

Item: Senate Minutes, February 1989

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DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY
MINUTES OF SENATE MEETING

SENATE met in regular session in the Senate and Board Room on Monday, 13 February 1989 at 4:00 P.M.

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

Angelopoulos, Antoft, Barkow, Betts, Birdsall, Braybrooke, Brett, Burns, T.S. Cameron, B. Christie, Clark, Courtney, Cromwell, Cummings, Dykstra, Forgay, Fraser J., Friedrich, Geldart, Graham, Gratwick, Hart, D.W. Jones, Keddy, Kemp, Kerans, Lane, Leffek, Lutley, M.J.C. Martin, Mason, McKee, D.W.P. O'Brien, O'Shea, Ozier, Pross, Ritchie, Ryall, Smith, Stairs, M. Stewart, Stuttard, Tamlyn, Walker, D.P. Williams.

Regrets: Archibald, Givner, Gold, Gregor, J.V. Jones, Konok, Mehn-Andersen, Miller.

89:011.

Minutes of Previous Meetings

The Chairperson reported that the minutes of the meetings held on January 9 and 23, 1989 were not yet available.

89:012.

Voting on Honorary Degree Candidates (IN CAMERA)

Voting on 16 nominees, as potential honorary degree recipients at the Spring and Fall Convocations, was conducted In Camera by secret ballot. Mr. W.E. Jones appointed Ms. E. Angelopoulos and Mr. D. Jones as scrutineers.

89:013.

Report of the President

Copies of the President's Report to Senate dated 13 February 1989 were distributed at the meeting (attached). The President briefly reviewed the items on the anticipated open house report; seeking provincial support for the operating costs of the Dalhousie Arts Centre; visits to academic units by the President and Vice-Presidents; the MPHEC report on student aid; receptions for alumni in Montreal and Ottawa, and, certificate presentations to Dalhousie holders of Canada Science scholarships.

Mr. Williams inquired whether the report on complement reduction required by the new collective agreement would be available on time. The President indicated that the recommended procedure and schedule had been followed. Mr. W. Jones noted that this item appeared later in the agenda.

89:014.

Question Period

Mr. Kerans, referring to a newsletter which went to parents of students, questioned the basis for the assertion that approximately 40% of faculty members continued teaching during the strike. President Clark replied that these calculations were based on (1) responses from all faculty members regarding whether they would

participate in the strike and (2) the fact that not all faculty were members of the DFA. Mr. Kerans then queried why research had been included in this statement. The President commented that faculty on strike would not be expected to refrain from teaching activities only. Ms. Ozier had received the newsletter to parents, being herself the parent of a Dalhousie student, and she questioned President Clark's assumption that parents of Dalhousie students would find it reassuring to know how many members of a union at the University had continued to work while their union was legally on strike. She was of the opinion that Dalhousie parents knew better than that. As a parent herself, she found this worrisome rather than reassuring. The President stated that these comments in the newsletter seemed reasonable in light of numerous reports in the press at that time that Dalhousie was not operating.

Mr. Barkow asked the President to ensure full consultation during the review of the Centre for African Studies with its creators. The President indicated that the normal review procedures were being conducted by the Office of Research Services. No report or recommendations were available at this point in time.

Mr. Birdsall referred to some recommendations in "1987 and Beyond" which generated a number of reports and a motion by Senate in January 1988 that SAPC and SFPC prepare a follow-up report on library funding. He was concerned that this report was not yet forthcoming. The Chairperson gave reasons for the delay and assured Mr. Birdsall that this item would be on the agenda of

Ms. Vance reported a number of complaints regarding posting of grades by student name rather than student number. Mr. S. Cameron raised the question of whether grades should be posted at all. There was agreement that this question of policy be referred to the SCAA.

Ms. Vance contended that the document, "Student Information Guide on Academic Appeal Procedures" was becoming outdated. She requested that this be updated. Mr. Jones suggested that the matter could be considered by the Steering Committee, although this was not an official document of Senate. An appropriate mechanism could then be discussed with DSU.

Mr. Williams pointed to the considerable time demands experienced by Officers of Senate, and asked that release time for Officers be considered by the appropriate committee. The Chairperson agreed that the Steering Committee could initially examine this question.

89:015.

Nominations by Senate Committee on Committees

On behalf of the Committee on Committees, Mr. Pross nominated Ms. P. Lane to a three-year term as the Chair of Senate. There being no further nominations, Ms. Lane was declared elected.

Mr. Pross then nominated Mr. T. Sinclair-Faulkner as Secretary of Senate for a term ending in 1992. Following three calls for further nominations, Mr. Sinclair-Faulkner was declared elected.

Applause followed both nominations.

The following individuals were declared elected to the specified committees, following the requisite calls for further nominations:

Senate Academic Planning Committee

D. Stoltz (Microbiology) - 1992 J. Barkow (Sociology & Social Anthropology) - 1992

Senate Financial Planning Committee

F. Woodman (Law) - 1992

Mr. W. Jones welcomed Ms. S. Golding and Mr. D. Shannon as new student members of Senate.

89:016.

SAPC Policy for Program Reviews

A document entitled "Senate Academic Planning Committee Policy Concerning the Approval of Program Proposals" (Jan. 3/89) had been precirculated. It was the intent of SAPC to use responses to the ten questions encompassed in the document in its review of program proposals in future. The Chairperson reported that this document had been distributed for information and welcomed feedback. However, in light of the Board's declared moratorium on new programs, this policy might not be put into practice for some time. Mr. Pross, referring to items #4 and 5, suggested that collaboration with financial officers of the University would be essential if resources and costs were to be identified in a standard and rigorous fashion.

Mr. Birdsall and Ms. Ozier sought clarification regarding the process for proposed programs which were interdisciplinary or cut across Faculties. Mr. W. Jones agreed that the process for consideration of support and resources in inter-Faculty programs would need to be made more explicit.

Ms. O'Shea asked for elaboration on the phrase "by Dalhousie standards" (#1). The Chair suggested that these standards would need to be explicated by SAPC.

89:017.

Phase Out of Post Diploma Program in Physiotherapy

Pertinent documentation had been circulated with an earlier agenda. On behalf of SAPC, Ms. Walker moved

that Senate approve phasing out of the Physiotherapy Post Diploma Degree Program with the last students being admitted in 1990/91.

She briefly outlined the background rationale for this motion. Ms. Ritchie inquired about the termination date and about short term cost implications. Ms. Walker stated that the deadline would be five years. If this was exceeded, the remaining students could participate in the third or fourth year of the program. There were no foreseeable cost implications.

The motion carried.

89:018.

SAPC Report on Distribution of Non-Replacement of Academic Vacancies

Correspondence, dated February 10, 1989, to President Clark encompassed the SAPC's view that the annual non-replacement process should be made more flexible and presented three relevant recommendations. The report further stated that if these three measures were not acceptable that three areas (Medicine, Education, Arts and Social Sciences) would need to be assisted.

The figures for the proposed distribution of non-replacements for 1989-1990 were reviewed verbally. Ms. Ozier reiterated her query from an earlier meeting regarding the criteria used for determining the distribution of non-replacements. Mr. W. Jones reported that SAPC sought extensive information on a form which went to Deans and/or Secretaries of Faculties regarding: number of staff, number of students, number of faculty, anticipated vacancies, reasonable reductions, etc. Furthermore, Deans were invited to seek interviews with SAPC. The Chairperson agreed to provide copies of the relevant form and correspondence at the next meeting. He concluded by stating that, according to the collective agreement, the SAPC and President should seek to

reach an agreement regarding the distribution of non-replacements. This discussion was still in progress. A complete report could be anticipated at the next meeting.

89:019.

Matters of Information

The Chair read correspondence from President Clark concerning former Dalhousie President, Andrew MacKay's recent appointment to the bench of the Federal Court of Canada. He relayed Mr. MacKay's sincere appreciation to Senate.

89:020.

Other Business

Mr. R. Smith queried the increasing use of Americanized terms such as "program" versus "programme", citing the SAPC policy on new programme reviews as an example. It was agreed that this matter could be referred to the SCAA for further discussion.

Ms. Vance, referring to the discussion of plagiarism at the last meeting, requested a review of the definition. This recommendation was also referred to the SCAA.

89:021.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 P.M.