

Item: Senate Minutes, March 2012

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, March 12, 2012, at 4:00 pm, in University Hall, Macdonald Building.

Present with Lloyd Fraser in the chair were the following members: Amirault, Bennett, Boran, Bouchard, Bourne-Tyson, Brooks, Castleden, Crago, Cunningham, DasGupta, Denike, Dionne, Gardner, Garduno, M. Gilbert, R. Gilbert, Gorsky, Grant, E. Hughes, Johnston, Leach, MacLennan, Magill, Mansour, Marrie, Matte, McLarney, Mitchell, Noble, Oomen, Packer, Pegg, Pelot, Pierce, Pinder, Rapaport, Robski, Rogers, Ross, Schellinck, Scrimgeour, Shepherd, Shukla, Singleton, Summerby-Murray, Susko, Thorburn, Tillotson, Traves, Wach, Watters, Webster, Westwood.

Regrets: Becke, Boudreau, Canning, Cox, Farina, Gibson, Langille, Leon, MacLaren, Macy, Meynell, Moore.

Absent: Chen, Cochrane, Doman, Saulnier.

2012:025

Adoption of the Agenda

The March 12, 2012 agenda was **adopted**.

2012:026

Consent Agenda

Approval of Draft Minutes of February 13, 2012 Senate Meeting

THAT Senate approve the draft minutes of the February 13, 2012 Senate meeting.

Approved by Consent.

SLTC: Faculty of Engineering Academic Regulations

THAT Senate approve the proposed amendments to the academic assessment regulations for the Faculty of Engineering as specified in the Calendar edits attached. The amendments will be implemented as of September 2012.

Approved by Consent.

Academic Hood Color: Master of Journalism

THAT Senate approve the academic hood design for the Master of Journalism to be royal blue silk lining with white cording.

Approved by Consent.

2012:027Matters Arising from the Minutes of February 13, 2012

There were no matters arising from the February, 2012 Senate Minutes.

2012:028Chair of Senate's Report

Mr. Fraser offered condolences to the family and friends of Dr. Mohan Iype, Dr. Isabel Dickson-Clark, and Dr. George Turnbull who recently passed away. Mr. Fraser then mentioned the National Study on Academic Governance at Canadian Universities, reminding Senate members that their participation in this short survey by March 31, 2012 would be greatly appreciated.

2012:029President's Report

Mr. Traves began his report by announcing the signing of a tentative agreement between the Dalhousie Board of Governors and the Dalhousie Faculty Association. He explained the importance of the Provincial Government's role with regard to the fact that the University Pension Plan will be receiving full and permanent solvency relief, and noted that this brought about a change of direction at the negotiating table, avoiding a DFA strike. With respect to the labour negotiations between the University's negotiating team and NSGEU Local 77, the two parties will meet with the aid of a government conciliator.

Mr. Traves then reported that ongoing discussions between the Provincial Government and Dalhousie University, with regard to the merger of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College, were going well and legislation to effect the merger was anticipated at the spring sitting of the Legislature. Mr. Traves also announced that the number of registrations and applications to Dalhousie for the fall term had reached the University's targets, a positive sign with regard to finalizing the budget. Finally, Mr. Traves noted that this Senate meeting may be the last before the exam period starts, and wished the students good luck in their upcoming examinations and thanked faculty for their dedication and hard work.

2012:030In Camera: SPGC: Appointment of Senate Representatives to the Presidential Search Committee

Mr. Fraser announced that the Senate session would go in camera, and asked that all non-Senators leave the meeting. When Senate returned to open session, Mr. Fraser announced that the Senate approved the appointment of six individuals to serve as members of the Presidential Search Committee, effective immediately.

2012:031SPGC: Dalhousie University/Nova Scotia Agricultural College: Motions

Ms. Spence Wach, Associate Vice-President, Academic, outlined the process of the selection of a name for the new Faculty in the context of the anticipated merger of Dalhousie University and the Nova Scotia Agricultural College (NSAC). The Faculty of Agriculture was chosen, with the expectation that the NSAC will become the Dalhousie University Faculty of Agriculture on July 1, 2012. To facilitate the transition, it was recommended that the academic regulations of the NSAC academic calendar remain in place for

2012/13.

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

SUBJECT TO Dalhousie University entering into an agreement with the Province of Nova Scotia concerning the merger of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College with Dalhousie University;

AND SUBJECT TO any legislation required to give effect to the merger becoming in full force and effect:

THAT Senate establish the Faculty of Agriculture effective July 1, 2012, initially having responsibility for all academic programs offered by the Nova Scotia Agricultural College as at that date; and

THAT, as a transitional measure, the academic regulations published in the 2012-13 Nova Scotia Agricultural College calendar shall be in full force and effect for the Faculty of Agriculture programs for the academic year 2012-13 in place of the Dalhousie University academic regulations.

In discussion of the motion, a question was raised with regard to the two year engineering diploma program at the NSAC and if it would still be regarded as a two-year entry program to the Dalhousie engineering program. It was noted that there would be no change to the existing programs before 2013/14.

The motion CARRIED.

Mr. Fraser then outlined the recommendation for a Constitutional change related to the merger with the Nova Scotia Agricultural College. The Senate will be increasing due to the addition of the Faculty of Agriculture. In accordance with the Senate Constitution, the Dean of the Faculty will automatically be a member of Senate, and since this will increase the number of Senior Academic Appointments, three new elected academic unit Senators also will be added to Senate. The Dalhousie Student Union has recommended, and the Senate Planning and Governance Committee has concurred, that an additional student representative, from the Agricultural Campus, also be added. In addition, a constitutional change is recommended to remove the designation of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College as an affiliated institution.

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

SUBJECT TO Dalhousie University entering into an agreement with the Province of Nova Scotia concerning the merger of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College with Dalhousie University;

AND SUBJECT TO any legislation required to give effect to the merger becoming in full force and effect:

THAT Section 2.4(b) and (c) of the Dalhousie University Senate Constitution be amended to read:

2.4(b) Students: Seven students, one of whom shall be a graduate student and one of whom shall be a student whose academic studies are primarily located on the Agricultural Campus, shall be elected to Senate for one-year terms as determined by the Dalhousie Student Union.

2.4(c) Affiliated Institutions: One representative of the University of King's College shall be a member of Senate.

In discussion of the motion, it was clarified that the new student could be either an undergraduate or graduate student.

The motion **CARRIED**.

2012:032

SAPRC: Draft Scholarly Misconduct Policy

Ms. Julia Wright, Chair, Ad Hoc Committee on the Scholarly Integrity Policy, presented the Draft Scholarly Misconduct Policy. The Senate Academic Priorities and Budget Committee (SAPBC) had determined that the current policy was in need of revision. SAPBC thus established an ad hoc committee in 2010 to propose an appropriate revision. In addition, the university had been notified by the Tri-Council of changes in their requirements relating to institutions' scholarly misconduct policies. The Senate Academic Programs and Research Committee (SAPRC) now replaced SAPBC. SAPRC had reviewed the Draft Policy and recommended it to Senate for consideration.

In discussion of the Draft Policy, several questions and concerns were raised, including:

- It appears that in certain circumstances individuals being investigated for scholarly misconduct might not be informed of the investigation.
- It appears that the new process does not include students, and since students do participate in scholarly research and this needs to be clarified.
- Lack of representation of the Dean at any point in the process and the need for the respondent to have access to legal advice.
- The draft policy does not have an appeal process.
- The timelines for bringing forward an allegation of scholarly misconduct against a faculty member or other researcher appear to be much shorter than the timelines for bringing forward an allegation against a student under the Faculty Discipline Process.
- Concerns were raised or suggestions made concerning the wording of certain articles.

Mr. Fraser noted that there is time to make appropriate revisions to the Draft Policy since it does not need to be put in place until June 2012 to meet the Tri-Council deadline. The Policy will go back to the Ad Hoc Committee on Scholarly Integrity Policy for further review and then will be presented to Senate at a later date.

2012:033

Budget Advisory's Committee Report (BAC XLVIII) – Operating Budget Plan for 2012-13

Ms. Watters, Chair, Budget Advisory Committee, came forward to present the Budget Advisory Committee's Report (BAC XLVIII) - Operating Budget Plan for 2012-13. The proposed budget has been

balanced and the proposed student fees will be put forward for student consultation on March 13, 2012. Following the student consultation, the proposed student fees will be presented to the Board of Governors on April 17, 2012. Ms. Watters commented on the challenges of balancing the budget due to the recently signed Memorandum of Understanding with the Provincial Government. A 3% cut from the government brought about a 3% increase in tuition for next year. Additional 2%, 3%, and 4% increases were applied to the Faculties of Law, Medicine, and Dentistry, respectively. There were also cuts in funding to each of the Faculties, and in other areas as well. It was noted that the budget appears to enhance student learning, but also is cutting funding to Faculties who are already losing resources. Ms. Watters stated that cuts were necessary across all Faculties and in other areas of the university as well.

2012:034

Copyright Presentation

Mr. Colford, Assistant University Librarian, Collections Development, Killam Library, explained the background to copyright and its goal of protecting the rights of creators. He reviewed the role of Access Copyright, which was created to protect copyright holders. Dalhousie has not renewed its agreement with Access Copyright; however, recently Western University and the University of Toronto have signed agreements with Access Copyright. Mr. Colford concluded by stating that students and faculty need to be made aware of copyright rules at Dalhousie, particularly for On-line Web Learning tools. With respect to the difficulty of posting links to the Blackboard Learning Site and if there was any way to make this process easier, Mr. Colford referred to a new section of the Library website that describes how to post a stable link, and also indicated there would be additional support for faculty in the coming months.

2012:035

Question Period

There were no questions.

2012:036

Other Business

There was no other business.

2012:037

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 5:50pm.