



**DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY
APPROVED MINUTES
OF SENATE MEETING**

Senate met in regular session on Monday, May 12, 2014, at 4:00pm in University Hall, MacDonald Building.

Present with Lloyd A. Fraser in the chair were the following: Aziz, Boudreau, Bucci, Burton, Byers, Calladine, Cochrane, Cooper, Cox, Crago, Gibson, Habib, Harman, Hughes, Kesselring, Kozey, Langille, Letendre, Manion, Mansour, Marrie, McLarney, Moore, Mopoho, Packer, Persaud, Pinder, Shukla, Skiptunis, Smirnov, Stadnyk, Stanish, Steeves, Summerby-Murray, Treiger, Woodman.

Regrets: Ali, Barrett, Baylis, Boran, Bourne-Tyson, Brooks, Cross, Cunningham, Dionne, Florizone, Grant, Hewitt, Hoyle, Leon, MacDonald, MacLennan, Mazzanti, Mitchell, Ross, Shepherd, Wach, Watters.

Absent: Baur, Becke, Denike, Doman, Goodday, Gray, Johnston, Khan, Leach, Macy, Matte, Pegg, Quinn, Webster.

Guests: Adrian Levy, Ward Patrick, Pat Cleave, Cheryl Kozey,

2014: 63

Presentation of Academic Teaching Awards

Mr. Fraser extended regrets on behalf of President Florizone and Vice-President Academic and Provost Watters, both of whom were unable to attend the meeting. Brad Wuetherick, Executive Director, Centre for Learning and Teaching, provided background on the Academic Teaching Awards, highlighting their alignment with the Strategic Directions for Dalhousie, which includes a vision of fostering an environment of teaching and learning excellence built on collaboration. The suite of institutional teaching awards recognize faculty, instructors, and graduate students who foster an innovative and collaborative learning environment. Mr. Wuetherick introduced the recipients and, together with Mr. Fraser, presented the following awards:

Dalhousie Alumni Association Award for Excellence in Teaching – 2014: Roberta Barker, Department of Theatre, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

Educational Leadership Award – 2014: Anne-Marie Ryan, Department of Earth Sciences, Faculty of Science

Part-Time and Sessional Award for Excellence in Teaching – 2014: Jennifer Frail-Gauthier, Department of Biology, Faculty of Science; and Jin Yue, Department of Engineering, Faculty of Agriculture

President's Graduate Teaching Assistant Award – 2014: Joshua Goreham, School of Health and Human Performance, Faculty of Health Professions; Grace Murphy, Department of Biology, Faculty of Science; and Alana Westwood, Department of Biology, Faculty of Science

Mr. Fraser extended congratulations to all of the recipients.

Mr. Fraser began the regular Senate session by extending a warm welcome to the new DSU Senators for the term of May 1, 2014 to April 30, 2015: Ramz Aziz, DSU President; Jacqueline Skiptunis, DSU Vice-President, Academic & External; Alissa Calladine, DSU Student Senator; Dylan Letendre, DSU Student Senator; Taylor Quinn, DSU Student Senator; and, Andrew Bucci, DSU Student Graduate Senator.

2014: 64

Approval of Agenda

The May 12, 2014 agenda was **adopted** as circulated, with one change: the meeting minutes from the April 28, 2014 meeting were removed from the consent agenda.

2014: 65

Matters Arising from the Meeting of April 28, 2014

Mr. Fraser provided an update on the previous inquiry about the timing of graduate student funding awards and the related issue of recruiting highly qualified graduate students with limited graduate student funding. This matter will be addressed at a future Senate meeting once the Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies, has had an opportunity to discuss the item further with the Senator who raised the question.

2014: 66

Chair of Senate Report

Mr. Fraser began his report by extending congratulations on receipt of the 2014 Rosemary Gill Award, to Susan Mansour, Associate Director, Undergraduate Education and Assistant Professor, College of Pharmacy and a member of Senate and the Senate Academic Programs and Research Committee. This award is presented to individuals who have provided outstanding service to students.

Mr. Fraser addressed several items of information noting that the Master of Genetic Counselling program will not be implemented. The program was approved by Senate in 2011 and was intended to be a partnership program with the IWK Health Centre. It is with great regret that after extensive discussions between both sides, the program cannot proceed due to financial constraints at the IWK. Mr. Fraser then highlighted the upcoming convocations and encouraged Senators to attend those for their own Faculty, as well as other ceremonies.

Mr. Fraser provided an update on the nominating process for the Chair of Senate, which began in February with a call for nominations. The Senate constitution states that the Chair of Senate must have served as a Senator for at least one year; this person does not need to be a current Senator. Although an extensive process has been pursued through the Senate Nominating Committee (SNC), the committee does not have a nomination, or nominations, to bring forward at this time. Mr. Fraser urged Senators to consider potential nominees and to pass their names along to the SNC or to Ms. Brousseau, as Secretary of Senate.

Mr. Fraser concluded by noting that a full agenda is anticipated for the next Senate meeting on June 9th.

2014: 67

Senate Planning and Governance Committee

Proposal for New Department of Critical Care, Faculty of Medicine

The Senate welcomed Tom Marrie, Dean, Faculty of Medicine, and Ward Patrick, Faculty of Medicine. Mr. Patrick provided background on the proposal to create a Department of Critical Care in the Faculty of Medicine. He noted that specialists in critical care medicine increasingly are being brought together in a single department in medical schools across North America. Departmental status tends to reflect a higher level of academic maturity; and it results in a greater ability to recruit and retain highly qualified critical care specialists. Mr. Marrie noted that extensive consultation has been conducted to inform the proposal and it meets the criteria for establishing a department. Critical care medicine has evolved from a number of disciplines, including general surgery, emergency medicine, and anesthesiology; therefore, a key reason to have a department would be to create a collaborative teaching and learning environment from these areas of specialty.

On behalf of the Senate Planning and Governance Committee, Mr. Fraser **MOVED**:

THAT Senate approve the establishment of the Department of Critical Care, Faculty of Medicine.

The motion **CARRIED**.

Termination of the Neuroscience Institute

Mr. Marrie, Dean, Faculty of Medicine, and lead Dean of the Governing Council of the Neuroscience Institute, provided background on the proposed termination of the Neuroscience Institute (NSI). The recommendation for termination comes from the NSI Governing Council, which includes representation from all of the Faculties involved. It is anticipated that collaboration among the various individuals and departments involved in neuroscience will be unaffected by the termination of the institute.

On behalf of the Senate Planning and Governance Committee, Mr. Fraser **MOVED**:

THAT Senate approve the termination of the Neuroscience Institute, effective immediately.

The motion **CARRIED**.

2014: 68

Senate Academic Programs and Research Committee

New Program Proposal: PhD in Epidemiology and Applied Health Research

Mr. Marrie, Dean, Faculty of Medicine, and Adrian Levy, Professor, Department Head and District Chief, Department of Community Health and Epidemiology presented the proposal for a new PhD program in Epidemiology and Applied Health Research. Mr. Levy described the proposed program as an opportunity to meet an important regional need. The Master in Epidemiology program has been successfully running for over 20 years, with graduates pursuing PhD programs at other universities across the country. A major shift towards patient centered outcomes research at the Canadian Institutes of Health Research was noted; this program would meet this focus. There is also more funding available for applied health research; therefore, the proposed program would capitalize on this. Finally, a broad range of support

from different Faculties across the university was highlighted, as well as support from the Deputy Minister of Health, Kevin McNamara.

Subsequent discussion explored the resources needed to facilitate the new courses for the proposed program. The program can be delivered with the resources currently available; however, the number of students and growth of the program would be dependent on additional resources. Mr. Marrie has committed to extending as many resources as possible. Additionally, one tenure-stream position and a new chair are needed; confidence was expressed for the joint appointment of at least one new chair.

On behalf of the Senate Academic Programs and Research Committee, Mr. Fraser **MOVED:**

THAT Senate approve the proposal to offer a Doctor of Philosophy in Epidemiology and Applied Health Research.

The motion **CARRIED.**

New Program Proposal: PhD in Health

The Senate welcomed Pat Cleave, Chair, PhD in Health Proposal Committee, and Associate Professor, School of Human Communication Disorders, and Cheryl Kozey, Acting Associate Dean (Research), Faculty of Health Professions. Background information was provided, highlighting the purpose of the proposed program: to prepare future health researchers to work collaboratively on interdisciplinary teams and enhance knowledge translation skills, to meet current and evolving demands of the health research field. Through extensive consultation within the Faculty of Health Professions and more broadly across Dalhousie and the surrounding community, support has been garnered to develop and advance the research capacity of the Faculty.

Discussion explored the eligibility of medical students, and other students without a research-based Master's program, to apply to the program. Students without a research-based Master's degree would apply to the three year program, which includes a statistics course and a research project in the first year, to enhance their preparedness for advanced research. Students who have completed an honours thesis in their undergraduate degree may also be eligible to enter a PhD without a research-based Master's program. This aligns with the Faculty of Graduate Studies regulations. Further discussion explored the distinction of the proposed program from the Interdisciplinary PhD program. With the proposed PhD in Health program, research would be more focused in a specific area whereas the Interdisciplinary PhD program draws from multiple research areas. The Director of the Interdisciplinary PhD, William Barker, has written a letter of support for the program.

On behalf of the Senate Academic Programs and Research Committee, Mr. Fraser **MOVED:**

THAT Senate approve the proposal to offer a Doctor of Philosophy in Health.

The motion **CARRIED.**

2014: 69

Question Period

A question was raised about whether Dalhousie has a university-wide definition of academic freedom. It was noted that there is a definition in the collective agreement with the Dalhousie Faculty Association,

however, it would apply only to the members of this bargaining unit and would not necessarily apply beyond the scope of the agreement. Mr. Fraser will seek an answer to this question regarding a university-wide definition.

2014: 70

Other Business

There was no other business.

2014: 71

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.