisions

Mr. Scully commented on the document Policy for the Scheduling of Classes/Examinations on Saturday and Holy Days: Revisions which had been approved by the SCAA and circulated with the agenda for the July 12, 2004 meeting of Senate, was for information. He invited Senators to forward any comments or concerns on the document either to him or to the secretary of the SCAA, Vice President McKee.

2004:59

Senate Academic Priorities and Budget Committee

- i) Bachelor of Science, Minor in Community Design
- ii) Bachelor of Science, Double Major in Environmental Science and Community Design
- iii) Bachelor of Community Design, Minor in Environmental Studies
- iv) Bachelor of Science, Double Major in Environmental Science and International Development Studies

Mr. El-Hawary invited Ms. Manuel and Ms Wright to comment on the proposals which had been developed collaboratively by the Faculties of Architecture and Planning, Science, and Arts and Social Sciences . Ms. Wright stated that the proposals were for new options within current programs.

On behalf of the Senate Academic Priorities and Budget Committee, Mr. El-Hawary **moved:**

THAT Senate approve the following program proposals:

- a) **Bachelor of Science, Minor in Community Design;**
- b) **Bachelor of Science, Double Major in Environmental Science and Community Design;**
- c) **Bachelor of Community Design, Minor in Environmental Studies;**
- d) **Bachelor of Science, Double Major in Environmental Science and International Development Studies.**

The motion was **CARRIED**.

- v) Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Theatre (Costume Studies)

Mr. El-Hawary invited Ms. Sorge to speak to the proposal. Ms. Sorge noted that the proposal included program options for both the new degree and continuation of the current diploma in costume studies.

On behalf of the Senate Academic Priorities and Budget Committee, Mr. El-Hawary **moved:**

THAT the Senate approve the proposal for the Bachelor of Arts (Honours) program in Theatre (Costume Studies), and a Bachelor of Arts 20 credit Major program in Theatre (Costume Studies), both to commence in September 2005.

The motion was **CARRIED**.

2004:60

Request for Appeal of a 1986 Senate Discipline Committee Decision

The Senate session moved *in camera*.

When the session returned to open session Mr. El-Hawary reported that the Senate had approved that the permanent transcript notation as awarded by the Senate Discipline Committee and reported on May 8, 1986, to the individual in question would be removed from the transcript, but that the F grade for the course in question, would remain on that transcript.

2004:61

Senate Nominating Committee

Mr. El-Hawary invited Mr. Jost, member of the Senate nominating Committee to present the report.

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

THAT the Senate approve the appointment to the Senate Discipline Committee -Jonathan Borwein, Faculty of Science/Computer Science, and Karolyn Waterson, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences/French; to the Senate Physical Planning Committee - Michael Pegg, Faculty of Engineering; and to the Advisory Council on Athletics - David McNeil, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

Following three requisite calls for further nominations, the nominees were declared elected to their respective Committees.

It was noted by the Chair that Mr. McNeil's name had been misspelled on the circulated memorandum from Ms. Woodman.

2004:62

Change to the May 2004 Graduation List

On behalf of the Registrar's Office, Ms. Sommerfeld **moved:**

That the Senate approve the rescinding of the Diploma in Engineering awarded in May 2004 as identified in correspondence from the Registrar to the Secretary of Senate, dated

July 20, 2004.

The motion was **CARRIED**.

2004:63

Question period

Mr. Whyte inquired as to the whether space had been allocated in the Senate meeting calendar to discuss the suggestions and recommendations of the Senate Forum held on March 22, 2004. Mr. Fraser responded that a report had been prepared that summarized the key recommendations that emerged from the Forum's discussion groups. The report had been discussed at the September 7, 2004 Senate Steering Committee meeting where it was agreed that the report and recommendations would be on the agenda for the first October meeting of Senate. He noted that as several recommendations identified in the Report required further study, discussion would centre on how these should be parcelled out to various groups for discussion with possible recommendations following to Senate.

Mr. Finley inquired about a matter raised that the July 12, 2004 meeting regarding vehicle security in the Dalplex Parking lot, noting that Mr. Scully had indicated he would investigate the matter and report back at this meeting. Mr. Scully stated he would report at the next meeting of Senate and apologized for the delay.

Mr. Cochrane asked if the diploma in engineering that had been rescinded in the last Senate motion had been the result of complications arising from the labour disruptions of last April, in that the late submission of grades had resulted in the need to rescind the diploma awarded. Mr. Scully responded that the diploma had been awarded in the belief that the requirement had been met but that the late submission of grade determined otherwise. Mr. Cochrane asked if this was the only such incident arising from the labour disruption and the actions taken by the Senate during the labour disruptions regarding grade submission and convocation. Mr. Scully responded that it was, adding that there were no corrective action required regarding scholarships or prizes subsequent to the original awards and the final submission of grades.

2004:64

Presentation by Vice President (External Relations), Dale Godsoe

Ms. Godsoe began by introducing Mary Ann Daye, Executive Director of Institutional Advancement and responsible for Fund Raising and Alumnae Relations, and Jim Viebert, Director of Communications and Marketing.

Ms. Godsoe, using a slide presentation, described External Relations as an integration of Alumnae Relations, Communications, and Marketing with a common focus of building relationships, both internally and externally, and with a common goal of support for the University through financial and in-kind gifts, volunteer works and "good words". This work relied on the faculty, staff, students and alumnae to achieve its goals. Over the last eighteen months, an extensive University-wide evaluation had taken place which resulted in the new Dalhousie brand. One of the first outcomes of this new brand was the development of renewed recruitment strategies already being used locally as well as nationally. Ms. Godsoe highlighted the current challenges faced by Dalhousie and other universities, such as decreased public funding, increased demand for value by students and parents, unprecedented competition for available funds such as through corporate donors, and the need to work more effectively and more efficiently.

Ms. Godsoe emphasised the goal of building strong relationships and communicating through clear, consistent messages to our target audiences. One recent practical strategy was the development and distribution of Moving into the Halifax Community: A Guide for Students, constructed collaboratively with the University of King's College.

Ms. Godsoe highlighted fundraising outcomes for 2003-04, noting that the 2004 Annual Fund had achieved its best results to date with a 13% increase, with the number of alumnae donors increasing 46%. She noted that these results were accomplished through the efforts of dedicated faculty, staff, students, alumnae and friends. Ms. Godsoe highlighted the results of the Planned Giving program, and 132 new endowments valued at over \$12 million, received for the 1999-2004 period.

Returning to the key focus of building relationships, Ms. Godsoe highlighted activities related to engaging alumnae (for example, through class reunions, the Annual dinner, and Masterminds); to engaging faculty, staff and students through monetary contributions as well as volunteer time; and maintaining longstanding relationships and developing new ones with individuals and corporations.

Mr. Dauphinee asked about feedback on the new Dalhousie website. Ms Godsoe replied that the website was a work-in-progress with priorities in development and implementation being followed, for example to have the site for the Registrar's Office running efficiently to support recruitment goals. Mr. Viebert stated that feedback regarding navigation and ease of use were being received and issues were being worked on. Mr. McGrath inquired about the status of having alumnae e-mail addresses available. Ms. Daye replied that the server was ready to implement the plan for this with the policy issues currently being addressed. Ms. Godsoe added that the Alumnae Board was very interested in becoming actively involved with the recruitment of new students.

Mr. El-Hawary thank Ms. Godsoe for her presentation.

2004:65

President's Report

Mr. Traves commented on the significant 'invisible' support work that goes on within the University that is not always visible in its academic and research activities, and extended his appreciation for that essential work.

Mr. Traves noted that he had circulated a President's Report to the University community early in September 2004 and welcomed feedback on that Report. He added that the Call for Honorary Degree nominations for Convocations in Fall 2005 and Spring 2006 was being circulated to members of the University community and he encouraged Senators and their colleagues to send nominations forward.

2004:66

Enrolment Planning and Management Report #6

Mr. Scully began his presentation by noting that the first University-wide Open House in over a decade was being held on October 22-23, 2004. He described this as an opportunity for the external community to become more familiar with Dalhousie in addition to recruiting new students from local areas as well as from a distance.

In terms of the Enrolment Planning and Management Report #6, Dr. Scully noted that it was circulated in June 2004. He highlighted the matter of international differential fees, adding that a discussion paper on

the topic would be forth-coming from the Budget Advisory Committee this Fall.

Mr. Scully referred to the development of an Enrolment Flow Model as described in the Report. He noted that this work was proving to be increasingly critical given, for example that the enrolment target for December 1, 2004 had been just over 16,000. He stated that the target would not be met. It was unclear as yet about what the final numbers or explanations for it would be so as to set reasonable targets for the next years. He commented on data gathered for the report for McLean's annual issue on Canadian universities, in particular as follows: 2003-04 had seen the largest single entering class from high school; the highest entering grade average from high school; and the highest number of new students with an average of 75% or greater over recent years.

Mr. Scully stated that thrusts for recruitment efforts continue to be in locations such as Ontario, but emphasis was being placed on recruiting from metro Halifax, adding that this Fall had seen an approximate increase of 10% in new student entry from metro Halifax. He concluded by noting that student experience and student environment continue to be integral to enrolment management and to the provision of programmes and facilities that measure up to Dalhousie's claims of quality. He re-iterated Mr. Whyte's earlier comments regarding on-going discussion of the outcomes of the Senate Forum of March 2004. Mr. Scully anticipated that the next Enrolment Planning & Management Report would be ready for discussion in November.

2004:67

Other Business

There was no other business.

2004:68.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m..