

**DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY  
APPROVED MINUTES  
OF SENATE MEETING**

Senate met in regular session on Monday, June 23, 2014, at 4:00 pm in University Hall, Macdonald Building.

Present with Mr. Lloyd A. Fraser in the chair were the following: Ali, Barrett, Baur, Baylis, Boran, Boudreau, Burton, Byers, Cochrane, Cooper, Cox, Cross, Florizone, Gibson, Goodday, Gray, Hoyle, Hughes, Kesselring, Kozey, Langille, Leach, MacLennan, Manion, Mansour, McLarney, Mitchell, Packer, Pegg, Persaud, Pinder, Quinn, Shepherd, Smirnov, Stadnyk, Stanish, Summerby-Murray, Wach, Webster, Woodman.

Regrets: Aziz, Becke, Bourne-Tyson, Brooks, Bucci, Crago, Dionne, Doman, Habib, Harman, Johnston, Macy, Marrie, Shukla, Steeves, Treiger, Yiridoe.

Guest: Brad Wuetherick

**2014:84**

**Approval of Agenda**

The June 23, 2014 agenda was **adopted** as circulated.

**2014:85**

**Consent Agenda**

**2.1 Approval of Draft Minutes of June 9, 2014 Senate Meeting**

**THAT** Senate approve the draft Senate minutes of June 9, 2014.

**Approved by Consent.**

**2014:86**

**Matters Arising from the Meeting of June 9, 2014**

Mr. Fraser reported on the issue addressed at the June 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of Senate: ensuring strong, appropriate wording supporting Dalhousie's commitment to diversity in the "Criteria and Procedures for Nomination of Honorary Degree Candidates". Based on feedback received since the last meeting, more work may need to be done to ensure that the wording of the policy will elicit nominations that are reflective of Dalhousie's commitment to diversity. Therefore, Mr. Fraser recommended that the Senate Honorary Degrees Committee re-examine the criteria and procedures to determine if there are additional ways to strengthen references to diversity.

There was discussion about the Hazing Policy previously approved at the June 9<sup>th</sup> Senate meeting. The aim of this policy is encourage a positive, preemptive focus to address potential incidents of hazing while creating a focus on education and awareness about what hazing is.

**2014:87**

**Chair of Senate Report**

Mr. Fraser provided a report, remarking on the full agenda of the Senate Planning and Governance Committee (SPGC) this past spring. SPGC discussed the feedback received from the Senate feedback survey conducted in May 2014. Particular attention was paid to ways to strengthen communication from Senate to Senators and to the wider university community, as well as, from Senators to their respective faculties. Discussion on these matters will continue over the summer.

Mr. Fraser continued by highlighting the recent decisions made on behalf of Senate by the Senate Academic Programs and Research Committee, specifically: modifications to the Diploma in Managed Landscapes, Faculty of Agriculture; Admission Requirements/Prior Learning Assessment for the Master of Fine Arts, University of King's College; and program terminations for the Diploma in Prosthodontics, MAS in Biomedical Engineering, and MSc in Prosthodontics in the Faculty of Dentistry.

Mr. Fraser commented on the next Senate meetings in September, noting that September 8<sup>th</sup> meeting will be an orientation for Senators and the September 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting will have a regular agenda. He concluded by remarking on his term as the Chair of Senate and with Senate committees, mentioning the sincere privilege he felt in serving this role. He thanked Senators for the opportunity to serve on Senate and wished success for the future.

**2014:88**

**President's Report**

Mr. Florizone provided a report, highlighting the final Board of Governors' meeting for the academic year scheduled for June 24<sup>th</sup>. He extended appreciation to Senate for their collaborative engagement throughout the *100 days of Listening and Strategic Directions* process; which has set the foundation for issues to be addressed in upcoming years. He continued by providing an overview of his first year as President, noting several positive items, including strong enrollment and increased government support; particularly their investment in the graduate scholarship program. Focus will continue on areas such as recruitment, fundraising, and research funding. Additionally, discussions will continue regarding the Provost model given its central role, to ensure that budgets are in line with acquisitions. Mr. Florizone concluded by remarking on the productive and enjoyable Senate year.

**2014:89**

**DSU President's Report**

Taylor Quinn, DSU Student Senator, provided a report on behalf of the President of the Dalhousie Student Union. He highlighted the ongoing approval process for the Student Union Building Renovation; the recent Student Council meeting on the Sexton Campus; and, the orientation planning that is currently underway.

**2014:90**

**Senate Nominating Committee Nominations**

**Chair of Senate**

Mr. Fraser described the nominee brought forward from the Senate Nominating Committee for Chair of Senate, Mr. Alan Pinder, Faculty of Science, who has served as Senate Vice-Chair, Student Affairs and, in

that role as the Chair of the Senate Learning and Teaching Committee. Mr. Fraser called for further nominations from the floor for the Chair of Senate; with no response, nominations were declared closed.

Mr. Fraser **MOVED**:

**THAT** Senate appoint Alan Pinder, Faculty of Science, as Chair of Senate for the term July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2016.

The motion **CARRIED**.

Congratulations were extended to Mr. Pinder on his new role.

#### **Vice Chair, Student Affairs (Acting) – 2014-15**

Mr. Fraser highlighted that with the approval of the Constitution amendments at the June 9, 2014 Senate meeting, the following regarding Senate Officer Vacancies and Leaves was approved:

In the event that an Officer resigns or the position otherwise becomes vacant, the Senate Nominating Committee shall recommend to Senate a temporary replacement from among the Senate Officers or Academic Unit Senators until the next scheduled election. In the event that an Officer is unable to fulfill the role due to an approved leave, the Senate Nominating Committee shall recommend to Senate a temporary replacement for the duration of the approved leave from among the Senate Officers or Academic Unit Senators.

Accordingly, the Senate Nominating Committee has recommended to Senate the appointment of Katherine Harman, Faculty of Health Professions, as the Senate Vice Chair, Student Affairs (Acting), a role previously filled by Mr. Pinder. The election for the permanent position will take place at the next regularly scheduled time for nominations, in the spring of 2015.

On behalf of the Senate Nominating Committee, Mr. Fraser **MOVED**:

**THAT** Senate appoint Katherine Harman as Senate Vice-Chair, Student Affairs (Acting), for the period July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015.

The motion **CARRIED**.

Congratulations were extended to Ms. Harman on her new role.

#### **2014:91**

#### **Senate Honorary Degrees Committee: Senate Honorary Degrees Committee Nominations for Spring 2015**

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 slate of Honorary Degree nominations had been approved.

#### **2014:92**

#### **Senate Learning and Teaching Committee: Revised Terms of Reference for Teaching Awards**

Mr. Fraser welcomed Alan Pinder, Chair, Senate Learning and Teaching Committee, and Brad Wuetherick, Executive Director, Centre for Learning and Teaching. Mr. Pinder described the long history of teaching awards at Dalhousie University noting that the Terms of Reference for these awards have not been approved by Senate in the past. According to the minor revisions to the Senate constitution approved recently, the responsibility for approving the Terms of Reference for teaching awards lies with Senate. The revised Terms of Reference increases the number of awards, attaches monetary gifts to all awards, and makes it easier to apply to regional and national teaching awards.

Mr. Wuetherick highlighted the key changes to the awards:

- The Dalhousie Alumni Association award has been strengthened to incorporate a focus on educational leadership, an important component of regional and national awards;
- The Dalhousie Alumni Association award has been split into two, to recognize early career achievement;
- The criteria for the Sessional Award has been broadened to include part-time, sessional, and contract instructors;
- The Educational Leadership Award has been refocused on collaborative teaching and learning projects, to align with national awards such as the Alan Blizzard Award.

Mr. Wuetherick described the three new awards:

- Award for Excellence in Graduate Supervision, an unrecognized component in past awards;
- Academic Innovation Award, to focus on outstanding innovation done by an individual;
- Award for Excellence in Education for Diversity, to recognize initiatives that support diversity such as internationalization.

The revised Terms of Reference will be a part of ongoing discussions about how to recognize teaching and learning on campus.

Subsequent discussion explored how the awards recognize the difference between faculty teaching and scholarship, as well as, the criteria for determining the impact of a particular faculty innovation and of educational leadership. Explicit clarity in the Terms of Reference was recommended to describe that a person is eligible to receive an award only once. A comment was made that the new award for diversity should be structured like the other awards listed, to be comparable. Finally, the lengthy application process for awards was discussed as a potential issue for the nominator and the faculty member; this was recommended as a point of review for SLTC in the Fall.

Ongoing monitoring of the awards portfolio by SLTC will occur, to assess whether the awards are representative of the campus and determine where changes are warranted based on the points raised in discussion.

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

**THAT** Senate approve the revised Terms of Reference for Teaching Awards, as presented and to be effective immediately.

The motion **CARRIED**.

**2014:93**

**Question Period**

There was no further discussion.

**2014:94**

**Other Business**

There was no other business.

**2014:95**

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 5:05pm.