

SENATE
APPROVED Meeting Minutes
Monday, June 8, 2015
4:00pm-6:00pm
University Hall, Macdonald Building

Senate met in regular session on Monday, June 8, 2015, at 4:00pm in University Hall, Macdonald Building.

Present: Banks, Baur, Baylis, Bhatia, Bodorik, Boran, Bourne-Tyson, Burton, Cochrane, Cooper, Cunningham, DasGupta, Denike, Doman, Gray, Habib, Harman, Herder, Hewitt, Holmes, Hoyle, Hughes, Hutton, Kesselring, Kirk, Kozey, Langille, Leonard, C. MacDonald, M. Macdonald, MacRae, Mansour, Marrie, Mazzanti, McLarney, Meynell, Mitchell, Moore, Nicholson, Noble, Shukla, Smit, Stadnyk, Stanish, Tennesen, Webster.

Regrets: Ali, Becke, Brooks, Byers, Crago, Diepeveen, Dobson, Erdman, Florizone, Gahagan, Goodday, Hunt, MacLennan, Shepherd, Wach, Watters, Wright.

Absent: Barrett, Cutler, Grant, Khan, Leach, Leon, Ma, Macy, Mopoho, Persaud, Quraishi, Roy, Smirnov, Steeves, Watt.

Guests: Claude Caldwell, John Newhook, Bruce Smith, Andrea Power (Recording Secretary), Connie Van Schaik (student minute taker)

2015:47

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda for June 8, 2015 was **adopted** as presented.

2015:48

Consent Agenda

Approval of Draft Minutes of May 11, 2015 Senate Meeting

THAT Senate approve the draft Senate minutes of May 11, 2015.

APPROVED by Consent.

Senate Nominating Committee Nominations: Senate Discipline Committee nominations

THAT Senate approve Susan Holmes, College of Continuing Education; Jim Power, Faculty of Management; and Erna Snelgrove-Clarke, Faculty of Health Professions, as members of the Senate Discipline Committee for the term July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2018.

APPROVED by Consent.

Senate Planning and Governance Committee: Faculty representative of Senate: Search committee for Vice-Provost (Student Affairs)

THAT Senate approve Katherine Harman, Faculty of Health Professions, and Nancy MacDonald, Faculty of Health Professions, as the faculty Senate representatives to the Search Committee for the position of Vice-Provost, Student Affairs.

APPROVED by Consent.

Senate Planning and Governance Committee: Senate Nominating Committee Procedures for Election of Executive Officers

THAT the Senate approve the draft Procedures for Election of Senate Executive Officers, as presented.

APPROVED by Consent.

2014:49

Matters Arising from the May 11, 2015 Senate Minutes

Mr. Pinder provided clarity regarding the role of the Senate-appointed faculty representatives, a matter that was raised following the election of the Senate faculty representative to the Board of Governors. The Chair of Senate is an ex-officio, voting member of the Board and a member of Senate, whereas the two Senate faculty representatives on the Board of Governors are not typically members of Senate. Beginning in 2015, following each Board meeting, Senate will receive a Board of Governors report from the Chair of Senate.

A question was raised by Ms. Baylis in relation to how to interpret the definition of “University” contained in Bill 100. Personal correspondence from Ms. Baylis noted the following from Mr. Joachim Stronik, MLA Halifax Chebucto:

When we look to the filing of a notice to prepare a revitalization plan (see section 5), it requires that the notice be approved by ordinary resolution of the university’s governing body, so whatever process the university uses to pass resolutions (e.g. approval by Board of Governors) would be applied. That said, it is evident that Legislature sees a “university” as a community and for this reason requires necessary consultation with students/employees/trade unions as part of the institution’s revitalization plan.

Section 24 provides the Minister with the authority to designate institutions or organizations as “universities.”

There were no any other matters arising from the May 11, 2015 Senate minutes.

2015:50

Chair of Senate’s Report

The Chair reported to Senate that the final spring graduands signing took place earlier on June 8, 2015, and for May 2015 the final number of graduands was 3,530. The Chair then congratulated all of the recipients of the Dalhousie University Teaching Awards for 2014-2015 and they are:

- *Dalhousie Alumni Association Award for Excellence in Teaching*: Dr. Carolyn Campbell, School of Social Work, Faculty of Health Professions
- *Award for Excellence in Graduate Supervision*: Dr. Sara Kirk, School of Health and Human Performance, Faculty of Health Professions
- *Early Career Faculty Award of Excellence for Teaching*: Dr. Matthew Schnurr, Department of International Development Studies, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
- *Award for Excellence in Education for Diversity*: Dr. Wanda Thomas Bernard, School of Social Work, Faculty of Health Professions
- *Academic Innovation Award*: Dr. Matthew Schnurr, Department of International Development Studies, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
- *Contract and Sessional Instructor Award of Excellence for Teaching*: Dr. Matthew Numer, School of Health and Human Performance, Faculty of Health Professions
- *Contract and Sessional Instructor Award of Excellence for Teaching*: Gregory Adolphe Nazaire, Rowe School of Business, Faculty of Management;
- *President's Graduate Student Teaching Award*: Becky Spencer, Interdisciplinary PhD, Faculty of Health Professions
- *President's Graduate Student Teaching Award*: Travis Lundrigan, Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science
- *President's Graduate Student Teaching Award*: Danen Poley, Department of English, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

The Chair informed Senate that there will be a university celebration for the award winners in the fall of 2015, and that more details would become available closer to that date.

The Chair reported that the final regular Senate meeting for the current academic year will take place on June 22, 2015, in the Tupper A, Sir Charles Tupper Medical Building, providing Senate the opportunity to pilot the use of Videoconference abilities.

The Chair provided an oral summary of the results for the Senate and Senate Standing Committee Feedback Survey, which were discussed at the May 13, 2015 Senate Planning and Governance Committee meeting. The results indicate that there are differing opinions in relation to Senate's 'effective use of time' and 'degree of control'. The Chair indicated that there has been a change in perception over the past year, however it is unclear whether this change reflects the change in Senate business, or a change in overall perception. Specific comments reported by the Chair include mention of transparency for decision-making, and a need to focus on strategic priority 5.2 Inclusiveness and Diversity.

The Chair informed Senate members that the Task Force on Misogyny, Sexism and Homophobia in the Faculty of Dentistry will be on campus on June 29-30, 2015 to release their report and the Chair of the Task Force have requested a joint, in camera meeting of the Board of Governors and Senate, prior to the release of the report.

A question was raised as to the process for addressing factual errors in the Restorative Justice report and the President suggested starting with Professor Llewellyn as she led the process.

2015:51

President's Report

The President remarked on the number of graduands, and thanked all members that participated in the Spring 2015 convocation, which had a total of 17 ceremonies. He remarked on the Restorative Justice report, and the need to build on the strengths and develop areas of weakness. The Task Force will report on June 29-30, 2015 and it will be important to determine how the university moves forward, and to track progress over the next 6-18 months.

The President briefly discussed some key items related to Bill 100 including the need to look for more sustainable funds for Medicine, the need for funding clarity for the Agriculture campus, and a need for government investment in research.

Finally, the President announced the town hall meetings scheduled for the week of June 22, 2015. These meetings are meant to start a conversation about how to improve structure and function and he would like to bring feedback from the town hall meetings back to Senate in the fall to discuss how to move forward.

In questions to the President, a query regarding the hood presentation at convocation was noted. It was felt that perhaps the process can be modified to place greater emphasis of the faculty supervisor's role. A question was raised in relation to the talks with government related to research, and the President emphasized that the Universities are asserting this need directly to the Nova Scotia government and further discussions are anticipated.

In further discussion of the Dentistry matter, several Senators voiced concern on the varying treatment of student's involvement, and the accuracy of reporting. It was felt that there is a need to focus on the improvement of culture within the School of Dentistry and the broader university culture. The Task Force is releasing their independent report on June 29-30, 2015; it is likely further discussion will be required at that time.

2015:52

Senate Academic Programs and Research Committee

New Program Proposal: Bachelor of Science, Bioveterinary Science, Faculty of Agriculture

Mr. David Gray, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, Mr. Claude Caldwell, Associate Dean, Academic, and Mr. Tarjei Tennesen, Department of Plant and Animal Science, presented the new program proposal for a Bachelor of Science, Bioveterinary Science in the Faculty of Agriculture. The program has been designed to provide an educational experience in subjects related to the animal health sciences and the program will help students adapt to the changing landscape in the sciences linked to animal health and welfare and the challenges facing them as they enter graduate school, professional programs like veterinary school, and the public and private sector. The program also addresses a real student desire for this kind of training. Students entering animal programs in the Faculty of Agriculture routinely express interest in undergraduate programs linked to veterinary medicine and the animal health sciences generally. This program will take in students directly from high school and provide them with a solid bioveterinary science background such that they will have a variety of career options.

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

THAT Senate approve the proposed new program proposal, Bachelor of Science, Bioveterinary Science, Faculty of Agriculture.

The motion **CARRIED**.

New Program Proposal: Bachelor of Science, Actuarial Science, Faculty of Science

Mr. Chris Moore, Dean, Faculty of Science, and Mr. Bruce Smith, Chair, Department of Math and Statistics, provided an overview of the program and expressed the need for this type of program in Atlantic Canada. They emphasized the considerable risk management expertise housed within Dalhousie, and an unfilled demand both nationally, and in Asia.

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

THAT Senate approve the proposed new program proposal for a Bachelor of Science, Actuarial Science, Faculty of Science.

The motion **CARRIED**.

2015:53

Senate Planning and Governance Committee

New Institute Proposal: Ocean Frontier Institute (OFI)

Mr. John Newhook, Associate Vice President, Research, and Mr. Chris Moore, Dean, Faculty of Science, presented an overview of the vision for the multi-Faculty Ocean Frontier Institute, and explained the existing and future relationship potential both domestically and internationally, which will enhance the Institute's success. The OFI responds to unique aspects of modern ocean science and governance to provide a nimble and flexible environment for multi-disciplinary research and training. It will provide a nexus for researchers from across Dalhousie's ocean studies strategic research area to work in a collaborative manner within the university and with key federal labs and international partners. Mr. Newhook spoke to the potential long term sustainability of the institute through the Canada First Research Excellence Fund (CFREF) as well as potential future partnership considerations.

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

THAT Senate approve the new institute proposal for the Ocean Frontier Institute (OFI), as presented.

The motion **CARRIED**.

Nominations for Members of the Senate Ad Hoc Committee on Fossil Fuel Divestment

Mr. Pinder reviewed the memo from the Senate Planning and Governance Committee which outlined the membership categories and the proposed members for the Senate Ad Hoc Committee on Fossil Fuel Divestment.

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

THAT the Senate approve Meinhard Doelle, Schulich School of Law; Adam Donaldson, Faculty

of Engineering; Tom Duck, Faculty of Science; Ruth Forsdyke, Faculty of Science; Keith F. Taylor, Faculty of Science; and Jeremy Banks, DSU Senator as members of the Senate Ad Hoc Committee of Fossil Fuel Divestment.

The motion **CARRIED**.

2015:54

Question Period

A question was raised regarding Dalhousie's response to the Truth and Reconciliation Report. As the report was just released, the university is beginning to think about a response, and intends to include members such as the Aboriginal Advisory Council in the development of the response. The President encouraged members to forward their feedback and input to him directly and noted that this could be discussed by Senate in the Fall.

2015:55

Other Business

There was no other business.

2015:56

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:55pm.