

**DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY
APPROVED MINUTES
OF SENATE MEETING**

Senate met in regular session on Monday, June 9, 2014, at 4:00pm in University Hall, MacDonald Building.

Present with Lloyd A. Fraser in the chair were the following: Ali, Aziz, Barrett, Baur, Boudreau, Bourne-Tyson, Bucci, Calladine, Cochrane, Cooper, Cox, Crago, Dionne, Florizone, Goodday, Gruzd, Habib, Hoyle, Johnston, Kesselring, Kozey, MacLennan, McLarney, Mitchell, Moore, Packer, Persaud, Pinder, Quinn, Ross, Shepherd, Shukla, Skiptunis, Stanish, Summerby-Murray, Treiger, Wach, Watters, Yiridoe.

Regrets: Baylis, Becke, Boran, Brooks, Burton, Byers, Cross, Cunningham, Gibson, Grant, Gray, Harman, Langille, Leach, Letendre, MacDonald, Marrie, Matte, Mazzanti, Mopoho, Pegg, Stadnyk, Steeves, Webster, Woodman.

Absent: Denike, Doman, Hewitt, Hughes, Khan, Leon, Macy, Manion, Mansour, Smirnov.

Guests: John Hope, Lisa Delong, Karen Crombie, Kim Thomson, Tracey Mackenzie, Keltie Jones, Zane Robison, Bob Mann

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Approval of Agenda

The agenda was **adopted** as circulated with the deferral of items 7.2 SHDC Nominations for Spring 2015 and 9.3 Revised Terms of Reference for Teaching Awards.

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Consent Agenda

2.1 Approval of Draft Minutes of April 28, 2014 Senate Meeting

THAT Senate approve the draft Senate minutes of April 28, 2014.

Approved by consent.

2.2 Approval of Draft Minutes of May 12, 2014 Senate Meeting

THAT Senate approve the draft Senate minutes of May 12, 2014.

Approved by consent.

2.3 Senate Planning and Governance Committee: University Tenure and Promotion Nomination

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

THAT Senate approve the appointment of Robert Currie, Schulich School of Law, for the term of June 2014 to June 30, 2017 to the University Tenure and Promotions Panel.

Approved by consent.

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Matters Arising from the Meeting of May 12, 2014

Ms. Watters provided an update on the Indigenous Blacks & Mi'kmaq program within the Schulich School of Law. This issue will be examined from a broader perspective, to look at the larger context of all scholarships for African Nova Scotian and Mi'kmaq students at Dalhousie University. A complete inventory of scholarships is being taken and a committee has been set up to identify gaps. Over the summer, consultations will take place with faculty to assess collective thinking on this matter. Ms. Watters will bring forward a response to Senate from the recommendations in the fall.

Regarding the previous question of whether there is a Dalhousie University-wide definition of academic freedom, Mr. Florizone explained that there is a statement in the Senate regulations, paragraph 5.11, concerning promotions and it recognizes academic freedom for all academic staff. Furthermore, for faculty that belong to a bargaining unit, there is a definition of academic freedom in various collective agreements that supersede the Senate definition.

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Chair of Senate Report

On behalf of Senate, Mr. Fraser expressed condolences to family and friends on the passing of Dr. Nigel Firth, former colleague from the Faculty of Agriculture, and Brian Crocker, former University Secretary and Legal Counsel.

Mr. Fraser extended congratulations to Carolan McLarney on her recent appointment as the William A. Black Chair in Commerce. He recognized Senators who were completing terms at the end of June, extended sincere gratitude for their contributions, and noted that some will be returning for a second term. Senators completing terms in June 2014 are: Agriculture: Emmanuel Yiridoe; Arts and Social Sciences: Margot Dionne and Alexander Treiger; Computer Science: Phil Cox; Engineering: Michael Pegg and Darrel Doman; Health Professions: Jean Hughes and Tanya Packer; Law: Elaine Gibson and Faye Woodman; Management: Ed Leach; Medicine: Marie Matte, Michael Johnston, Donald Langille, and Andrew Stadnyk; Science: Grant Wach, Roman Smirnov, Melvin Cross, Axel Becke and Jon Grant; and Ex-Officio Senator: Bernard Boudreau, Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies.

Mr. Fraser noted that the May 2014 Dalhousie University Graduands list was included as an information item with the Senate meeting package. Convocations provided a particular opportunity to celebrate the success of our graduands; Senators were thanked for their attendance at convocation ceremonies. Mr. Fraser provided an update on the nomination of the Chair of Senate; a recommendation from the Senate Nomination Committee is anticipated for the next Senate meeting on June 23rd. Mr. Fraser highlighted that this Senate meeting will be abbreviated but quorum will be very important.

Ramz Aziz, Dalhousie Student Union President, noted the passing on June 4th of Danielle Schmoll, a third year Commerce Student at Dalhousie University. Condolences were extended to her family and friends.

2014: 76**President's Report**

Mr. Florizone reported on the success of the numerous convocations in May, noting that it was a great environment to connect with students, faculty, and parents. He thanked those who attended. He highlighted his recent trip to the University of Waterloo with Premier McNeil and other Nova Scotia Presidents. There is strong interest in enhancing co-op programs at Dalhousie University, as well as in the commercialization of high tech industries, for which Waterloo is known; therefore, the trip explored what can be learned from this innovative university. Mr. Florizone noted that he continues to meet with alumni around the country. The search for the Vice-President, Finance and Administration is continuing and is anticipated to be complete by the fall semester. The final board meeting is on June 24th; approval is being sought for the strategic directions and operating budget. Finally, as the first year of his Presidency draws to a close, Mr. Florizone thanked Senators for their engagement and active contributions to Senate, helping to shape the orientation of Dalhousie University and to define its direction.

2014: 77**Senate Academic Programs and Research Committee****New Program Proposal: Bachelor of Technology, Landscape Architecture, Faculty of Agriculture**

The Chair welcomed Tracey MacKenzie, Faculty of Agriculture, to provide information on the program proposal for the Bachelor of Technology in Landscape Architecture. Mr. MacKenzie provided background on the proposal, highlighting the long history of landscape architecture courses in the Faculty of Agriculture. The proposed Bachelor's program is intended to assist students in developing highly specialized skills in landscape architecture through a unique, multidisciplinary program. A recent national study jointly commissioned by the Atlantic Provinces Association of Landscape Architects (APALA) and the Canadian Association of Landscape Architects (CSLA) highlighted a lack of qualified personnel, particularly in Atlantic Canada. Therefore, this program will address an industry need, encouraging linkages with partners in the industry and in the community, nationally and internationally.

Following the presentation, a question was raised about long term employment opportunities. The landscape architecture profession is broad, including jobs in municipalities and landscape companies nationally and internationally. There is an opportunity to build a co-op program in the future to enhance skill development and job opportunities.

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

THAT Senate approve the program proposal for a new Bachelor of Technology, Landscape Architecture, Faculty of Agriculture.

The motion **CARRIED.**

2014: 78**Senate Honorary Degrees Committee: Revised Senate Honorary Degrees Criteria and Procedures**

Mr. Florizone noted that the "Criteria and Procedures for Nomination of Honorary Degree Candidates" had been approved by Senate earlier in the year with some changes in wording introduced during the Senate discussion. Some concerns were subsequently raised about particular wording. These concerns

were referred to the Senate Honorary Degrees Committee, which examined them fully in consultation with the university legal counsel. The committee recommended a return to the wording it originally had proposed; in the committee's view, it provided a stronger commitment to the principle of diversity.

On behalf of the Senate Honorary Degrees Committee, Mr. Florizone **MOVED:**

THAT the Criteria for Selection section of the "Criteria and Procedures for Nomination of Honorary Degree Candidates" be amended to replace the words "As well, there will be attention to the goals of diversity and inclusivity to which Dalhousie is committed in terms of gender, ethno-racial diversity, Aboriginality, and official languages" with the words "Every effort will be made to select candidates who are reflective of the diversity of the University community and of Canadian society."

The motion **CARRIED.**

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Senate Planning and Governance Committee

Constitutional Review Work Group Report

Mr. Fraser described the proposed amendments to the Senate constitution, noting that the revisions to the three-year old constitution were primarily intended to ensure consistency and to clarify wording. A work group had been appointed with Jeff Hoyle, Vice-Chair (Academic Programs) as Chair. The group consulted with Senate Committees, University Legal Counsel, and others to assess the changes needed. Primary areas of change were additions to the responsibilities and function of Senate (e.g. criteria and procedures for university teaching awards), changes to the procedures for the election of Senate Officers, and minor changes to the terms of reference for some Senate standing committees.

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

THAT Senate approve, by a vote of at least two-thirds of the members present and voting, the proposed amendments to the Senate Constitution, and to the Terms of Reference for the following Senate Standing Committees, as presented: Senate Planning and Governance Committee, Senate Academic Programs and Research Committee, Senate Learning and Teaching Committee, and Senate Nominating Committee. These amendments are to be effective as of July 1, 2014.

The motion **CARRIED.**

Revised Policies and Procedures: Senate Review of Faculties

Mr. Fraser described the proposed revisions to the policies and procedures for Senate Reviews of Faculties. These changes are designed to provide greater clarity and transparency, and to strengthen the procedures. Clearer guidelines are provided for the Faculty self-study, for example, with a check by the Vice-President, Academic and Provost to ensure that the self-study meets the requirements of the policy before the document is submitted to the Review Committee. Reviews of Faculties are a shared responsibility between the Senate and the Vice-President, Academic and Provost; the revised Policy and Procedures seeks to ensure clarity on the role of each.

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

THAT Senate approve the revised Senate Reviews of Faculties: Policy and Procedures, dated May 15, 2014.

The motion **CARRIED.**

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Senate Learning and Teaching Committee

Revised Code of Student Conduct

The Chair welcomed Alan Pinder, Chair, Senate Learning and Teaching Committee, and Bob Mann, Manager of Discipline and Appeals, to outline the proposed revisions to the Code of Student Conduct. The Code of Student Conduct addresses non-academic student conduct that needs to be managed and/or sanctioned. The existing Code has been reviewed by a work group established by the Senate Learning and Teaching Committee. The proposed revisions to the code are mainly to the procedures section, to improve reporting on the outcome of cases and to provide greater clarity; these revisions have been reviewed by University Legal Counsel. Explicit explanation of the rights of students, including where they can go for counsel and their right to representation, have been built into the Code. Additionally, the number and nature of all cases is to be reported annually to Senate.

On behalf of the Senate Learning and Teaching Committee, Mr. Fraser **MOVED:**

THAT Senate approve the revised Code of Student Conduct, effective September 1, 2014.

The motion **CARRIED.**

Hazing Policy

The Chair once again welcomed Mr. Pinder, as well as Zane Robison, Executive Director, Student Life, to outline the proposed Hazing Policy. Dalhousie University has not previously had a stand-alone policy on hazing. The development of the proposed policy is the final step in response to the women's hockey team hazing incident of 2012, to deliver a commitment to combatting hazing at Dalhousie University. The policy is flexible in order to deal with a wide range of hazing incidents, from minor to major incidents; all incidents of hazing must be reported to the Executive Director, Student Life. Extensive consultation has taken place, including with the Provost, President's Executive Council, Board Student Experience Committee, and facilitated student focus groups to inform the development of this policy.

Following the presentation, a question was raised as to whether the policy is specifically targeting athletic programs. It was noted that the policy is intended to have broad coverage. Unit heads, for example, can be from the Dalhousie Student Union; therefore, academic clubs and societies on campus are included.

On behalf of the Senate Learning and Teaching Committee, Mr. Fraser **MOVED:**

THAT Senate approve the Hazing Policy, as presented, to be effective immediately.

The motion **CARRIED.**

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Question Period

There was no further discussion.

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Other Business

There was no other business.

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Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:00pm.