



SENATE

Approved Minutes of the Meeting held on
Monday, May 13, 2019 at 3:00pm

Theatre A, Sir Charles Tupper Medical Building, Carleton Campus, Halifax

The Senate met in regular session on Monday, May 13, 2019 in Theatre A, Sir Charles Tupper Medical Building.

Present: A. Abawajy, G. Adolphe-Nazaire, A. Aiken, T. Balsler, R. Baker, D. Bourne-Tyson, A. Cochrane, R. Croll, P. Cyrus, B. Davis, C. Diallo, C. Dieleman, P. Doyle-Bedwell, H. El Naggar, L. Goldberg, R. Goodday, D. Gray, J. Hall, K. Harman (Acting Chair), S. Holmes, G. Horne, V. Howard, D. Kelley, J.S. Kim, M. Leonard, L. Macdonald, C. Macy, C. Moore, N. Nadeem, J. Newhook, T. Packer, M. Pacurar, D. Patterson, J. Penney, W. Phillips, J. Phinney, C. Richardson, A. Sarhan, G. Scherkoske, D. Silvio, S. Stackhouse, A. Steenbeek, S. Stone, F. Taheri, G. Warner, E. Welsh, D. Westwood

Regrets: V. Allen, D. Anderson, M. Aston, J. Blustein, C. Cameron, T. Cyrus, K. Dakin-Hache, L. Diepeveen, T. Duck, B. Foster, D. Grujic, F. Harvey, K. Hewitt, K. Kesselring, C. Kozey, P. MacKinnon, R. Orji, S. Ponomarenko, B. Rathgeber, A. Rau-Chaplin, L. Spiteri, P. Tyedmers, D. White, H. Xu

Absent: R. Agu, R. Chang, A. Doucette, A. Habib, I. Joseph, W. Lahey, D. McKeen, K. Nagy, V. Nams, A. Siegel, S. Theriault, L. Turnbull, I. Waldron, S. Wildeman

Guests: Laura Neals, Director, Academic Staff Relations, Human Resources; Art Stevens, Manager, Indigenous Students, Dalhousie University Agricultural Campus; Susan Brousseau, Secretary of Senate; Sundari Pashupathi, Associate Secretary of Senate

The Dalhousie University Senate acknowledges that this meeting is taking place in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People.

1. Approval of Agenda

Senator Harman, Acting Chair of Senate, proposed that the item under Question Period be removed from the agenda. This item will first be brought to SAPRC for consideration and then to Senate in Fall 2019.

The agenda was approved as **amended**.

2. Consent Agenda

Approval of Draft Minutes of April 22, 2019 Senate Meeting

THAT the draft minutes of the April 22, 2019 Senate meeting be approved as circulated.

Approved by **CONSENT**.

3. Matters Arising from the April 22nd, 2019 Senate Minutes

There were no matters arising.

4. Steps to Make Diversity and Inclusion a Reality

A. Stevens presented on the indigenous perspective in support of diversity and inclusion at the university, noting that the perspective is somewhat different than other equity-seeking groups because of constitutional and treaty rights. He touched on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission report's focus on postsecondary education, the Universities Canada Principles on Indigenous Education, and Dalhousie's work on an Indigenous strategy. He highlighted some of the initiatives and experience at the Truro campus and how those might be broadened in terms of partnerships and collaboration with local indigenous communities. He expressed the view that Dalhousie is making progress and understands the need to build equal relationships and partnerships, but now needs to act on the recommendations to make this a reality.

FOR APPROVAL

5. Senate Planning and Governance Committee

5.1 Amendment to the Senate Review of Faculty Policy

P. Cyrus (Acting Associate Vice President, Academic) introduced the item and spoke to the rationale for the proposed amendment, noting that it arose as part of the consultations undertaken around the Policy for Faculty Reviews of Academic Programs. The amendment also incorporates strategic priorities 1.4 and 1.5. The Senate Policy for Faculty Reviews of Academic Programs considers a program relative to the faculty's early university strategic goals but does not explicitly consider it in the context of faculty portfolio because the review is within the program itself.

This proposed amendment has undergone extensive discussion by various committees at Faculty, DSU and Provost level, and most recently at SPGC, and is now presented to Senate for approval.

That the Senate approve the amendments made to the Senate Reviews of Faculties: Policy and Procedures as presented.

The motion **CARRIED**.

5.2 Professor Emeritus/Emerita-Academic Appointments Policy Amendment

L. Neals introduced the item, speaking to the background of the proposal. She noted that former Dalhousie President Richard Florizone and Kim Thomson, former Chief of Staff, Office of the Provost and Vice-President Academic, originally proposed these changes to the Emeritus Guidelines document with the intention of providing greater clarity on the awarding of these appointments. The changes recommended to the guidelines necessitate several corresponding changes to the Academic Appointments Policy (under section C3 and F5).

In the discussion that followed, concerns were raised regarding the changes proposed with a number of senators expressing concern that these changes remove the recognition for distinguished and meritorious service in favour of simply recognizing long service. Senators also raised concerns that the changes place the decision of the awarding of the title in a single individual. L. Neals addressed these issues, but acknowledged that the changes will result in almost all retired faculty being awarded Emeritus status provided they meet the

basic criteria, namely 10 years of service and achieving the rank of Full Professor. Senators suggested that the title “Professor, Retired” was a more appropriate way to recognize long service, while keeping “Emeritus” as an honorific.

THAT the Senate approve the amendments made to the Academic Appointments Policy as presented.

The motion was **DEFEATED**.

6. Reports

6.1 Provost’s report

Senator Balsler noted a few updates and highlights on the Provost activities since her appointment, including spring convocation ceremonies that have just begun. The first ceremony at Faculty of Agriculture was particularly noteworthy because of the unveiling of the New Dawn Staff of Place and Belonging and official retirement of the Mace. Dalhousie became one of the first universities in North America to retire its traditional mace in favour of a new ceremonial object. Other items covered in the report included the rapid task force that has been convened by the Provost Office to review international student supports, and kudos to a number of Dalhousie students and alumni who have recorded accomplishments and achievements in a variety of fields. She also noted several processes underway in Student Affairs, including the review of the Code of Conduct, the review of the Ombudsperson role, and the search for a new Vice-Provost, Equity and Inclusion.

Senator Balsler provided an update on the strategic planning process and activities that she has undertaken since her arrival at the university in November 2018. The planning process has to date involved a series of 35 sessions and meetings with faculty and staff, with more than 600 people in attendance. She elaborated on the three phases of DAL Planning 2019 and highlighted some key emerging themes and priority areas as a result of her consultations with the university community. Senator Balsler encouraged senators to attend a planning retreat and end-of-year gathering for all faculty and staff on May 22nd, 2019; this will close out Phase 1 of the process.

6.2 Questions for Reports

There were no questions on the reports.

8. Other Business

Senator Welsh made a request that Senate discontinue the use of disposable cups and lids for the beverages served at this meeting and requested senators to bring reusable mugs with lids instead.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 4:15pm.