

SENATE**APPROVED Minutes of the Meeting held on****Monday, March 13, 2017****3:00pm – 5:00pm****Theatre A, Sir Charles Tupper Medical Building, Carleton Campus, Halifax**

The Senate met in regular session on Monday, March 13, 2017 in Theatre A, Sir Charles Tupper Medical Building.

Present with Kevin Hewitt in the chair were the following: A. Aiken, D. Anderson, M. Aston, F. Baylis, T. Boran, D. Bourne-Tyson, C. Brown, R. Chang, S. Charlebois, J. Chen, A. Cochrane, M. Crago, C. Dielman, L. Diepeveen, S. Faridi, G.A. Finley, R. Florizone, J. Gahagan, R. Goodday, L. Hackett, K. Harman, F. Harvey, S. Holmes, J. Hoyle, J. Hughes, K. Kesselring, S. Kuzak, E. Leach, J. Leon, Y. Ma, Ch. Macdonald, Co. MacDonald, M. Macdonald, C. Macy, P. McMullin, L. Meynell, R. Mopoho, R. Parker, D. Patterson, A. Rau-Chaplin, C. Richardson, N. Savage, L. Spiteri, A. Stadnyk, T. Tennessen, P. Tyedmers, G. Wach, G. Wang-Pruski, C. Watters

Regrets: A. Abawajy, N. Ali, P. Bodorik, C. Cameron, J. Erdman, N. Gear, J. Grant, D. Gray, M. Khan, S. Kirk, Y. Kotlyarova, W. Lahey, D. Langille, M. Leonard, T. MacRae, C. Moore, K. Mukhida, M. Pacurar, K. Reid, D. White

Absent: D. Doman, M. Ghasemi, E. Johnson, A. Quaraishi, J. White

Guests: Arig al Shaibah, Susan Brousseau (Secretary of Senate), Daniela Loggia (Student Minute Taker), Judy MacDonald, Carolan McLarney, Andrea Power (Recording Secretary)

2017:34**Approval of Agenda**

Agenda #8.3 DSU President Report was removed from the agenda as the President was unavailable to attend the meeting. The agenda was **approved** as amended.

2017:35**Consent Agenda****Approval of Draft Minutes of February 27, 2017 Senate Meeting**

THAT Senate approve the draft minutes of the February 27, 2017 Senate meeting.

Approved by consent.

Nomination: Senate faculty representative, Board of Governors, Term July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2020

THAT Senate re-appoint Elaine Gibson, Schulich School of Law, as the Senate faculty representative on the Board of Governors for July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2020.

Approved by consent.

2017:36

Matters Arising from the February 27, 2017 Senate Meeting Minutes

Regarding Senator Baylis' appended questions, it was noted that Senator Watters would respond to them during her Provost Reports over the next few Senate meetings; however, Senator Watters was able to answer questions five and six at today's meeting. Regarding incentives for early retirement, she reported that although early retirement packages would be an employment issue under the DFA collective agreement, Faculty deans are able to provide softer approaches to help faculty and staff in their retirement transitions. These approaches, which have been successful over the past two years, include post-retirement appointments and voluntary negotiated settlements. Regarding the issue of faculty counts, Dalhousie Analytics has been requested to provide the three most-used counts, along with their definitions. The BAC report will only use one count throughout in order to remain consistent.

Regarding the Code of Student Conduct Annual Report, the recognition of the importance of consent of all parties in restorative processes was commended, especially in light of the past events that occurred in the Faculty of Dentistry.

2017:37

Steps to Make Diversity and Inclusion a Reality

Judy MacDonald, Interim Director, School of Social Work, presented on diversity in the School of Social Work, noting that diversity and social justice are imbedded in the vision of the school. She also noted that their "diversity" committee chair is a member of council and other Faculty committees. There were no questions.

2017:38

Senate Nomination Committee: Nomination for Senate Vice Chair (Student Affairs)

Carolan McLarney, Chair, Senate Nominating Committee, introduced Tanya Packer, who had accepted the nomination for Senate Vice-Chair (Student Affairs). Ms. Packer thanked the Senate for the opportunity and spoke to her interest in the position. She spoke to the importance of learning to the Senate and to Dalhousie more broadly and noted her passion about the following issues: a strong learning environment for all students, that all students should engage in inquiry and research (even at the undergraduate level), IT infrastructure, and the role of Senate as a bridge between students, faculty and administration. Ms. Packer was questioned on structural barriers to collaboration among faculty and she agreed there were structural and physical barriers in place that should be eliminated.

On behalf of the Senate Nominating Committee, Ms. McLarney **MOVED**:

THAT Senate appoint Tanya Packer, Faculty of Health Professions, as the Senate Vice-Chair (Student Affairs) for July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2020.

Ms. Packer's collaborative skills were discussed and several Senators noted their positive experiences.

The motion **CARRIED**.

2017:39

Presentation: Strategic Priority 3.1

Martha Crago, Vice President, Research, presented on Strategic Priority 3.1. She highlighted the importance of having a broad range of innovators, systematic and coordinated efforts, and multi-disciplinary innovation. In response to the presentation, Senators discussed the following:

- It was noted that innovation in the Faculty of Health Professions should be highlighted.

- Concerns were raised regarding the use of innovation as an ideology and the monetization of innovation, and it was questioned whether there were any negative aspects of innovation. It was noted that the definition of innovation may be the underlying issue for many of the concerns regarding innovation. Strategic Priority 3.1 concerns inclusive innovation that should not be limited to technical, scientific, or economically-motivated innovation. Entrepreneurship should similarly not be limited to an economic scope. Furthermore, although innovation is often recognized from a research perspective, there are several examples of social innovation that are exciting.
- It was suggested that a full scan of potential areas of innovation be provided, as well as presentations on innovations that are already occurring at Dalhousie, similar to Progress on Report Recommendations document reporting on the Culture of Respect website.
- Dalhousie should be called upon to innovate with the goal of bettering communities and services in Nova Scotia, especially in response to poor economic conditions and poverty in the Province.
- The importance of combining experiential learning with innovation and community service was recognized. The Fountain School of Performing Arts provides experiential learning to all of its students, and it was suggested that this achievement be recognized in order to promote innovation within the Faculty.
- The balance between innovation and long-established educational practices of academia was discussed. It was noted that innovation should not overshadow the liberal arts tradition and that, for some departments, traditional learning equates to experiential learning. However, should students wish to pursue experiential learning or innovative projects in addition to academia, they should be supported.
- It was noted that Dalhousie should strive to be innovative as an institution instead of simply keeping up with standards already established within the U15. Two examples were noted: Laval University, which claims to have divested from fossil fuels, and Waterloo University, which is making strides in gender pay equity. The importance of being innovative administratively and of promoting multidisciplinary innovation was also noted.
- The importance of diversity, equity, and representation should not be ignored. It was noted that, within the working group for Strategic Priority 3.1, there is no representation from the Faculty of Health Professions, and only 8/24 members are women.
- Dalhousie's mission regarding learning, teaching, and research would be impaired by a corporatization of universities.

2017:40

Sexual Violence Strategy: Update

Arig al Shaibah, Vice Provost, Student Affairs, presented on the Code of Student Conduct and the Sexual Violence Strategy. In response to the presentation, Senators discussed the following:

- Collaboration between the Survivor Support Centre and University policies was suggested. Ms. al Shaibah noted that she would be interested in this collaboration.
- There were some ethical issues raised regarding the Campus Climate Survey's appropriate use of trigger warnings and terminology. It was noted that the survey was conducted through EAB and the continued use of EAB must be evaluated against the use of an in-house survey in order to address these issues in the future.
- Sponsors are still being determined regarding different areas related to the Sexual Violence Strategy.
- Concern was raised regarding the use of informal processes to resolve sexual assault. It was noted that, in order to be survivor-centric, both informal and formal processes are offered to survivors. Neither process is privileged. During the last 10 months, there have been cases where students have been supported in reporting to the police. It was noted that there was not time at this meeting to address the underlying reasons why informal processes should be offered at all; however, a discussion on this topic would be welcome.
- The issue of promoting a culture of healthier sexual activity was raised. It was noted that having clear and efficient policies regarding sexual assault and raising awareness on consent would contribute to a culture shift.

- It was suggested that Dalhousie provide reporting on crime similar to the requirements set out in the Clery Act. It was noted that a group in Ontario is looking at this and that it would be useful to examine what other universities are doing.

2017:41

Reports

Chair of Senate's Report

Senator Hewitt reported the following:

- A second joint meeting of Senate officers and the Board of Governors, focused on technology-enabled learning, will occur on June 27, 2017.
- Senator Hewitt has met with the Faculty of Science and will meet with the remaining Faculty Councils within the next two months.
- Ongoing meetings with the Chair, Board of Governors, and administration, regarding the Senate ad hoc committee report on Fossil Fuels, has resulted in a two-pronged approach. Firstly, discussions on reducing Dalhousie's carbon footprint as an institution will take place on April 24, 2017 by the President's Advisory Committee on Sustainability. Secondly, progress has been taking place on ethical investment and fossil fuels. Future meetings will occur in this area with an expert in investment and social governance. By June 2017, an update on this issue will be provided to Senate.
- The DFA executive has been invited to the Senate to discuss budgetary impacts on Dalhousie's academic mission in May or June 2017, which is anticipated to inform future BAC discussions.

President's Report

Senator Florizone spoke to the importance of freedom of speech with regards to divestment demonstrators, noting that their ability to express themselves should be celebrated in the context of disagreements with the Board of Governors. He highlighted the following from his report:

- Enrollment has remained flat, and there have been meetings with the FASS Dean about program innovation.
- The Ocean Tracking Network has been refunded. A main research focus is now on proposals for Canada Excellence Research Chairs.
- The Dalplex pool has been repaired.
- Dalhousie is on track for a record year in fundraising.
- Last week, the four flagship Atlantic universities met in Ottawa and had some great discussions.
- It was acknowledged that the Pan-African flag went missing during the past few weeks and an investigation is ongoing. March 21, 2017 is the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and Dalhousie will re-raise the flag.
- Dalhousie leads the U15 by having a 58% female Board of Governors.
- Dalhousie athletes were congratulated, especially the women's volleyball team and the men's basketball team, for their recent successes.

Questions for Reports

A question was raised regarding attempts made to examine the relationship between enrollment and high tuition. It was noted that student assistance and debt are known to affect retention. It was also noted that although Dalhousie students from out-of-province pay higher tuition than at other Canadian universities, students from Nova Scotia receive bursaries and so are not paying the same high rates.

2017: 42

Question Period

A question was raised regarding the Regional Entrepreneurship Acceleration Program (REAP). It was reported that the program has achieved over 90% of its fundraising goals and the Icelandic team visited Dalhousie last week.

It was noted that inviting the DFA to speak with the Senate was a good idea and that this discussion would be useful in determine how faculty should allocate available funds and how much agency members have.

2017: 43

Other Business

There was no other business.

2017:44

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.