

Item: Senate Minutes, April 2005
Call Number: Senate fonds, UA-5

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DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

APPROVED MINUTES

OF

SENATE MEETING

SENATE met in regular session on Monday, April 11, 2005 at 4:00 p.m. in the University Hall, Macdonald Building.

Present with Mr. El-Hawary in the Chair were the following: Barker, Beazley, Ben-Abdullah, Binkley, Bond, Breckenridge, Caley, Camfield, Cleave, Cochrane, Das Gupta, Dauphinee, Dunphy, Earl, Finley, Fraser, Jalilvand, Jost, Livingston, MacDonald, McGrath, McNeil, Meagher-Stewart, Murphy, Phillips, Pronk, Richard, Scrimger, Shelkovyy, Smith, Sommerfeld (Recording Secretary), Stone, Stroink, Sullivan, Taheri, Traves, Wanzel, Whyte,.

Regrets: Barkow, Cook, Coughlan, Coxon, Evans, Hamilton, Horackova, Houlihan, Klein, Kwak, Maes, McIntyre, McMullen, O'Brien, Oppong, Precious, Russell, Rutherford, Scully, Stuttard, Swanston, Taylor, Wallace, Zuck.

Absent: Butler, Cercone, Corke, Finbow, Hicks, Morgunov, Pelzer, Satish.

Invitees/Guests in attendance: M. McAllister, E. Grundke, B. MacDonald, A. Power.

2005:041

Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was **ADOPTED** as circulated.

2005:042

Draft Minutes of the Previous Meeting

- i) Approval

The minutes of the meeting of March 14, 2005 were **ADOPTED** as circulated.

- ii) Matters Arising

Mr. El-Hawary reported that as the Chair of Senate, he had made an oral presentation regarding the Budget Advisory Committee Report XXXI at the March 22, 2005 meeting of the Board of Governors.

2005:043

Senate Academic Priorities and Budget Committee

- i) Proposal for Establishment of the Eco-Efficiency Centre

On behalf of the Senate Academic Priorities and Budget Committee (SAPBC), Mr El-Hawary **MOVED**:

THAT the Senate approve the Eco-Efficiency Centre in the Faculty of Management, effective May 1, 2005 with a Senate Review in five years.

The Chair invited Mr. Jalilvand, Dean of the Faculty of Management, and Mr. B. MacDonald, Associate Dean (Research), Faculty of Management to speak to the proposal. Mr. Jalilvand described the Faculty of Management's vision for the establishment of the Eco-Efficiency Centre and its conceptual and operational fit with two previously Centres, that for Risk Management and for Entrepreneurship and one forthcoming for Management Informatics, as well as with the Faculty of Management as a whole.

The motion was **CARRIED**.

- ii) Bachelor of Computer Science (with/without Co-op) addition of minors and the Bachelor of Computer Science with Honours (with/without Co-op) addition of minors

On behalf of the SAPBC, Mr. El-Hawary **MOVED**:

THAT the Senate approve the proposed academic programs, Bachelor of Computer Science (with/without Co-op) - addition of minors, and the Bachelor of Computer Science with Honours (with/without Co-op) - addition of minors, effective September 1, 2005.

Mr. M. McAllister of the Faculty of Computer Science spoke to the proposal highlighting key points as presented in the circulated proposal and in the excerpt from the draft minutes of the March 21, 2005 meeting of the SAPBC.

The motion was **CARRIED**.

- iii) Modified Program Proposal - Bachelor of Computer Science with Honours (with/without Co-op) - upgrade from Bachelor of Computer Science to Bachelor of Computer Science with Honours.

On behalf of the SAPBC, Mr. El-Hawary **MOVED**:

THAT the Senate approve the proposed modification to the Bachelor of Computer Science program to allow those individuals who have completed the Dalhousie Bachelor of Computer Science degree program to apply for admission to the Bachelor of Computer Science Honours program and, on completion of all honours requirements, to receive a certificate which would have the effect of upgrading the degree to honours status.

Mr. E. Grundke of the Faculty of Computer Science spoke to the proposal.

The motion was **CARRIED**.

- iv) Recommendation for Three New Department Names as part of the Faculty of Engineering Restructuring.

On behalf of the SAPBC, Mr. El-Hawary **MOVED**:

THAT the Senate approve the following three new Department names in the Faculty of Engineering: The Department of Process Engineering and Applied Science - comprising the Biological, Chemical, Environmental, and Metallurgical Engineering programs, and the Food Science program; the Department of Civil and Resource Engineering - comprising the Civil and Mining Engineering programs; and the Department of Engineering Mathematics and Internetworking - comprising the Engineering Mathematics and Internetworking programs. The re-structured Faculty of Engineering will comprise the three new Departments, along with three existing Departments - Mechanical Engineering, Electrical and Computer Engineering, and Industrial Engineering - and the School of Biomedical Engineering.

Mr. Caley, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, summarized the rationale for each of the new departments, pointing out that the re-structuring had been a recommendation in the 2004 Report of the Senate Review of the Faculty of Engineering.

The motion was **CARRIED**.

2005:044

Report of the Chair

Mr. El-Hawary reported that the Senate Office had received notice that the Bachelor of Arts. Italian program had been approved by the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission.

Mr. El-Hawary called senators attention to the Call for Nominations from the Senate Nominating Committee, which had been circulated with the agenda.

2005:045

Question Period

Mr. Whyte inquired if there were any programs available for personal tutoring assistance for undergraduate students. Ms. Binkley and Ms. Bond described some informal peer tutoring in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences over the last few years. Senators were asked to send information on these and other such experiences/programs directly to Mr. Whyte with copy to the Senate Office.

2005:046

Report of the President

Mr. Traves reported that further to the discussion of the BAC Report XXXI at the meeting of Senate of March 14, 2005 and the subsequent discussion of the Report at the meeting of the Board of Governors on March 19, 2005, the Board had concluded that it would be premature to vote on the proposed budget at that meeting. This decision was in view of the concerns expressed at Senate and by senators and the Dalhousie Student Union to the Board. These concerns focussed on the manner in which the fiscal burden of programs was shared across the University, the social impact of professional practice patterns of

graduates in Medicine, Dentistry and Law in particular, as well as the relative competitiveness of the International student differential fees. Mr. Traves stated that subsequent to that meeting of the Board, he had asked for a through report on these matters from staff with the intent of clarifying any misconceptions about how the University was managed so as to provide the basis for a constructive plan for future fiscal planning. He stated that for the up-coming Board meeting on April 19, 2005, he would be proposing some adjustments to the proposed budget that would result in an increase of approximately \$400,000 to the proposed budget cuts to Faculties, and an approximate increase of approximately \$360,000 to the amount allocated to student support.

Mr. Traves responded to questions and issues raised regarding social policy as related to accessibility to professional schools such as Medicine; the need to maintain quality of programs in the face of inadequate funding support from government; the costs of program delivery versus the actual amount of tuition paid; and the need to attract highly qualified graduate students despite rising tuition fees. Mr. Traves concluded by stating the that it might be timely to review the University's financial planning principles and strategies once again, noting that these had last been thoroughly reviewed in the early 90's. Since that time, the University had retired its debt and was successfully pursuing its strategic focus to attain sustainable growth. As that growth was slowing in pace, it would seem timely to review the financial assumptions on which revenue and expenditures were determined and the principles of financial planning evolving from those assumptions..

2005:047

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m..