

**DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY  
APPROVED MINUTES  
OF SENATE MEETING**

Senate met in regular session on Monday, April 14, 2014, at 4:00pm in University Hall, MacDonald Building.

Present with Lloyd A. Fraser in the chair were the following: Baur, Baylis, Beale, Boudreau, Bourne-Tyson, Burton, Byers, Cochrane, Cooper, Cox, Cross, Doman, Florizone, Gibson, Goodday, Grant, Habib, Harman, Hoyle, Hughes, Kesselring, Kozey, Langille, Leach, Leon, Macy, Manion, Matte, Mitchell, Moore, Packer, Persaud, Pinder, Ross, Shukla, Smirnov, Stadnyk, Steeves, Summerby-Murray, Taylor, Treiger, Wach, Watters, Yiridoe.

Regrets: Barrett, Becke, Boran, Brooks, Cunningham, Denike, Johnston, MacDonald, MacLennan, Mansour, Marrie, Mazzanti, McLarney, Pegg, Stanish, Webster, Woodman.

Absent: Ali, Crago, Dionne, Eldridge, Gray, Gruzd, Hartigan, Hewitt, Khan, Killham, Mopoho, Shepherd.

Guests: Susan Brousseau (Secretary of Senate), Scott Comber, Andrea Power (Recording Secretary)

**2014:43**

**Approval of Agenda**

The April 14, 2014 agenda was **adopted** as circulated.

**2014:44**

**Consent Agenda**

**Approval of the Senate Minutes of March 10, 2014 and March 24, 2014**

**THAT** Senate approve the draft Senate meeting minutes of March 10 and 24, 2014.

**Approved by Consent.**

**2014:45**

**Chair of Senate Report**

On behalf of Senate, Mr. Fraser extended condolences to the family and friends of Dr. John Bubar, retired faculty member of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College, who passed away on April 1, 2014. Mr. Fraser then provided an update on the Senate Officer Nomination process, noting that meetings had been held with potential nominees. The tentative schedule is for one or more nominations to be brought forward to Senate at the May 12 meeting.

Mr. Fraser reported on the Senate Review of the Faculty of Management. As part of the regular review cycle, Senate initiated a review with the review committee holding its consultations and doing much of its work in the spring of 2011. There was a major delay in the visit of the external reviewers whose visit

did not take place until 2012. In the Fall of 2013, the Senate Planning and Governance Committee approved Terms of Reference for a Special Review, to build on the work done by the original review committee. This review is nearing completion. Following the normal process, the review report will go to the Faculty of Management for its response. The report and response will then be considered by the Senate Planning and Governance Committee which, in turn, will report to Senate.

Mr. Fraser highlighted several additional items:

- The process of revising the Terms of Reference for Senate Reviews of Faculties is underway and it is anticipated this will be presented to Senate before the end of June.
- The Senate and Senate Standing Committee feedback survey will be circulated from April 21 to May 2 and is designed to obtain feedback on changes and improvements that can be made for the next academic year.
- The meeting schedule for the Senate and its standing committees is now available for 2014-2015.

#### **2014:46**

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

Mr. Florizone provided a report, extending gratitude to the Senate for their ongoing input on strategic directions. The provincial budget was released on April 3 and Dalhousie has received a 1% increase in the operating budget, which is a welcome change from previous years. Additionally, \$1.85 million has been provided for graduate student scholarships. These are positive signs given the political context of financial challenges. The search for the Vice-President (Finance and Administration) is underway, and will proceed through the summer. Preparations are underway for the upcoming convocations at the Agricultural Campus on May 9<sup>th</sup> and the Halifax campus from May 20<sup>th</sup> to the 28<sup>th</sup>. Finally, Mr. Florizone reported that he will be making a trip with Premier Stephen McNeil to the University of Waterloo on May 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. This visit will shed light on how a sister U-15 university has developed and engaged its community, enabling us to see what lessons can be learned for Dalhousie.

#### **2014:47**

##### **Election of Senate Faculty Representative on the Board of Governors**

Mr. Fraser provided background concerning the Board of Governors composition, noting that he serves on the Board as the Chair of Senate with two other Senate-nominated faculty representatives: John Baxter, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, and Gail Tomblin-Murphy, Faculty of Health Professions. Gail Tomblin-Murphy's current term will conclude on June 30, 2014. Two nominations have been brought forward by the Senate Planning and Governance Committee for a ballot vote—the results of which would be announced at the end of the meeting. The vote was then conducted.

Following the vote, there was some discussion of the background documents circulated with the Senate package: The Board of Governors' Roles and Responsibilities, Appointment Process, and Expectations of Individual Board Members. Mr. Fraser noted that comments on the documents could be passed along to the Board of Governors, but the Senate does not have the authority to make changes to these documents. A suggestion was made that the Board may wish to review its limit of three consecutive three-year terms and, regardless, Senate may wish to follow a practice of nominating individuals to external bodies for no more than six years consecutively. Mr. Fraser indicated that he would pass this along to the Senate Planning and Governance Committee which has the responsibility of making such nominations. Mr. Fraser thanked members of Senate for their feedback on the process.

**2014: 48**

**Proposal for the New School of Performing Arts, Faculty of Arts and Social Science**

The Senate welcomed Rob Summerby-Murray, Dean, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, to present the Fountain School of Performing Arts Governance Document. Mr. Summerby-Murray summarized the process followed in developing the proposed governance document and highlighted some of its main features.

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

**THAT** Senate approve the Fountain School of Performing Arts governance as contained in the Governance Document dated January 28, 2014.

The motion **CARRIED**.

**2014:49**

**Minor Amendments: Senior Administration Appointments Policy**

Mr. Fraser informed Senate of two proposed amendments to the Senior Administration Appointments Policy and Procedures, based on issues that have emerged since the document was approved in 2013.

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

**THAT** Senate approve the proposed amendments to the Senior Administrative Appointments Policy and Procedures, as circulated.

The motion **CARRIED**.

**2014:50**

**Dalhousie University Vision, Mission, and Strategic Directions to 2018**

The Senate moved to 'Committee as a Whole' with an informal discussion facilitated by Mr. Florizone and Scott Comber, Faculty of Management. Mr. Florizone began by thanking members of Senate for their participation and patience with the ongoing process. The shared agenda to create the vision, mission, and strategic priorities through collaborative discussion is moving Dalhousie University forward as an institution. Thus far, the feedback from Senate has been synthesized and articulated in the sample vision, mission, and strategic priorities, presented in a one-page summary for further discussion. The goal of the discussion was noted to be further exploration of the vision, mission, and strategic priorities. Feedback will be incorporated into a revised draft—to be brought to the next Senate meeting for approval.

**2014:51**

**Question Period**

Mr. Smirnov raised a concern about the timing of graduate student funding awards and the related problems associated with recruiting highly qualified graduate students with limited graduate student funding. The 30% cut to the Killam funds was identified to be problematic in facilitating competitive graduate student recruitment. Mr. Florizone responded, stating that securing funds for graduate students is a priority and work is being done to secure adequate, sustainable funding. The Faculty of

Graduate Studies is working to maximize the funding of graduate students, within the monetary parameters it is given; yet, there is further work to be done in this area.

Mr. Beale briefly reported on the “How would YOU react?” initiative that aims to shed light on the experience of students of colour on campus. Due to the lack of time, Mr. Fraser suggested that Mr. Beale report on this initiative at the next meeting of Senate, with information on the campaign to be circulated in the meeting package.

**2014:52**

**Other Business**

Mr. Fraser announced that Elaine Gibson, Schulich School of Law, had been elected as the Senate faculty representative to serve on the Board of Governors for the term July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2017.

**2014:53**

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 6pm.