



BOARD OF GOVERNORS

**Approved Minutes of the Meeting (Open Session)
held on Tuesday, October 20th, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.
Macdonald Building, University Hall**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Larry Stordy (Chair), Joyce Carter, Wadih Fares, Richard Florizone (President), Jody Forsyth, Elaine Gibson, Bob Hanf, Rebecca Haworth, Kevin Hewitt, Laurie Jennings, Courtney Larkin, Lori MacLean, Anne McLellan, Daniel Nicholson, Aubrey Palmeter, Sherry Porter, Anthony Saikali, Paula Simon, Rob Sobey, Gail Tomblin Murphy, Michele Williams

NON-MEMBERS PRESENT: Susan Brousseau (University Secretary), Martha Crago (Vice-President Research), Peter Fardy (Vice President Advancement), Ian Nason (Vice-President Finance and Administration)

REGRETS: Michelle Awad, Ian Bezanson, Cassandra Dorrington, Naiomi Metallic, Paula Simon, Candace Thomas, Carolyn Watters (Provost and Vice-President Academic)

GUESTS: Andrea Power (Associate Secretary, Senate), Anne Forrestall (Student Services)

1. Approval of Agenda

Moved by C. Larkin, seconded by S. Porter:

THAT the agenda for October 20th, 2015 be approved as presented.

The motion CARRIED.

2. Consent Agenda

2.1. Approval of Minutes of Meeting of June 23, 2015

Motion: **THAT the minutes of the meeting held on June 23, 2015 be approved as presented.**

Approved by CONSENT

2.2 Appointment to Halifax Student Housing Authority

Motion: **THAT the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Governance and Nominating Committee, approve the appointment of Ms. Nicole Cross to replace Mr. Dean Martin as one of the Board's three representatives on the Board of Directors of the Halifax Student Housing Society, which operates Peter Green Hall.**

Approved by CONSENT

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

4. Chair's Report

L. Stordy welcomed new Board members attending their first meeting: Jody Forsyth, Kevin Hewitt and Michele Williams. He noted that all new members had attended a Board orientation session in mid-September and it was a great opportunity for those present to become acquainted and to learn more about the Board and Dalhousie. Mr. Stordy also congratulated Laurie Jennings on the recent announcement that he is the EY Entrepreneur of the Year Atlantic 2015 in the "Business-to-Consumer Products and Services" category.

Mr. Stordy noted the report of the Executive Committee in the Board package and the motions approved on behalf of the Board since the annual meeting in June. These were time-sensitive matters and, as a result, there was a need to deal with them in advance of the meeting today; members received information on the approval of these items over the summer, but it is important to note them today so that they are recorded in the minutes of today's meeting. The motions approved are as follows:

1. Appointment of Vice-President Advancement

THAT the Board Executive Committee, on behalf of the Board of Governors, approve the appointment of Mr. Peter Fardy as Vice-President Advancement, effective August 1, 2015.

2. Collaborative Health Education Building (CHEB) financing

THAT the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Operations Committee, authorize and direct the President and the Vice-President, Finance and Administration to borrow \$7.7 million for 13 years and \$10.1 million for 20 years, for a total of \$17.8 million and with fixed interest rates, for the funding of the Collaborative Health Education Building and Tupper Space Repatriation project, and in accordance with the Document Execution/Contract Signing Authority Policy, to take all such actions to execute and deliver such agreements, instruments and documents in writing and to do all such acts and things in their opinion as may be necessary or desirable in the name and on behalf of the University or otherwise to give effect to this Resolution.

3. Ratification of NSGEU and CUPE Collective Agreements

Motion 1:

THAT the Board Executive Committee, on behalf of the Board of Governors, approve the collective agreement with the Canadian Union of Public Employees dated September 1, 2012 to August 30, 2016.

Motion 2:

THAT the Board Executive Committee, on behalf of the Board of Governors, approve the collective agreement with the Nova Scotia Government and General Employees Union (NSGEU), Local 99 dated July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2017.

Motion 3:

THAT the Board Executive Committee, on behalf of the Board of Governors, approve the collective agreement with the Nova Scotia Government and General Employees Union (NSGEU), Local 77 dated July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2017.

Lastly, Mr. Stordy reported on several meetings over the last few months with Kevin Hewitt, Acting Chair of Senate, to discuss enhancing communication between the Board and Senate. He and Dr. Hewitt have also met recently with the President, the Board Vice-Chair Sherry Porter and Katherine Harman, Senate Vice-Chair for Student Affairs, to discuss ideas and opportunities for joint interactions between Board and Senate. It was a very positive meeting and he expressed thanks to K. Hewitt for initiating this discussion.

5. President's Report

R. Florizone highlighted several items in his report, including recent student enrolment numbers for 2015-16 which show a small, but positive increase for Dalhousie; continuing work to plan for and implement the recommendations from the Belong, Restorative Justice and Backhouse reports released last spring; and progress on various capital projects on campus, including the official opening of the McCain Learning Commons on October 15th and the planned opening of the Collaborative Health Education Building on December 1st.

Dr. Florizone also spoke briefly to the federal election results, noting that it is very early to assess how the change in government will impact universities generally and Dalhousie specifically, but he is encouraged by statements in the Liberal platform regarding entrepreneurship, funding for student aid, research and infrastructure.

Following his report, Dr. Florizone responded to brief questions on the Executive Director, Diversity & Inclusiveness position and on the planning for Dalhousie's 200th anniversary celebration.

6. Dalhousie Student Union President's Report

D. Nicholson highlighted a number of DSU initiatives this fall, including a very successful Orientation Week and DalFest event, initiatives to encourage students to vote in the federal election, and the introduction of a new 24-hour peer-to-peer confidential sexual assault and harassment phone line. Mr. Nicholson also noted the progress of the Student Union Building renovation project and the DSU's decision to support University of King's College students in their concern about a potential tuition increase for the Foundation Year Program at King's. Mr. Nicholson commented that he is impressed by the level of student engagement this year, with students responding in increased numbers to various calls for volunteers and participants.

Following his report, Mr. Nicholson responded to a question regarding the funding for the sexual assault and harassment phone line. The service initially received short term, temporary funding to support the phone line until the end of October. New funding has been received to extend the service for a further 4-6 weeks and the DSU is currently working on a longer-term plan.

7. Items for Presentation

7.1. Student Services – Overview of Recent Initiatives

Anne Forrestall, Acting Vice-Provost Student Affairs, gave a presentation on new and enhanced initiatives aimed at improving student success and the overall student experience, particularly in the areas of orientation; training and education; collaborations (connections with other students, faculty and the community); and programming and services for students.

Following the presentation, Ms. Forrestall responded to questions focused on strategic planning for Student Services, mental health services for students, and services for students at the Agricultural Campus. Members congratulated Ms. Forrestall and her team on the excellent work in this area and on the introduction of innovative programs and services. A. Forrestall noted that plans are coming out of each of the Strategic Direction priorities and this will lead to new strategies and programs aimed at approving student retention and the student experience.

8. Items for Information

8.1. Board Standing Committee Reports

L. Stordy referred members to the committee reports included in the materials. R. Sobey, Chair of the Investment Committee, spoke briefly to the recommendations outlined in the report from the Committee last November with respect to the issue of divestment from fossil fuels and, in particular, the recommendation around the establishment of a “green” fund that would allow donors to direct their endowments to environmentally sustainable investments. I. Nason, Vice-President Finance & Administration, spoke further to this at the request of Mr. Sobey, noting that the fund has been established and has been “seeded” with some unrestricted university funds in order to get it started. Mr. Nason noted that the purpose of the fund will be to support student assistance and Administration is working with the Registrar’s Office to identify areas of greatest need.

9. In Camera Session

The Board moved to an *in camera* session.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Lawrence Stordy, Chair

Joyce Carter, Honorary Secretary