

Item: Board of Governors Minutes, October 2012

Call Number: Board of Governors fonds, UA-1

Additional Notes:

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## BOARD OF GOVERNORS

**Approved Minutes of the Meeting (Open Session)  
held on October 16th, 2012 at 3:00 p.m.  
Macdonald Building, University Hall**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jim Spatz (Chair), Jamie Arron, Jay Abbass, Michelle Awad, Barrie Black, William (Bill) Black, Wadih Fares, Fred Fountain, Lloyd Fraser, Curtis Johnston, Ibrahim Merdan, Aubrey Palmeter, Sherry Porter, Paula Simon, Chris Smith, Stan Spavold, Larry Stordy, Tom Traves, Jim Wilson, Susan Brousseau (University Secretary).

**NON-MEMBERS PRESENT:** Ken Burt (VP Finance and Administration), Martha Crago (VP Research), Floyd Dykeman (VP External), Asa Kachan (Assistant VP Enrolment Management and Registrar), Jeff Lamb (Assistant VP Facilities Management), David Mensink (DFA Observer), Rochelle Owen (Director, Sustainability Office), Katherine Sheehan (Asst. VP Human Resources), Carolyn Watters (VP Academic and Provost), Rana Shams (Minute Taker).

**REGRETS:** John Baxter, Joyce Carter, George McLellan, Gail-Tomblin Murphy, Candace Thomas, Bonnie Neuman (VP-Student Services).

### 1. Approval of Agenda

J. Spatz noted that Item 7.1 would be moved to the *in camera* session.

Moved by J. Wilson, seconded by C. Smith:

**THAT the agenda be approved as amended.**

**The motion CARRIED.**

### 2. Consent Agenda

J. Spatz noted under Item 2.2 that the portion of the motion relating to the alumni appointment is withdrawn for the time being; it is anticipated that this will come forward at the November meeting.

#### 2.1 Approval of Minutes of the Meeting of June 26, 2012

Motion: **THAT the minutes of the meeting held on June 26, 2012 be approved as presented.**

**Approved by Consent.**

#### 2.2 Board of Governors Appointments – Alumni and Student Representatives

Motion: **THAT the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Governance and Nominating Committee, approve the appointment of Ibrahim Merdan as a Student Board member for the term October 16, 2012 to April 30, 2014.**

**Approved by Consent.**

### **2.3 Appointment of Assistant Ombudsperson**

Motion: **THAT the Board of Governors approve the appointment of Mr. Lucas Hyslop as Assistant Ombudsperson for 2012-13.**

**Approved by Consent.**

### **3. Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

### **4. Chair's Report**

J. Spatz welcomed new Board members Curtis Johnston, Ibrahim Merdan, Sherry Porter and Paula Simon to their first meeting. He reported on the motion approved by the Board Executive Committee, on behalf of the Board, in the interval since the last Board meeting. The motion is as follows:

**THAT the Executive Committee, on behalf of the Board of Governors, and on the recommendation of the Governance and Nominating Committee, approve the appointment of Sherry Porter to the Presidential Search Committee effective immediately.**

### **5. President's Report**

T. Traves highlighted several areas in his report, including the provincial government announcement of a 3% cut to university operating grants for 2013-14. He noted that the University's Budget Advisory Committee is working on its first report for later this fall and this will outline the potential impact of the government cuts and other factors on the University's operating budget for 2013-14. Dr. Traves noted that he and other members of the Steering Committee representing the Nova Scotia universities are continuing discussions among themselves and with government on a new funding formula.

Dr. Traves also reported briefly on the continuing work to integrate the new Agricultural Campus and the recent announcement that Dalhousie has been named one of Canada's Top 100 Employers for the second year in a row. He also reported on updated student enrolment figures for 2012-13, noting that Dalhousie's total enrolment stands at 18,354, an increase of 99 students from 2011-12.

### **6. Dalhousie Student Union President's Report**

J. Arron spoke briefly to a number of current issues for the Dalhousie Student Union and the work that the new Executive has undertaken since the beginning of the new academic year in order to enhance communication with the student body. He also spoke to the implementation of a new website "Soapbox", geared towards enhancing the engagement of students around issues that are important for them.

Mr. Arron highlighted various other items including the launch of a new food service operation in the Student Union Building that provides students with greater ownership over the operation and its direction; work with the Dalhousie Student Investment Society and others to develop an ethical investment strategy for the Student Union; and the DSU's activities in encouraging student

participation in upcoming municipal elections. Lastly, Mr. Arron noted the DSU Statement on the Presidential Search (adopted in late September), which provides input on the qualities that will be important in a new president.

## **7. Items For Information**

### **7.1 Board Standing Committee Reports**

J. Spatz noted that the reports of the following standing committees were distributed in the agenda package: Academic Affairs and Research, Executive and Operations. There were no questions on the reports.

## **8. In Camera Session**

The Board moved to an *in camera* session at 3:30 pm. During the *in camera* session the following motion was approved.

**THAT the Board of Governors ratify the Collective Agreement between the Dalhousie University Board of Governors and the Nova Scotia Government and General Employees Union, Local 99 for the period July 1, 2011 to and including June 30, 2014.**

## **9. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 6:05 pm.

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Jim Spatz, Chair

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Joyce Carter, Honorary Secretary