

Item: Board of Governors Minutes, December 1983

Call Number: UA-1 12.4

Additional Notes:

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Minutes of a Meeting of the
Board of Governors held on Tuesday,
December 20, 1983, at 4:00 p.m.
in the Board and Senate Room

Dalhousie University
Halifax, Nova Scotia

PRESENT: Dr. A. Gordon Archibald,
Chairman
Mr. Wesley G. Campbell
Mr. G. T. H. Cooper
Mr. James S. Cowan
Dr. Douglas A. Eisner
Ms. Mary Lamb
Miss Zilpha Linkletter,
Honorary Secretary
Ms. Elizabeth A. Macdonald
Dr. W. Andrew MacKay
Mr. E. Neil McKelvey
Dr. Cliff Murray
Mrs. Ruth Murray
Mr. Karl Nightingale
Mr. George C. Piercey,
Honorary Treasurer
Mr. David Ritcey
Mr. W. Struan Robertson,
Vice-Chairman
Mrs. Patricia Roscoe
Ms. Janine Saulnier
Dr. Chester B. Stewart
Mrs. Peggy Weld
Mr. Sherman Zwicker

Also present were Messrs. L. R. Shaw (Vice-President, Finance and Development); G. A. Klassen (Vice-President, Research); A. M. Sinclair (Vice-President, Academic); D. M. Cameron (Vice-President, Planning and Resources); B. Crocker (Legal Advisor to the Office of the President); R. Rodger (Senate Representative); M. Roughneen (Director of Personnel Services); G. George (Director of Insurance and Employee Benefits); M. Wright (Director of Finance); Mrs. P. Burt (President, Dalhousie Faculty Association); and A. J. Tingley (Secretary).

Regrets were received from Mr. D. J. Hennigar, Ms. M. D. MacDonald, Mrs. S. Medjuck and Mrs. J. Sapp.

Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting, which had been circulated, were approved.

President's
Introductory
Remarks

The President referred to the following documents, which were circulated at the meeting, and which were considered in connection with the appropriate agenda items:

Submission of the A.A.U. to the M.P.H.E.C.
Budget Book
Association/Board Committee Recommendation
Board Committees Membership

Board Matters

(a) *Committee Membership*

The President recommended that the committee membership be as indicated in a document attached to these minutes as Appendix A. Some of those listed had not been approached, and he invited anyone who

Board Matters
(continued)

wished to decline his/her appointment to contact him.

(b) Proposed Schedule of Meetings

A proposed schedule of meetings had been circulated with the agenda, and is attached to these minutes as Appendix B. This schedule was approved, it being understood that changes may be necessary.

Reports of the
Standing
Committees

(a) Staff Relations Committee

The report of the Staff Relations Committee was introduced by Mr. George Cooper. He drew attention to certain items of particular interest. The proposed staff changes were ratified.

(b) Building and Grounds Committee

Mr. James S. Cowan reported for this committee. He advised that a compromise proposal concerning the Hart-Butler property is now being considered by the City Council. He also reported that the renovating of the Forrest Building is on schedule.

(c) Finance and Budget Committee

Miss Z. Linkletter reported that the committee is still working on the 1984/85 budget. She expressed appreciation that there is a growing recognition of the financial problem in all sectors of the university, which is an encouraging development. Mr. Shaw referred to the Budget Book, and described the budgeting process, indicating certain assumptions that are being made.

Submission from
Dalhousie
University to the
Royal Commission
on Post-Secondary
Education

The President reported that he has sent the university's submission to the Commission. Certain sectors of the university have made their own submissions. Some have been sent directly to the Commission, and others will be forwarded to the Commission from the President's Office. After these have been considered, and all other representatives of the university have appeared before the Commission in support of their own submissions, the President, if permitted by the Commission, is prepared to appear and comment on these. He feels this may be of assistance to the Commission since some recommendations are contradictory.

Employee Benefit
Plan

A document on this matter had been circulated with the agenda. Mr. Roughneen elaborated on the unresolved problems.

Approval to implement this plan was granted.

Long-Term
Disability

Mr. Roughneen pointed out that there is currently no indexing of the benefits received by people on long-term disability. He elaborated on the proposal, which had been circulated with the agenda, which would give relief to these people. An increase in premiums would

Long-Term
Disability
(continued)

be necessary, but this would be small.

It was agreed, by majority vote, that this proposal be approved for implementation, provided it is found to be possible.

Pension Plan

Proposed changes in the Pension Plan were given in the document which was circulated with the agenda.

It was agreed that the proposal relating to ex-gratia payments to staff retired before June 1982 be approved and that possible future similar payments be considered by the Finance and Budget Committee. Dr. C. B. Stewart requested that it be recorded that he neither participated in the discussion nor voted, this being because of the possible effect on his own pension.

President's
Council

The President reviewed the two meetings of the Council that have already been held. He proposed that the Council should function as the Joint Board/Senate Committee whenever such a committee is required. He intends to make the same recommendation to the Senate. It was agreed that this would be a satisfactory arrangement, from the point of view of the Board.

President's
Report

The President reported on a number of items, as follows:

- (1) A number of meetings of branches of the Alumni Association have been held. A real interest in the university has been demonstrated at these meetings.
- (2) He has arranged a number of lunches with representatives of the business community, and will continue to do this. The contacts thus made have been encouraging.
- (3) The Dalhousie campaign for the United Appeal was very successful, the total being more than double that of the previous year.
- (4) He is impressed by the concern of staff and faculty for the welfare of students.
- (5) A number of people have been invited to assist in the forthcoming campaign, and without exception have accepted enthusiastically.

President's
Report
(continued)

- (6) He reported on a number of gifts that have been made to the university recently. He will undertake to keep the Board informed of such gifts.
- (7) He described the financial difficulties being faced by certain other universities in the country. In many cases the problem is at least as severe as that faced by Dalhousie.
- (8) He has met with the Minister of Education and the Premier of Nova Scotia with respect to Dalhousie's situation.
- (9) The problem of health funding is being actively considered by himself, Dr. Hatcher, and others.
- (10) Members of the Board are invited to propose candidates for honorary degrees next spring. These nominations may be sent either to him or to the Secretary of Senate.
- (11) He has been invited by the President of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College to consider further cooperation. In particular, it is possible that degrees in Agriculture may be awarded by Dalhousie in association with the Nova Scotia Agricultural College.
- (12) Some faculty members at the Agricultural College have been given adjunct appointments in the Department of Biology at Dalhousie. Such appointments will be valuable in developing an Institute of Applied Biology.
- (13) He has invited the Senate to consider how it can best be involved in discussions with other universities in developing cooperative programmes.
- (14) He mentioned the lecture series given at Dalhousie this year which is supported by Imperial Oil. The second lecture in the series will be in January, the third in March.
- (15) He invited all interested members of the Board to sing carols and enjoy chowder in the Sculpture Court of the Arts Centre at twelve noon, Thursday, December 22.
- (16) He and Mrs. MacKay were invited to a Christmas service on a Navy ship. The Dalhousie Chorale performed.

Alumni Meetings


Mrs. P. Weld commented on the Alumni meetings which have been arranged by her through the Alumni Office.

Other Business

A report of the Association/Board Committee, attached hereto as Appendix C, was circulated at the meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.


Zilpha Linkletter,
Honorary Secretary


A. Gordon Archibald, LL.D.,
Chairman