

Item: Senate Minutes, June 1983  
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DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

MINUTES OF

SENATE MEETING

Senate met in regular session in the Board and Senate Room on Monday, 13 June 1983 at 4:00 p.m.

Present with Mr. W. E. Jones in the chair were the following members:

Andrews, Atherton, Barkow, Belzer, Betts, Bidwell, Birdsall, Brafield, Burt, Cameron D.M., Chaytor, Cohen A.D., Comeau, Cromwell, Duff, Easterbrook, Egan, Flemming, Friedrich, Gaede, Heard, Hill, Horrocks, James, Kennedy, Kent, Klassen, Leffek, MacKay W.A., Maloney, McNulty, Overton, Ozier, Pooley, Rodger, Shaw L.R., Sherwin, Sinclair, Sinclair-Faulkner, Sprott, Tan, Tingley, Tomlinson, Varma, Vining, Yung, Mercer (invitee).

Messrs. R. W. Putnam and F. B. Wickwire attended by invitation.

Regrets: Blecher, Caty, Gold, Jacobson, Jones J.V., Pronych.

83:53:

Minutes of the Meeting of 16 May, 20, and 25 May 1983

It was moved and seconded (Rodger/Horrocks) that the minutes of 16 May be accepted. The minutes of 20 May 1983 were approved (Rodger/Horrocks) with one amendment: Dean Betts was not present at that meeting.

Upon Motion (Horrocks/Klassen) the minutes of 25 May 1983 were approved.

83:54

New Member of Senate

Miss Suzanne Caty was introduced as the newly-elected representative of the Faculty of Health Professions.

The Chairman expressed thanks on behalf of Senate to the retiring Officers, Messrs. A.M. Sinclair and J.A. McNulty for their valuable contributions to Senate, as well as those members of the various committees who have retired as of June 1st.

It was moved by Mr. Klassen and seconded by Mr. Varma

**that Senate convey official thanks to the Officers of Senate, Sinclair, McNulty, and Jones.**

The motion carried unanimously.

83:55

Question Period

Mr. Bradfield enquired about the current state of the government grant to the University. Mr. Shaw reported he had been advised by telephone that the operating grant could expect an increase of approximately 7% over last year. However, no funds would be received for alterations, renovations, and space funds, including those originally designated as receivable for 1982-83. The net result of this would be

an increase of approximately 5%. Confirmation in writing was expected from the government within the next day.

The President reported that arrangements had been made for the student who had missed the awarding of the degree on 20 May (Minute No. 83:49) to receive his degree at the Law Convocation.

83:56

Report of the Joint Board/Senate Committee to Investigate Circumstances  
Surrounding the President's Declaration of Restraint and Renewal

The Chairman introduced the two notices of motion submitted by Mr. Braybrooke and Messrs. Kent, Stairs respectively.

It was moved and seconded (Sinclair-Faulkner/Cohen) that,

**A President's Council with representation from the Board and from the Senate, determined by those bodies respectively, be established in the form described in Chapter IV, but setting aside the second paragraph p. 18 beginning "Once matters..." and ending "with dispatching", to meet when called upon to do so by the President. The Council will not act as a source of primary initiatives in university policy, or have any power to delay action by the Board or the Senate, or to veto any such action. Its members will keep abreast of the business of both Board and Senate and be prepared when invited to do so to make recommendations (a) to remedy discrepancies in the information possess by the two bodies mentioned and (b) o forestall the two bodies acting or continuing to act at cross purposes.**

Considerable discussion ensued regarding the similarity in substance of the two motions and the length of the initial motion.

Messrs. Cohen, Bradfield, and Kent addressed concerns raised by Messrs. Andrews and Rodger regarding the value of another advisory body and the intent that the Council would not function as a primary decision-making body. Rather it would have to prepare for and hence expedite decision making.

The amendment was **defeated**.

Upon motion (Kent Stairs) it was **agreed**

**to delete the words after "A President's Council be established" and replace by "to give early advice to the President on matters that are judged by the President to be of significant concern to both the Board and the Senate. The Council will consist of seven members designed by the Senate and seven by the Board, one of whom from each body shall be a student' the President shall chair the committee. It will be established for a trial period of two years."**

Recommendation D.1 in the Report was then **unanimously approved** as amended.

Recommendation D.2 was moved by Mr. Cohen and seconded by Mr. Brafield that

**cross-representation be established, wherever practicable, between the committee of the Board and those of the Senate. This recommendation to be implemented immediately for the Finance and Budget Committee and the Building and Grounds Committee of the Board and the Financial Planning Committee and the Physical Planning Committee of the Senate.**

The motion was **carried**.

Recommendation D.3 was then moved by Messrs. Cohen and Bradfield. Responding to queries by Messrs. Kennedy, Andrews, and Rodger as to the appropriateness of this recommendation in view of the accepted amendment to Recommendation D.1, the Chairman ruled Recommendation D.3 out of order.

D.3. that the President's Council establish a means to review the Dalhousie Act and By-laws, to ensure that enabling legislation exists to meet current needs and to provide a proper constitutional framework for effective government of the University.

Proceeding then to the general recommendations outlined in the conclusions of the report, it was moved (Cohen/Bradfield) that

**1. the University develop a capital budget to show how proposed capital expenses are to be financed and that actual expenses be reported against this budget.**

Messrs. Sinclair-Faulkner and Rodger requested definition and specification of the word "the University". (Bradfield/Hill) moved an **amendment** that

**the words "the University develop" be replaced by "A capital budget be developed."**

The amendment was **carried**.

Messrs. Sinclair-Faulkner, Cameron, and Kennedy commented on the fact that this Recommendation like general recommendation 2 was already a policy of Senate.

The Chairman reviewed the earlier actions of Senate with regard to this item, including the report of the Senate Financial Planning Committee of April 28 on the Elimination of the Unfunded Capital Debt, which was accepted by Senate at its meeting of 6 May 1983 (Minute No. 83:39). He indicated that the Budget and Finance Committee of the Board was aware of the report but that to his knowledge it had not yet been discussed by them.

An amendment (Sinclair/Cameron) that the following be added to Recommendation 1,  
**"..., consistent with the recommendations of Senate at its 6 May meeting"**

was **approved**.

Recommendation 1 was then **approved** as amended.

Recommendation 2 was moved and seconded by Messrs Cohen and Brafield.

**2. The Board develop a plan to deal with unfunded capital debt.**

When questioned by Ms. Ozier the Chairman stated that he was not aware of any plan by the Board to deal with the unfunded capital debt. He reminded Senate of the plan proposed by the FPC and adopted by Senate earlier. In response to a query from Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Wickwire indicated that Mr. Tingley has collected data regarding the contributions of Senate to decisions regarding items contributing to the unfunded capital debt.

It was **agreed** that the recommendation be amended consistent with the changes in #1 to add the words

**"consistent with the recommendation of Senate at its 6 May meeting"**

at the end.

The motion **passed as amended**

Recommendation 3 of the Report was moved and seconded (Cohen/Bradfield) that

3. **The Board and Senate continue to discuss ways in which the Board can constructively present the University's views on such matters as public funding of universities and of other government actions, and on ways in which the University and, more specifically, the President, can encourage public support for Dalhousie.**

Similar concerns were identified by Mr. Rodger regarding the use of the term "University". He was agreeable with the movers of the motion that the words "members of the university" be incorporated into the motion so that the recommendation would read:

3. **The Board and Senate continue to discuss ways in which the Board can constructively present the University's views on such matters as public funding of universities and of other government actions, and on ways in which members of the university and, more specifically, the President, can encourage public support for Dalhousie.**

The motion **carried**.

The following motion was proposed (Sinclair-Faulkner/Ozier) that

**the Secretary of the Joint Committee be requested to submit to the Senate Financial Planning Committee the record of Senate involvement in the major capital projects undertaken by the Board, and that the FPC be then requested to comment to Senate on the effectiveness of Senate's involvement in such matters.**

After considerable debate surrounding the time commitments involved and the existence of baseline data, points being raised by Ms. Ozier, Messrs. Stairs, Sinclair-Faulkner, Tomlinson, Tingley, and the President, the motion was **defeated**.

83:57

Reports and Recommendations -- Committees of Senate

A. Academic Planning Committee

(1) **Ph.D. in German**

It was moved and seconded (Haley/Sherwin)

**that the proposed Ph.D. programme in German be passed and forwarded to the Board for approval.**

The motion was carried.

(2) **Institute of Applied Biology**

Upon motion (Chaytor/Bradfield) it was **agreed**

**that the proposed Institute of Applied Biology be recommend for approval to the Board.**

Mr. Bidwell addressed Mr. Bradfield's query regarding space allocation.

B. Committee on Academic Administration

1. Report on Positions of Vice-Presidents

The President commented on the original intent of the report.

It was moved and seconded (MacKay/Klassen)

**that the Report on Positions of Vice-Presidents be accepted.**

After some discussion by Messrs. Kennedy, Andrews, Rodger, Kent, Bradfield and MacKay about the diverse responsibilities delineated in the report, the inherent necessity for three positions, and the role of Vice-President (Planning and Resources),

the motion was **carried**.

2. Appointment of Ombudsman and Assistant Ombudsman

Upon motion (klassen/Horrocks) it was **agreed**

**that it be recommended to the Board that Ms. Kimberley Turner and Mr. Peter Rodgers be appointed Ombudsman and Assistant Ombudsman respectively for the 1983-84 term.**

C. Financial Planning Committee

Mr. Jones reported that after a careful assessment of the costs of terminating preparations of the Student Information System, the administration had decided to proceed with the preparation of two portions of the system, specifically, admissions and registration. This would provide the University with at least a portion of the S.I.S. for about the same costs as the University would be required to pay in penalties if the preparation of the system were terminated completely.

The Senate Financial Planning Committee had met on June 1 and discussed this development. The general consensus of the committee was that a reassessment of the S.I.S. project had been necessary, that this had now occurred and that the committee was generally in agreement with the proposal that a limited Student Information System be developed as now outlined.

Mr. Jones also stated that the F.P.C. and the new Senate Computer Advisory Committee would each be asked to name representative to the Steering Committee for the S.I.S. project.

D. **Committee on Committees**

1. Nominations to the Senate Computer Advisory Committee

Mr. Duff nominated on behalf of the Committee on Committees, the following four individuals:

Christopher Beaumont - Oceanography  
Murray Brown - Preventive Medicine  
Charles J. Dirksen - Business Administration  
Robert S. Rodger - Psychology

Mr. Hill indicated that Shawn Houlihan and Reza Rizvi would be the student representatives on the Committee.

Considerable concern was expressed by those present for the need for curricula vitarum to be available prior to the election of committees of Senate.

It was moved and seconded (MacKay/Klassen)

**that nominations cease.**

The motion was carried.

It was further nominated (Duff/Ozier)

**that Mr. Allen D. Cohen replace Mr. J.T.R. Clarke on the Senate Academic Planning Committee.**

It was moved and seconded (MacKay/Varma)

**that nominations cease.**

The motion was carried.

83:58

Royal Commission on Post Secondary Education: Workshop

Mr. Putnam reported that the primary goal of the workshop, which was scheduled to be held on June 28 from 1:00 to 5:30 p.m., was to identify major issues of concern. He indicated that steps would be taken to publicize this event, and to invite faculty, students, and other potentially interested individuals.

83:59

Report from the President

The President indicated that due to the lateness of the our a written report would be circulated to members at a later date.

83:60

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:01 p.m., upon motion by the President.

