



## SENATE

Approved Minutes of the Meeting held on  
Monday, April 24, 2017

3:00pm – 5:00pm

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

The Senate met in regular session on Monday, April 24, 2017 in Theatre A, Sir Charles Tupper Medical Building.

**Present** with Kevin Hewitt in the chair were the following: A. Abawajy, D. Anderson, M. Aston, F. Baylis, T. Boran, D. Bourne-Tyson, A. Cochrane, M. Crago, A. Diab, C. Dielman, L. Diepeveen, R. Florizone, J. Gahagan, R. Gooday, D. Gray, L. Hackett, K. Harman, F. Harvey, K. Hewitt, S. Holmes, J. Hoyle, J. Hughes, E. Johnson, S. Kuzak, D. Langille, M. Leonard, Ch. Macdonald, P. McMullin, L. Meynell, C. Moore, R. Mopoho, K. Mukhida, M. Pacurar, R. Parker, D. Patterson, K. Reid, C. Richardson, L. Spiteri, A. Stadnyk, T. Tennessen, P. Tyedmers, G. Wach, G. Wang-Pruski, C. Watters, D. White

**Regrets:** A. Aiken, P. Bodorik, C. Cameron, J. Chen, S. Faridi, G.A. Finley, K. Kesselring, S. Kirk, Y. Kotlyarova, J. Leon, Co. MacDonald, M. Macdonald, T. MacRae, C. Macy, A. Rau-Chaplin, N. Savage,

**Absent:** N. Ali, C. Brown, R. Chang, S. Charlebois, D. Doman, J. Erdman, N. Gear, J. Grant, M. Khan, W. Lahey, Y. Ma, A. Quraishi, J. White

**Guests:** William Barker, Susan Brousseau (Secretary of Senate), Peter Fardy, Daniela Loggia (Student Minute Taker), Andrea Power (Recording Secretary), Susan Spence Wach, Jasmine Walsh, Joe Zwanziger

Senator Hewitt thanked the retiring DSU student Senators for their service to Senate in 2016-17: Kathleen Reid, Amina Abawajy, Christina Macdonald, Lisa Hackett, Antonios Diab, and Nicholas Gear. He also welcomed Amina Abawajy in her incoming role as DSU President.

### 2017:67

#### **Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was **approved** as circulated.

### 2017:68

#### **Consent Agenda**

#### **Approval of Draft Minutes of April 10, 2017 Senate Meeting**

**THAT** Senate approve the draft minutes of the April 10, 2017 Senate meeting.

Approved by **CONSENT**.

### 2017:69

#### **Matters Arising from the April 10, 2017 Senate Meeting Minutes**

There were no matters arising.

### 2017:70

#### **Senate Planning and Governance Committee: Institute for Research in Materials (IRM) Modification and Name Change Proposal**

Senator Hewitt noted that the proposal for modification and name change of the Institute for Research in Materials (IRM) was previously approved and discussed by the Research Sub Committee, Senate Academic Programs and Research Committee, and the Senate Planning and Governance Committee. Joe Zwanziger, Interim Director of the IRM, spoke to the proposed modification and name change and noted that this proposal reflects the desire to streamline and re-energize the institute. Highlights of the desired changes include a more focused mandate regarding a multidisciplinary approach to clean technologies. This focus would reflect Dalhousie's commitments to clean technology and advanced manufacturing, as well as to health and wellness. The proposed changes also include a name change, a change in governance structure, and a step away from managing equipment. There will also be an immediate search for a permanent director of the institute.

In discussing the proposed changes, it was noted that funding may be lost due to the loss of participation from the Faculties of Medicine and Dentistry. However, it is hoped that joining Faculties, such as the Faculty of Management and the Faculty of Agriculture, will contribute to the institute. Furthermore, the Faculties of Medicine and Dentistry have indicated that they intend to continue to contribute towards use of equipment in a way that is proportionate to their use of the equipment. It is not anticipated that user fees for the institute will increase. It was suggested that involvement with the Atlantic Facilities Research Equipment Database be explored.

Senator Hewitt **MOVED**, on behalf of the Senate Planning and Governance Committee:

**THAT** the Senate approve the modifications and name change for the Institute for Research in Materials to the Clean Technologies Research Institute, as presented.

The motion **CARRIED**.

**2017:71**

**Dentistry Update on the Taskforce Recommendations**

Tom Boran, Dean, Faculty of Dentistry, presented an update on the Task Force Report for the Faculty of Dentistry. He highlighted that all the Dentistry and Dental Hygiene programs have received full accreditation and positive changes continue to develop. In particular, consultation with students has improved, and a new human resources advisor has been hired. Progress has also been made in curricular renewal and community outreach. For example, support for the indigenization of the curriculum has occurred through the Faculty of Health Professions. Abby Barton, Sarah Grant, and Dave Ropson, students from the Faculty of Dentistry, presented an update on their accomplishments during the past year and invited Senators to an open house in their student lounge on May 8, 2017.

In response to these presentations, Senators discussed the following:

- Senators commended the recent achievements made in the Faculty of Dentistry.
- The need for the Faculty of Dentistry to conduct an independent external review regarding voluntary and inclusive participation in the RJ session was noted. (Recommendation 13: The Faculty of Dentistry should conduct an independent external review to determine whether RJ sessions, properly constituted to ensure voluntary and inclusive participation, could assist in attitudinal and behavioural change in the student body, staff, and faculty members of the dental school.) A further update will be provided on the ongoing external review of the restorative justice program when complete.
- It was suggested that the Task Force Report more fulsomely address racialized students and faculty, specifically regarding Recommendation 9: Create welcoming and accessible services and buildings.
- It was clarified that this review did not supplant the broader review of Dalhousie's sexual violence policy. It is a specific examination of the restorative justice process as a tool for cultural change in the Faculty of Dentistry.
- A question was raised regarding the expansion of this type of cultural change across Dalhousie. It was suggested that a positive and proactive approach to sexual wellness and mental health be developed in addition to developing strategies that address responses to sexual violence and harassment. It was noted that Dalhousie has been given the opportunity to lead a shift in culture and respond to broader issues of sexism and misogyny.

**2017:72****Senate Planning and Governance Committee: Senate Review of University Libraries**

William Barker, Chair, Senate Review Committee, and Donna Bourne-Tyson, University Librarian, summarized the findings of the Review of the Dalhousie University Libraries. They highlighted the following:

- University's libraries are undergoing important changes, some driven by internal requirements and others by shifts in academic and research environments.
- The review found that the libraries have taken on new challenges to traditional roles with enthusiasm and are doing "an excellent job" considering their resources, environment and current situation.
- Libraries must balance the needs of several different areas. Previous attempts to do so implemented joint positions that addressed both specific units and broader concerns.
- Space for student use and items for storage must be protected.
- Collections and delivery of collection materials varies greatly across units. The Libraries need to ensure, against the backdrop of some of these changes, that they can continue to support academic diversity and meet the needs of different sub-units at the university. There is an ongoing challenge to secure sufficient budgetary support for the many changing as well as traditional roles of the libraries.
- Libraries are currently under-supported in their new research data management functions; particularly regarding storage of primary research data.

In response to the presentation, Senators discussed the following:

- A question was raised regarding how libraries are managing vanity or predatory publishers. It was noted that large packages from vendors are being scrutinized and some licenses are renegotiated to address this issues. Work is also being done with the Canadian Association of Research Libraries to educate students and faculty on the issue of vanity/predatory publishers.
- Regarding recommendation 9.1, the importance of support from senior administration was highlighted. It was noted that the libraries do get additional funding at the end of the year to compensate for losses due to currency exchange.
- A question was raised regarding the availability of the Wharton Research Data Services (WRDS) product. It was noted that Dalhousie is the only U15 University that does not provide access to this product. It was noted that this is a very expensive resource which is required by a relatively small number of researchers, which makes the cost-benefit analysis unfavourable when the Libraries are trying to meet information needs across the University. Work is ongoing to determine a way to fund this product.

**2017:73****Draft Gift Acceptance Policy**

Peter Fardy, Vice President, Advancement, presented on the draft Gift Acceptance Policy, providing background context and briefly highlighting key provisions. He noted that the policy applies to the solicitation and acceptance of gifts on behalf of the University, and sets out the types of gifts that the University may accept and the conditions under which Dalhousie will not accept a gift. Mr. Fardy noted that research was carried with respect to similar policies and the draft document reflects best practices. Mr. Fardy highlighted that Dalhousie has received \$365M in new donations during the past ten years.

Following the presentation, Senators discussed the following:

- In response to a suggestion that a student representative be added to the proposed Gift Acceptance Committee, it was noted that the process could include student input depending on the nature of the gift. It was proposed that consultation with students in certain cases could perhaps be addressed in Section 4b. of Section E – Administrative Structure.
- In response to a suggestion that the Senate be named as a policy co-sponsor as a result of Senate having named this area as a concern previously, it was noted that the subject of the policy is clearly within the Board of

Governors' jurisdiction. It was suggested that this matter could be understood as a shared responsibility given the import of the subject for academic freedom. A Senator asked for instructions on how to present a motion to amend the Policy Sponsor so that this would be a joint Senate and Board Policy. The Senator was informed that this was not possible given the Board's statutory jurisdiction.

- It was suggested that a faculty member be included as a member of the Gift Acceptance Committee and it was noted that the Gift Acceptance Committee could consult with others when appropriate given the circumstances.
- It was noted that this policy does not require special permission for receiving discounts on products within grants. In response, it was noted that this policy covered gifts not research grants which are addressed through Research Services processes.
- It was suggested that Section A(a) be amended to read: "the University's reputation, autonomy and the academic freedom of all faculty members is protected". Similarly, Section D(5)(a) should be amended to read: "compromise its reputation, ethical standards, institutional autonomy, or the academic freedom of faculty members;".
- It was suggested that similar language respecting academic freedom also be added as a new Section F(1)(f): "the proposed gift does not undermine academic freedom or grant inappropriate access to academic programs or admissions."

#### **2017:74**

##### **Presentation: Strategic Priorities 2.2 and 5.1**

Senator Hoyle, Chair, Senate Academic Programs and Research Committee (SAPRC), spoke briefly about a motion passed on January 26, 2015 regarding Strategic Priority 2.2. He noted that several matters have been addressed in this area by the SAPRC but there have sometimes been difficulties in presenting this data to the Senate. He also noted that the Provost Office is currently gathering data regarding academic Faculty program plans.

Jasmine Walsh, Associate Vice-President of Human Resources, and Susan Spence Wach, Vice Provost of Planning and Analytics, presented an update on Strategic Priority 2.2, regarding Dalhousie's progress on retaining and attracting outstanding academics. In response to their presentation, the following was discussed:

- Concern was raised regarding the potential limits that an administrative approach to determining excellence might place on research and teaching. It was noted that there is a high diversity of disciplines at Dalhousie and that it might be difficult to develop a single way to assess an outstanding academic.
- In response to a question regarding a potential standardized approach to improving faculty annually, it was noted that best practices are being considered but that care is being taken not to develop an approach that is too bureaucratic.
- A follow-up to this presentation will come before Senate in the Fall of 2017.

#### **2017:75**

##### **Reports**

##### **Chair of Senate's Report**

Senator Hewitt thanked Senators for their participation in the annual feedback survey. He highlighted the following feedback:

- There was a diversity of opinions, but a common theme in the survey was a desire to no longer conduct group editing during Senate meetings.
- There should be continued focus on strategic priorities, and Senate representatives on the Board of Governors should report back to Senate.
- In order to improve effectiveness, time allotments should be enforced. It was suggested that presenters be reminded when they have one minute remaining in their allotted time. Also, it was noted that an engaged Senate was an effective one.
- It was noted that feedback has been consistent with feedback from Senator Hewitt's Faculty Council visits. It should be considered whether chairs of Faculty Councils should be members of the Senate. It was also suggested that reports on Senate activities be available for Faculty Council meetings. Furthermore, annual consultation with

Faculties and regular term meetings with deans were suggested. Senator Hewitt noted that he will compile all related suggestions once he has completed all of his Faculty Council visits.

Martha Crago was thanked for her contribution to Senate over the past nine years and was presented with a parting gift on behalf of the Senate.

#### President's Report

Senator Florizone highlighted the following from his written report:

- He spoke to the work that Dalhousie's Human Rights and Equity Services office has done regarding human rights complaints and education.
- Regarding Strategic Priority 5.2, Senator Florizone spoke to Dalhousie's sexual violence policy, the restorative justice review, the raising of the Pan-African flag, the scholarly panel on Lord Dalhousie's relationship to slavery and racism, the re-envisioning of Dalhousie's ceremonial mace, and the encouraging results from the Dalhousie Census.
- Regarding work-integrated learning, it was noted that experiential learning should occur across all disciplines. A project is being undertaken with the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Social Science to ensure the opportunities that Dalhousie offers in this area are being emphasized to prospective students. Furthermore, the Business Higher Education Roundtable is interested in research partnerships and work-integrated learning, and a pilot project was launched last week to create thousands of new work placements. This group represents a very high interest and willingness to fund opportunities for experiential learning.
- Further discussions will occur regarding the Naylor Report, and it was noted that universities should take a unified approach to support reinvestment in research.

#### Questions for Reports

In response to a question regarding the construction of the hockey rink, it was noted that Dalhousie is working in partnership with St. Mary's University on the project and that there has been much enthusiasm in the project.

#### **2017:76**

##### **Question Period**

There were no questions.

#### **2017:77**

##### **Other Business**

There was no other business.

#### **2017:78**

##### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.