



SENATE

APPROVED Meeting Minutes

Monday, December 14, 2015

3:00 pm - 5:00 pm

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

The Senate met in regular session on Monday, December 14, 2015 in Theatre A, Charles Tupper Medical Building. The Meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm.

Present with K. Hewitt in the chair: Ali, Anderson, Banks, Barrett, Bhatia, Burton, Chen, Cochrane, Crago, Cutler, Erdman, Florizone, Gahagan, Goldberg, Goodday, Gray, Harman, Herder, Hill, Holmes, Hutton, Kesselring, Kirk, Kozey, Langille, Leach, Leon, Lu, B. MacDonald, C. MacDonald, Macdonald, MacRae, Macy, Mansour, Mazzanti, McCallum, Nicholson, Noble, Parker, Rau-Chaplin, Smit, Smith, Stadnyk, Stanish, Stone, Tennessen, Warwick, Wright, Zaiotti.

Regrets: Baylis, Boran, Bourne-Tyson, Brown, Byers, Cameron, Cooper, DasGupta, Dobson, Finley, Gantar, Hunt, Leonard, Meynell, Pacurar, Quraishi, Wach, Watters, Webster.

Absent: Bodorik, Doman, Grant, Habib, Khan, Kyriakidis, Ma, Mopoho, Roy.

Guests: Susan Brousseau (Secretary of Senate), Andrea Power (Recording Secretary), Kevin Landry (student minute taker), Dwight Fischer, Maureen Summers, Lois Jackson, Keith F. Taylor

2015:145

Approval of Agenda

The Agenda was **APPROVED** with one amendment: The Provost Report was removed.

2015:146

Approval of Consent Agenda

Approval of Draft Minutes of November 23, 2015 Senate Meeting

The draft minutes of November 23, 2015 were **APPROVED**.

2015:147

Matters Arising from the November 23, 2015 Senate Minutes

There were two matters arising from the November 23, 2015 Senate Minutes. 1. The Provost will present a report on the funding of the JRJ chair, discussing if previous and current donor commitments have been met at the next meeting of Senate. 2. Senator Watters provided a written description of the process for faculty hires and for senior administration hires and the documentation was available with the meeting materials.

2015:148

Chair of Senate's Report

Senator Hewitt started his address by congratulating Senator Baylis, who was appointed as one of 12 international experts recently appointed to shape the agenda for an upcoming global summit on controversial advances in human gene editing. He outlined literature of interest to Senators as attached to the meeting package and he recommended various sources discussing equality in workforces at post-secondary institutions.

With respect to items approved by Senate Standing Committee, on behalf of Senate, the Senate Academic Programs and Research Committee (SAPRC) approved a program proposal integrating the MScRRPT and MScPT into a combined studies program and a new minor in Black and African Diaspora studies.

The revised Senate Constitution was approved by the Board of Governors and it is now posted to the Senate website.

Senator Hewitt encouraged all senators to submit recent announcements regarding faculty who have been recognized nationally or internationally for their contributions.

2015:149

President's Report

President Florizone spoke about the challenges and successes of the last semester. Some challenges he outlined were the death of two students and the fire at the Faculty of Agriculture. Some successes he outlined were a Nobel Laureate alumni, record Fall enrollment, several new programs approved, and new infrastructure completed. He outlined several successful fundraising initiatives, like the refugee fund.

He informed Senate that the new Executive Director of Diversity and Inclusiveness had been appointed and he introduced, Norma Williams, as she was present at the Senate meeting. He spoke about increasing indigenous content in courses and considering diversity more wholly, and asked Senate to consider the TRC calls to action and make it a priority in the New Year.

Senator Florizone indicated that retention, research and returns to society and respect should be the goals for the New Year. He spoke about new infrastructure, new government relations and new opportunities for funded chairs in the coming year. Finding donors to fund these goals will be important.

President Florizone answered question about Bill 100 and the surrounding discussions with government.

2015:150

IN CAMERA: Senate Honorary Degrees Committee: 2016 and 2017 Nominations

Senator Hewitt announced that the Senate session would go *in camera*, and asked that all non-Senators leave the meeting. When Senate returned to open session, Senator Hewitt announced that the slate of Honorary Degree nominations had been approved.

2015:151

Senate Planning and Governance Committee: Name change request: Atlantic Health Promotion Research Centre (AHPRC)

Senator Kozey, Ms. Summers, and Ms. Jackson presented to Senate. The AHPRC is seeking to change its name to the Healthy Populations Institute. There are three key reasons for the change. 1) A reference to 'Atlantic' in the title is no longer appropriate since much of the research is conducted has regional, national and international significance. 2) The focus of the organization has changed to one of creating conditions for healthy populations, so 'healthy populations' is desired in the title. 3) The change from centre to institute is in keeping with the current Dalhousie definition for institutes as this is a multi-faculty 'institute'. She outlined consultations regarding the name change.

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

THAT Senate approve the name change of the Atlantic Health Promotion Research Centre for Productive Living to the Healthy Populations Institute.

The motion **CARRIED**.

2015:152

Senate Planning and Governance Committee: Dalhousie Student Union: Senate Membership Reform Proposal

Senator Hutton presented to Senate on the potential to amend the student representation in the Dalhousie Senate. The DSU has presented a proposal to the Senate Planning and Governance Committee that the Senate constitution should be amended to have student representation on Senate from each Faculty, plus student union representation and the creation of equity representatives.

The Dalhousie Student Union is attempting to achieve four inter-related goals: 1. Replace the current arbitrary number of student senators with a model that has each academic unit electing a student representative. 2. Strengthen Senate governance by ensuring student senators have a defined constituency to represent and gather feedback from, and ensure that all Faculties have student representation. 3. Strengthen the student voice in Senate. 4. Address recommendations in the Belong Report and Strategic Direction Charters 5.2 and 1.3 by creating seats for equity members.

Senator Hutton outlined his research into practices at other universities and included a draft of the proposed amendment in the meeting materials. The main goal of the proposal was to have a defined number of students, a ratio of 1:3:1 administration to faculty to student representation.

He answered questions about the selection of equity seats, how the titles relate to intersectionality and what roles those members will play. It was suggested that mature students and part-time students should have representation as well. Discussion ensued about the appropriate form Senate should take and what groups it should serve. Several suggestions emerged about the additional student Senators, one of which was if there are student representatives associated with each Faculty, they should be elected through a process either overseen by or at least initially approved by our Faculty Council. This would give the Faculty more comfort that the representatives truly understand the nuances of each Faculty and are speaking for their student body rather than the larger student union.

The SPGC recommended the revised Senate Constitution to Senate at its meeting of November 18, 2015 with a request that the amendment be discussed at the December 14 meeting and a vote on the amended Constitution (2/3 majority will be required for the vote) will take place at the January 11, 2016 Senate meeting. If approved by Senate, the revised proposal will be presented to the Board of Governors

Governance and Nominating Committee on January 21, 2015, and then the full Board of Governors for approval on February 9, 2016.

2015:153

The Utility (and funding) of Network: The Utility of Network

Mr. Fischer, Chief Information Officer, presented to Senate about the renewal model for technology infrastructure. He started by discussing network consumption and the clear rise in use of technology infrastructure over the last ten years. He discussed the need for sustainable investment into hardware, the network and the Data Centre. He discussed the need of server space and the growth of cloud computing and infrastructure sharing. He also discussed the need to mitigate risk in server storage, which has risk of flooding.

He outlined the current 'cloud first' strategy. This doesn't require management of databases or hardware and has many tangible benefits.

He outlined the threats posed to the network, and what is required to maintain services at current levels. He outlined possible effects of not getting the required money- which could result in prioritizing the network or taxing it- which is undesirable for many reasons.

There were questions about the Board of Governors stance on these expenditures and the need to discuss these issues with the Budget Advisory Committee. Discussion ensued on the advisability of placing sensitive data in the cloud.

2015:154

Senate Planning and Governance Committee: Preliminary Report of the ad hoc Committee of Senate on Fossil Fuel Divestment

Keith Taylor, co-chair of the ad hoc Committee of Senate on Fossil Fuel Divestment, presented the preliminary report to Senate. The ad hoc committee on Fossil Fuel Divestment was created to examine the impact of fossil fuel divestment on academic programs at Dalhousie. Academic units submitted reports to the committee on how their units/Faculties would be affected by divestment. Twenty submissions were received and analyzed by the committee. At this stage a preliminary report has been prepared and will now be made available to University community. The committee requested written comments from Senate on the report by January 4. Additionally, on January 7 there will be a town hall meeting for the University community to discuss the preliminary report with an additional request for comments by January 13.

2015:155

Question Period

With respect to strategic priority 2.2 (Attract and retain outstanding academics), the SAPRC have requested a 1-2 page report from Deans, in consultation with departments, schools and programs addressing the impact of changes in tenure-track faculty numbers on programs currently and in the future. The SAPRC will compile the Deans summary reports and report back to Senate.

2015:156

Other Business

There was no other business.

2015:157

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.