



BOARD OF GOVERNORS
Approved Minutes of the Meeting (Open Session) held on
Tuesday, November 22, 2022, 3:00 p.m.
Room 104, Weldon Law Building, 6061 University Ave

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Cheryl Fraser (Meeting Chair), Paul Beesley, Scott Brison, Level Chan, Glen Dexter, Cassandra Dorrington, Jonathon Frontain, Angeline Gillis, Ahsan Habib, Robert (Bob) Hanf (Board Chair), Kristan Hines, Joyce Hoeven, Murray Lyu, Jay MacIsaac, Merle MacIsaac, Catherine MacPherson, Carolan McLarney, Aparna Mohan, Arvin Ramlakhan, Deep Saini, Devarsh Sood, Louise Spiteri, Caroline Zayid

MEMBERS REGRETS:

Anne Campbell, Shona Kinley

NON-MEMBERS PRESENT:

Alice Aiken (Vice President Research & Innovation), Sheila Blair-Reid (Co-Vice-President Academic), Frank Harvey (Provost & Vice President Academic), Matt Hebb (Vice President Government & Global Relations), John Hope (General Counsel & University Secretary), Gitta Kulczycki (Vice President Finance & Administration), Cheryl MacDonald (Associate Secretary, Board of Governors), Ben McDonald (Co-Vice-President Advancement), Judith Ng'ethe (Associate Secretary, Senate)

GUESTS:

Michelle Adams (Director, School for Resource and Environmental Studies), Kim Brooks (Dean, Faculty of Management), Peter Coutts (Assistant Vice-President, Facilities Management), Bob Mann (Manager, Discipline & Appeals), Charles Macdonald (Dean, Faculty of Science), Laurel Munroe (Director, Communications and Public Relations), Matt Proctor (Assistant Vice President, Communications Marketing & Creative Services), David Westwood (DFA Observer)

1. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

2. Consent Agenda

All items were adopted by consent.

2.1 Minutes of Meeting of October 18, 2022

THAT the minutes of the meeting of October 18, 2022 be approved as presented.

Approved by CONSENT.

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business noted.

4. Chair's Report

On behalf of the Board, C. Fraser expressed gratitude to D. Saini for his service to Dalhousie University and the significant achievements made during his presidency.

C. Fraser noted the welcome news that the CUPE strike has ended and that CUPE members have returned to their work in support of Dalhousie's students and academic community. She acknowledged the challenges experienced as a result of the labour disruption and thanked everyone who has been engaged in ensuring academic continuity and minimizing the impact on the Fall term. She also acknowledged the Governance and Human Resources Committee for their continued commitment to Dalhousie through their willingness to meet to discuss these important issues on a regular basis.

5. President's Report

D. Saini expressed his appreciation to Board members for their commitment and service to Dalhousie and the support given to him and his administration during his presidency. He noted that the role he will take up as Principal of McGill University, which he assumes in January 2022, was a difficult decision to make. He thanked F. Harvey for agreeing to step into the role of Acting President and shared his confidence that Dalhousie will seamlessly carry out the key initiatives already underway and continue to deliver on the strategic plan.

6. Dalhousie Student Union President's Report

A. Mohan thanked D. Saini for his contributions and service to the University and voiced the DSU's support to senior administration in their efforts to support students during the leadership transition.

A. Mohan reported on recent DSU priorities, which included engaging Administration in averting a labour disruption or bringing it to a swift resolution. She spoke to ongoing communication with students throughout the CUPE 3912 strike, which included a webpage that housed updates and responses to FAQs, and she reviewed data collected on the impact of the strike on students, particularly those in the Faculty of Science and the Costume Studies program. She highlighted key recommendations, including financial relief through tuition rebates and compassionate academic contingency measures for students who experienced profound impacts as a result of the strike.

7. Items for Decision

7.1 Proposed Consolidation of Faculty of Management

L. Spiteri introduced the item, noting that at its meeting on October 24, 2022, Senate agreed to recommend for approval the full proposal to the Board of Governors.

K. Brooks provided an overview of the current structure of the Faculty of Management and spoke to the challenges of this model related to the two levels of governance and the siloing of programs within the four Schools. The proposed structure is designed to address these challenges by streamlining the faculty into one layer of governance. Additionally, programs will no longer reside within Schools; rather, they will be collectively stewarded by the Faculty. As part of this restructuring, the School for Resource and Environmental Studies (SRES) will transfer to the Faculty of Science.

Following the report, K. Brooks responded to brief questions related to the assessment of financial viability, lessons learned throughout the process, and the viability of programs going forward.

Moved by L. Spiteri, seconded by J. Hoeven:

THAT the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of Senate, approve the full proposal for the restructuring of the Faculty of Management.

CARRIED.

7.2 Proposed Transfer of School for Resources and Environmental Studies from Faculty of Management to Faculty of Science

L. Spiteri introduced the item, noting that at its meeting on October 24, 2022, Senate agreed to recommend for approval the full proposal to the Board of Governors.

M. Adams provided an overview of the proposed transfer of the School for Resource and Environmental Studies (SRES) from the Faculty of Management to the Faculty of Science. The transfer is a lateral move that will allow SRES to retain its identity within the broader Dalhousie structure while also enabling the School to pursue a common vision with the Faculty of Science to enhance the wellbeing of local and global communities through research, education, and outreach. No changes to the programs are expected and the internal organizational and operational structure will remain the same. In addition, financial implications are minimal and limited to budget reallocation. The transfer will include the full complement of SRES staff, faculty and programs.

Moved by L. Spiteri, seconded by C. Dorrington:

THAT the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of Senate, approve the full proposal for the transfer of the School for Resource and Environmental Studies from the Faculty of Management to the Faculty of Science.

CARRIED.

7.3 Facilities Renewal Preliminary Budget 2023-2024

P. Beesley presented the Facilities Renewal preliminary budget for 2023-2024, highlighting the six proposed projects estimated to exceed \$1 million. He noted the importance of moving forward with major planned projects according to schedules that will meet operational and academic priorities.

Following the report, G. Kulczycki and P. Coutts responded to questions related to Facilities Renewal funding, noting that in addition to the Facilities Renewal budget allocation there is a carryforward of funds available that has accumulated as a result of the inability to advance projects during the pandemic.

Moved by P. Beesley, seconded by D. Sood:

THAT the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Board Capital Projects and Facilities Committee, approve the list of significant projects (greater than \$1 million for FY) for 2023-2024. Facilities Management is authorized, prior to April 1, 2023, to spend and enter into contractual commitments totaling no more than \$10 million to support the implementation of the approved Facilities Renewal projects.

CARRIED.

7.4 Governance review implementation plan

B. Mann provided a brief overview of the proposed initial implementation plan that will guide the work of the Bicameral Governance Working Group as it begins the process of engaging with the Dalhousie community on the recommendations contained within the Report on the External Review of Dalhousie University's Governance. The Bicameral Governance Working Group is seeking an endorsement from the Board on the proposed strategy and approach as outlined in the memo included in the meeting materials.

Following the report, D. Saini expressed his support for this initiative.

Moved by C. Fraser, seconded by R. Hanf:

That the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Board Governance and Human Resources Committee, approve the initial implementation plan proposed by the Bicameral Governance Working Group with the provision that a progress report be provided to the Board Governance and Human Resources Committee at its last regular meeting of the 2022-23 winter term.

CARRIED.

8. Items for Information

8.1 Board Standing Committee Reports

C. Fraser referred Board members to the Report of the Executive Committee in the meeting materials and the motions approved on behalf of the Board in the interval since the Board last met. The motions are as follows:

Board Member Committee Appointment (November 2, 2022)

THAT the Board Executive Committee, on behalf of the Board of Governors, and on the recommendation of the Governance and Human Resources Committee, approve the appointment of Merle MacIsaac to the Governance and Human Resources Committee for a term to run from the date of Board approval to June 30, 2023.

Appointment of Acting President and Vice-Chancellor (November 13, 2022)

THAT the Board Executive Committee, on behalf of the Board of Governors, and on the recommendation of the Board Governance and Human Resources Committee, approve the appointment of Frank Harvey as Acting President and Vice-Chancellor effective January 1, 2023 for a period not to exceed one year.

THAT the Board Executive Committee, on behalf of the Board of Governors, and on the recommendation of the Board Governance and Human Resources Committee authorize Frank Harvey to sign on behalf of the University all documents covered under the Document Execution/Contract Signing Authority Policy while serving as Acting President and Vice-Chancellor.

9. *In Camera* Session

The Board moved to the *in camera* session.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.