

Item: Senate Minutes, November 2011

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, November 28, 2011, at 4:00 pm, in University Hall, Macdonald Building.

Present with Lloyd A. Fraser in the chair were the following: Amirault, Becke, Bennett, Bouchard, Boudreau, Bourne-Tyson, Castleden, Chen, Cochrane, Cox, Cunningham, DasGupta, Dionne, Gardner, Garduno, M. Gilbert, R. Gilbert, Gorsky, Grant, E. Hughes, J. Hughes, Langille, Leach, Leavitt, MacLennan, Magill, Mansour, Marrie, Matte, McLarney, Meynell, Mitchell, Oomen, Packer, Pelot, Pierce, Pinder, Rapaport, Robski, Rogers, Saulnier, Schellinck, Shukla, Summerby-Murray, Susko, Thorburn, Tillotson, Traves, Walls, Westwood.

Regrets: Boran, Canning, Crago, Doman, Johnston, MacLaren, Macy, Moore, Ross, Scrimgeour, Singleton, Watters, Webster.

Absent: Brooks, Farina, Gibson, Leon, Noble, Pegg, Shepherd, Stadnyk.

**2011:110**

Adoption of Agenda

The November 28, 2011 agenda was **adopted**.

**2011:111**

Consent Agenda

**Approval of Draft Minutes of September 26, 2011 Senate Meeting**

**THAT** Senate approve the draft minutes of the September 26, 2011 Senate meeting.

**Approved by Consent**

**Approval of Draft Minutes of October 24, 2011 Senate Meeting**

**THAT** Senate approve the draft minutes of the October 24, 2011 Senate meeting.

**Approved by Consent**

**SLTC: Admission Requirements: Diploma in Dental Hygiene**

THAT Senate approve the proposed changes in the admission requirements for the Diploma in Dental Hygiene program, effective for the September 2012 academic year.

**Approved by Consent**

## **SLTC: Approval of Academic Dates for 2012-2013**

That Senate approve the academic dates for the 2012-2013 academic year.

### **Approved by Consent**

#### **2011:112**

##### **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising from the September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011 or October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011 Senate Minutes.

#### **2011:113**

##### **Chair of Senate's Report**

Mr. Fraser highlighting a number of informational matters of interest to Senators, including the request for Honorary Degree nominations for the Fall 2012 and Spring 2013, which notes that nominations must be submitted to the University Secretariat by November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011. He noted that Senate has received for information the 2010-2011 Annual Reports for a number of Centres and Institutes, including the Atlantic Research Centre, Centre for Foreign Policy Studies, Centre for Innovation in Infrastructure, Marine & Environmental Law Institute, Minerals Engineering Centre and the Institute for Research in Materials. He also noted that the October 2012 convocation dates and times have been adjusted to October 1st, 2nd and 3rd at 2:30pm.

Regarding the issue of Senate and Senate committee attendance and the proper protocol for filling positions for elected academic senators, it was noted that if an elected member is on leave for less than six months then the spot will be held; however, if an elected member is on a leave for longer than a six month period then the position will be filled by a newly elected member. In addition, if an elected member is absent for three consecutive Senate meetings then the spot is declared vacant and will be filled with a Faculty election.

Congratulations were expressed to the Dalhousie Master of Business Administration Program for being one of the five finalists of the 2011 MBA Roundtable Awards in Seattle.

Mr. Fraser reviewed highlights of his 2010/2011 Annual Report, summarizing the themes throughout the report and multi-year projects and undertakings. These included areas such as Governance, Policies and Procedures, Curriculum Innovation and Renewal, and the role of the Senate. It was noted that undergraduate education is becoming a major issue within the University.

#### **2011:114**

##### **President's Report**

Mr. Traves provided a report on several items, including the status of negotiations on a new Memorandum of Understanding with the Province of Nova Scotia that is expected to address government operating grants and tuition levels over the next several years, and the recent introduction of significant reforms to the provincial Pension Benefits Act. Mr. Traves noted with respect to the latter item that Dalhousie plans shortly to appear before the Law Amendments Committee to make submissions regarding a permanent exemption from current solvency test requirements for universities with jointly sponsored pension plans.

**2011:115**Enrolment Management Report

Mr. Fraser welcomed Ms. Asa Kachan, Assistant Vice President of Enrolment Management and Registrar, to present a report regarding Enrolment Management on enrolment results for fall 2011. Ms. Kachan noted that Dalhousie's enrolment is the highest it has ever been, with a total of 17,333 students as of October 15, 2011. Maritime students represent 52.7% of all students at Dalhousie, while Ontario students comprise 21.1% of the student population. International student enrolment is now at 12.1%. Mr. Fraser thanked Ms. Kachan for her presentation.

**2011:116**Dalhousie University Recruitment Presentation

Mr. Fraser welcomed Ms. Asa Kachan, Assistant Vice President of Enrolment Management and Registrar; Ms. June Davidson, Director of Marketing, Communications and Marketing; and Ms. Catherine Bagnell Styles, Assistant Vice-President, Communications and Marketing, to the meeting in order to present Dalhousie Universities new recruitment campaign. During the presentation Ms. Kachan and Ms. Davidson highlighted the new features of the campaign, which include new national advertisements, new program micro-sites, and testimonials from current Dalhousie Students. The campaign is still in the beginning phase but has so far been successful. The campaign has received a lot of positive feedback from both students and high school councilors, and is being monitored for future adjustments. Ms. Kachan and Ms. Davidson noted that presently not all department sites have been updated with the new features; however, the aim is to have all websites completely updated within a few months. They are currently working with departments to achieve this goal. Mr. Fraser thanked Ms. Kachan, Ms. Davidson and Ms. Bagnell for their presentation.

**2011:117**Taskforce on Undergraduate Initiatives

Mr. Fraser welcomed Mr. Jure Gantar, Chair of the Task Force on Undergraduate Initiatives, who presented the Task Force's recommendations. The Task Force was established by the Vice-President Academic and Provost in the fall of 2010 to make recommendations with the objective of continuing to enrich Dalhousie's undergraduate programs, including ensuring differentiation from other programs across the country and enhancing student engagement and active learning. Further discussion of these recommendations and work on the proposed initiatives is anticipated.

**2011:118**Update on Dal/NSAC Merger

Ms. Spence Wach, Associate Vice-President, Academic provided a brief update on the Dalhousie University/Nova Scotia Agricultural College merger. She indicated that the due diligence phase is almost at a close and in December 2011 the negotiation phase will begin. It is anticipated that an agreement in principle with the province will be reached by January 2012. The objective continues to be to welcome the incoming class of 2012 into a newly merged entity.

**2011:119**

Question Period

There were no questions.

**2011:120**

Other Business

There was no other business.

**2011:121**

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.