

Item: Senate Minutes, January 1990

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DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY
MINUTES OF SENATE MEETING

SENATE met in regular session in the Senate and Board Room on Monday, 8 January 1990 at 4:00 p.m.

Present with Ms. P. Lane in the chair were the following:

Andrews, Barkow, Bastarache, Berard, Betts, Birdsall, J.M. Borwein, Boyle, Breckenridge, D.M. Cameron, T.S. Cameron, Carlson, Carruthers, R.F. Chandler, I.M. Christie, Clark, Clarke, Cromwell, deBurger, Duff, Dykstra, Easterbrook, Forgay, Furrow, Gratwick, Johnson, D.W. Jones, Kimmins, Klassen, Leffek, Lutley, Mangalam, Mason, McNiven, McKee, A.W. Murphy, Murray, J.D. Myers, M.J. Myers, O'Halloran, O'Shea, Overton, Pross, Ravindra, Retallack, Ritchie, Schroeder, Shannon, Sharma, Smith, Stairs, Sullivan, Tamlyn, Tindall, Vance, Varma, K.S. Wood, R.J. Wood, Young.

Invitees: B.D. Christie, M.D. MacDonald, J. Redden.

Regrets: Casey, A. Cohen, Corvin, E. Frick, Haley, Hawkins, Heffernan, J.V. Jones, Konok, M.H. Tan, Walker, Williams, Zakariasen.

90: 001 .

Minutes of Meetings of 30 November and 11 December 1989

Ms. Lane called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m. The minutes of the special meeting of 30 November 1989 were approved upon motion (A. Murphy/I. Christie). The minutes of the regular meeting of 11 December 1989 were approved upon motion (G. Klassen/T.J. Murray).

90:002.

Report of the President

Mr. Clark presented and commented briefly on his report (appended), noting that the word "proposing" in No. 1, paragraph 2, 1.2 should be "preparing".

Mr. Shannon said that the President's Report referred to the creation of a Status-of-Women Coordinator and to meetings with members of the provincial Black and Aboriginal People communities but did not suggest any attention to the needs

of persons with disabilities, and he asked if this matter was being addressed. Mr. Clark said that the measures outlined in his Report did not address directly the needs of persons with disabilities, but he recognized the need to do so in the near future.

90:003.

Question Period

Mr. J.M. Borwein asked how much money was being spent from the Killam Endowment for the support of University Research Fellows and, further, if such expenditures were consistent with the terms of the Killam bequest. Mr. Clark replied that he could not provide figures for the amount of money being spent from Killam funds to support University Research

Fellows. He explained that the funds were used to cover the differential between the salaries of the Fellows and the amounts received by Dalhousie from NSERC until such time as those persons received regular faculty appointments at Dalhousie.

Mr. Mangalam asked for information concerning the University's appointment of a representative to the L.B. Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute. Ms. Lane suggested that the question was a complex one and should be referred to the Steering Committee, where it could be considered more carefully.

Mr. Andrews noted that the Registrar no longer reports to the Vice-President (Academic) but to the Vice-President (Student Services). He pointed out the importance of the academic role of the Registrar and asked what consultation had been carried out with the Faculties prior to the change. Mr. Clark replied that no direct consultation had been carried out with the Faculties on this specific matter. He said that the change had been implemented to balance the work-loads of the Vice-Presidents and noted that a committee which had originally recommended the creation of a senior student services position had also recommended that the Registrar report to that person.

90:004.

Certificate for the Advanced Major Degree

Ms. Lane reported that the Committee on Academic Administration had recommended to Senate the adoption of a proposal from the College of Arts and Science to create an advanced major certificate for Dalhousie graduates who are admitted to and complete the requirements for an advanced major program (CAA 89:096).

It was moved (D. Betts/A. Murphy)

that this proposal be adopted by Senate.

Mr. Andrews asked if this proposal had not already been raised under "Other Business" and passed by Senate at its meeting of 10 November (Sen. Min. 89:155). The Secretary confirmed that this was so. Mr. Andrews expressed his objection that a matter of this importance should have been raised under "Other Business" in November. It was agreed that the motion of 10 November continued to enjoy the support of Senate.

90:005. Grade Distribution

Mr. Stairs reported that the Senate Committee on Academic Administration (SCAA 89:093) had passed a motion recommending to Senate

that beginning in the 1990-91 academic year, transcripts of all students' academic records will include, for each undergraduate class, the class enrolment and (for classes with fewer than ten students) the median grade for the class. A notation to the effect that the information "may not be valid for small classes" would be added also to the transcripts.

It was moved (D. Stairs/R. Ravindra) **that this proposal be adopted.**

Ms. Vance asked if the date on which this change comes into effect will be listed on transcripts. Ms. Redden said that this would be done. Mr. Cameron asked if the class enrolment would include all students in combined graduate/undergraduate classes, and Mr. Andrews asked how cross-listed classes would be handled. Mr. Stairs replied that class enrolments would be given for the appropriate course number and section. Questions were asked about multi-section classes in which grades were scaled across the total enrolment and classes composed of students specially selected from larger classes. Mr. Barkow asked that information on median grades and class enrolments be distributed to all instructors for a given course. Mr. Stairs replied that the Committee on Academic Administration had not considered all these items in detail.

Mr. J.M. Borwein asked that faculty members be permitted to request that enrolments and median grades not be recorded for their courses. Mr. Betts said that a detailed report, addressing many of the issues raised, had been prepared by the old Faculty of Arts and Science and could be consulted for guidance in the implementation of the resolution.

It was moved (R. Smith/D. Betts)

that the motion be amended to include a proviso that the Committee on Academic Administration be entrusted with considering the details of implementation, including those questions raised at the meeting. The amendment carried. The question called, the main motion carried.

90:006.

Report of FPC on Assumptions of Preliminary Budget

Mr. Cromwell drew the attention of members to the FPC Report on the 1990-91 Budget Assumptions and Preliminary Incremental Budget Requirements (appended), and indicated that this report would be discussed further at the meeting of 22 January. After Mr. Mason provided an overview of the 1990-91 budget assumptions, Mr. Cromwell guided members through the FPC report. He said that, given the uncertainty of provincial funding levels, the 1990-91 budget should be treated as a balanced budget. Mr. Cromwell noted that the committee offered a number of suggestions relating to investment income and identified the need for a mechanism to assess the relative priority to be given to proposed and existing expenditures. He wished all members of the University community a happy new year.

Ms. Lane reported that the Senate Academic Planning Committee had considered the Redistribution and Development Funds and, contrary to the assumptions of SFPC, would be recommending to Senate the retention of the Development Fund.

Mr. Leffek asked how the budget would allow the Faculty of Graduate Studies to continue to offer scholarships at current levels. Mr. Mason said that a report was forthcoming to show in more detail how this could be accomplished.

Mr. Andrews asked what enrolment assumptions had been made and if any discussions had been held about the impact of more students choosing four-year degrees. Mr. Stairs said that it was expected that first-year enrolment would remain constant and a modest growth in overall enrolment was expected; the Registrar had made some study of the impact of four-year degrees. It was not expected that "aggressive capping" of enrolments would be required. Mr. Andrews suggested that enrolments should be increased. Mr. Clark responded that it was likely that the new funding formula expected from the provincial government would not support major increases in enrolment. Mr. Andrews said that fees could be raised as soon as the current agreement with the Dalhousie Student Union, an agreement he regarded as ill-considered, expired. Mr. Shannon argued that the demographic profile of the student body and levels of student debt had been stabilized by the agreement and that, as part of the agreement, the DSU had provided valuable financial and public relations support to the capital campaign.

Mr. J.M. Borwein asked if it was necessary to spend \$100,000 for new administrators to deal with the issue of faculty relations. Mr. Clark said that a full report of the Financial Strategy Committee would be going to the Board in late January and would address this question. He added that this course of action was consistent with the recommendations of Dr. G. Gandz, who had served as a consultant on human relations in the previous year. Mr. Andrews said that he hoped the Board would consider alternative and perhaps less expensive approaches to administration-faculty relations.

Mr. Pross asked about the impact of the current budget on graduate scholarships. Mr. Mason said he expected the total amount available in 1990-91 would be about the same as in 1989-90 but may be less in 1991-92.

90:007.

President's Report on Complement Reductions

Mr. Clark presented a report on 1990-91 budget implications (appended) which addressed specifically his decision that a reduction to the faculty complement of 7-10 positions was required to balance the 1990-91 budget. He said that he would be seeking the advice of Senate on this matter. Ms. Lane said that the Senate Academic Planning Committee would be considering the President's recommendations and will be giving advice to the President and reporting back to Senate.

90:008.

Procedures for Committee Nominations

Mr. Pross reported that difficulties have arisen in getting nominations to Senate from the Committee on Committees. He referred members to proposals (previously circulated) that nominations go out one week before Senate meetings (with the agenda) rather than two and that c.v.s not be circulated but be available in the Senate Office. Mr. Cromwell urged caution in dealing with changing constitutional provisions of Senate. He said that sending out nominations one week before meetings was not a contentious question, but he urged that the Committee continue to circulate nominees' c.v.s. The open character of the process he believed was useful and appreciated. It was agreed that the proposals would be brought to a vote at a future meeting.

90: 009 .

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m. upon motion (R. Smith/T. Cromwell).

DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY
MINUTES
OF
SENATE MEETING

Senate met in regular session in the Senate and Board Room on Monday, 22 January 1990 at 4:00 p.m.

Present with Ms. P. Lane in the chair were the following:

Andrews, Angelopoulos, Barkow, Bastarache, Berard, Betts, Birdsall, Bissett-Johnson, Burns, D.M. Cameron, T.S. Cameron, Carlson, R.F. Chandler, I.M. Christie, Clark, Clarke, Corvin, Cromwell, Curri, deBurger, Dow, Duff, Dykstra, Fox, E. Frick, Gilroy, Greer, Haley, Hare, Hart, Harvey, D.W. Jones, Kwak, Leffek, Mason, McNeil, McKee, Mezei, Mills, Morgenstern, Moriarty, A.W. Murphy, Murray, J.D. Myers, O'Shea, Overton, Pross, Ravindra, Retallack, Ritchie, Schroeder, Shannon, Sharma, Silvert, Simpson, Smith, Stairs, Sullivan, Thompson, Tindall, Walker, Wallace, Wien, Young.

Invitees: B.D. Christie

Regrets: Breckenridge, Carruthers, A. Cohen, Egan, Goldbloom, J. Gray, J.V. Jones, Konok, MacIntosh, M.H. Tan, Wassersug, Williams, Writer, Zakariasen.

90 : 010 .

Minutes of Meeting of 8 January 1990

Ms. Lane called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m. The minutes of the regular meeting of 8 January 1990 were approved upon motion (A. Murphy/R. deBurger).

90: 011 .

Report of the President

Mr. Clark presented a brief oral report, noting that the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission had made recommendations for university funding for 1990-91. These included a 6.9% increase in unrestricted operating assistance, a 6.9% increase in restricted operating grants, and added grants for equalization and new programs. A general recommendation that Nova Scotia's universities receive an overall increase of 8.4% was expected, but there was no guarantee that the provincial government would accept such a recommendation. Dalhousie had projected new funding for a Ph.D. program in clinical psychology, a family medicine residency program, and additions to its programs in human communications disorders, physiotherapy, and occupational

therapy. The University had also proposed major capital spending on renovations to the Tupper Building.

Mr. Clark reported also that he had met, as part of the process of formulating a response to the MacKay Task Force on Minority Access at Dalhousie, with representatives of black and native students and planned to report his response next month.

The President also said that debate on the question of tuition fees was premature. The proposals of the Financial Strategies Committee are only general statements. He pointed out that fees at Dalhousie were now the lowest among Nova Scotia's universities. He urged Senators to read an article, written by Lise Bissonette for the Toronto Globe & Mail (13 January 1990), on accessibility to universities.

Mr. Shannon asked why debate over possible tuition increases should not be carried on, even if only on the basis of the report of the Financial Strategies Committee. Mr. Clark responded that informed debate should take place but outside the context of restrictive motions on tuition policy.

90:012.

Notice of Motion - Dalhousie Student Union

Mr. Shannon presented on behalf of the student union a motion concerning tuition policy at Dalhousie (previously circulated). He said that the aim of the motion was "to facilitate access to Dalhousie of all demographic levels" of Nova Scotian society. Ms. Lane thanked Mr. Shannon for his presentation and said that the motion would be brought up for debate at the next meeting.

90:013.

Procedures for Committee Nominations

Mr. Pross presented proposals (previously circulated) of the Committee on Committees to reform the Procedural Guidelines contained in Section III-F of the Constitutional Provisions Governing Operations of Senate (May 1989). The proposal had been discussed at the previous meeting of Senate (Sen.Min. 90:008). It was moved (P. Pross/A. Murphy)

that Guideline 8 be deleted and replaced with:

(a) The Committee's list of nominees shall be circulated to Senate with the notices of Senate meetings;

(b) Short biographical resumes of nominees shall be retained at the Senate Office for examination prior to the election by members of Senate.

(c) The Committee's list of nominees shall advise Senators that they may examine the biographical resumes of nominees at the

Senate Office.

(d) Members of Senate may make further nominations.

and that Guideline 9 be amended as follows:

Contested Elections:

(a) In the event that an election is contested, it will be deferred to the next regular meeting of Senate;

(b) At least one week prior to the election, the Senate Office will circulate to members copies of the biographical resumes of the nominees;

(c) Balloting shall be secret and preferential.

Mr. Andrews said that the proposals imply that there is less need for Senators to have information about candidates in uncontested elections than in contested ones. Mr. Cromwell spoke against the plan to discontinue the circulation of candidates' c.v.s to all Senators, although he agreed with proposals to reduce the period for the circulation of c.v.s prior to elections from two weeks to one. The question called, the motion carried.

90:014.

Nominations from Senate Committee on Committees

On behalf of the Senate Committee on Committees, Mr. Pross presented the following nominations:

President's Council

M. Stewart (Nursing) - 1992

Senate Committee on Instructional Development and TechnologY

J. Gerrow (Dentistry) - 1992

University Parking Committee

J. Walker (Physiotherapy)

Following the requisite three calls for further nominations, the Chair declared the above-named persons elected.

90:015.

Report of APC on Guidelines for Areas of Special Emphasis

Mr. Carlson presented the background to the decision of the Senate Academic Planning Committee to develop guidelines relating to the creation, development, review, and possible redefinition of Areas of Special Emphasis at Dalhousie. He pointed out that a revised draft of the Guidelines previously circulated was now available (appended). It was moved (R. Carlson/J. Barkow)

that Senate adopt the Guidelines on Areas of Special Emphasis recommended by Senate.

Mr. Betts asked how current Areas of Special Emphasis, such as Ocean Studies and Health Studies, would be able to "apply" or "report", given that they lack a formal structure; he also expressed surprise at the frequency with which Areas of Special Emphasis would be reviewed. Mr. Carlson replied that current Areas of Special Emphasis would be developing structures in order to improve coordination and development; he reported further that Areas of Special Emphasis would be reviewed every four years, but it would be possible for SAPC to recommend the abandonment of an Area of Special Emphasis after two years if it appeared that no activity was taking place in that area.

It was asked what sort of infrastructure and support would be provided Areas of Special Emphasis. Mr. Carlson said that this would differ with each proposal. Mr. Betts asked what structures existed for Ocean Studies. Mr. Clark replied that a Task Force on Ocean Studies had just been set up with Mr. Brian Christie as Chair. Mr. Christie outlined the terms of reference and proposed composition of the Task Force.

Mr. Andrews asked if Areas of Special Emphasis were not just Centres and Institutes by another name, merely an ad hoc response to changes in fashion at the funding agencies. He asked also if these Areas were to be concerned with teaching or only research activity. Mr. Carlson replied that Senate had decided in 1987 to designate Areas of Special Emphasis to promote cooperation and coordination of research and teaching activities in those areas where Dalhousie was particularly rich in talent and resources.

Mr. Kwak suggested that the Guidelines would not favour the best researchers but only the best organizers, and he asked if SAPC was interested only in applied research in Areas of Special Emphasis. Mr. Carlson replied that the Guidelines did not denigrate the importance and value of pure research activities.

Mr. Thompson asked why Areas of Special Emphasis would be reviewed every four years. Mr. Carlson replied that SAPC believed it could judge after four years if the designation of an Area of Special Emphasis had proven fruitful or if it was better for the University to recognize other areas of activity. Mr. Barkow indicated that the purpose of review might also be to ensure that those charged with promoting inter-unit participation and cooperation in an Area of Special Emphasis were so doing. The question called, the motion carried.

90:016.

President's Advisory Committee on University Mission Statement

Mr. Clark reported that he asked several people, including the Chair of Senate, to serve on a committee to advise him on actions which should be taken to implement the University Mission Statement. This committee would make annual reports. Mr. Andrews asked if any changes in the Mission Statement would be brought before Senate; Mr. Clark replied that they would.

90:017.

Membership Costs of AUCC

Ms. Lane reported that, in response to a question raised in Senate concerning the cost of Dalhousie's membership in the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada, President Clark had advised that the membership fee for 198990 was \$57,828, a figure based on a percentage of 1987-88 government grants and fees. Mr. Andrews thanked the President for providing the information.

90:018.

Motions of Physical Planning Committee

Mr. T.S. Cameron presented and explained briefly two motions (previously circulated) relating to physical accessibility at Dalhousie, which had been passed by the Senate Physical Planning Committee.

90: 019 .

Senate Forum

Ms. Lane reported that the first Senate Forum had been held on 12 January and that several hundred people had attended its sessions. She thanked President Clark, Mr. Brian Christie, and Ms. Marilyn MacDonald for their efforts on behalf of the Forum and expressed Senate's appreciation to Shoppers' Drug Mart and the provincial Department of Health and its Minister for their support of the Forum.

90:020.

Revised Entrance Requirements in the College of Pharmacy

Mr. Carlson reported that, in response to a request of the College of Pharmacy, Senate Academic Planning Committee had considered the plan of the College to raise the requirements for entry into Pharmacy to mandate a first-year of study, which would include some science courses and a writing class (appended). SAPC had expressed its support for the planned revision in entrance requirements.

Mr. Smith and Mr. Betts suggested that the plans of the College would pose some problems for the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and the Faculty of Science,

respectively. Ms. Ritchie asked if the College's proposal did not have serious financial and academic implications. Mr. Andrews said that a specific first-year program should have been spelled out in the motion of SAPC, but Mr. Carlson replied that SAPC merely reviewed the plans of the College of Pharmacy and recorded their satisfaction with the general shape of the proposal on entrance requirements.

Mr. Cromwell pointed out that the College of Pharmacy would not admit students to B.A. or B.Sc. programs; it would merely consider the transfer to Pharmacy of students who had already completed one year of university study. Mr. Barkow suggested that the proposal should be examined by SFPC and by other units affected by the proposed change. Ms. Curri pointed out the need to decide what would appear in the Calendar.

90:021.

Dates for Winter Term 1991

Mr. Berard reported that the Senate Committee on Academic Administration had considered at its December meeting a request that Winter Term 1991 begin on the first Monday after New Year's Day rather than on the first working day after 1 January. The idea found general support in the Committee, and the Registrar was asked to propose an alternative schedule based on that plan. Because the January meeting of SCAA had been cancelled, it had not been possible to discuss the Registrar's proposed schedule (appended) formally. Members of the Committee had been polled, however, on the question. It had met with the approval of the Deans and all eleven of the twelve elected members of SCAA who had replied.

Ms. Hart suggested that the new dates would pose some problem for Nursing, and Ms. Walker said that similar difficulties would be faced by Physiotherapy. Mr. McKee said that the changes would require some students to pay an additional week's rent.

90:022.

University Environment Committee

Ms. Lane asked the Secretary to report on the proposed University Environment Committee. Mr. Berard reported that the terms of reference for this committee had been discussed at the meeting of 11 December 1989 (Sen.Min.89:166), and Senate had recommended that membership on the committee should be expanded to include librarians and staff representatives. Revisions to the composition of the committee had been approved by the Steering Committee. It was moved (R. Berard/T. Cromwell)

that the revised terms of reference (appended) be approved.

Mr. Leffek objected that the graduate student representative on the committee should be selected from among all graduate students, not just a student in the School of Resource and Environmental Studies. Mr. Pross said that the words

"through the Chair of Senate" should be deleted from the first line of the section of the document on "Reporting". The mover and seconder of the motion agreed to accept both suggestions as friendly amendments.

Mr. Mason pointed out that the large number of employee representatives on the committee could lead to heavy costs in the payment of double-time for replacing workers attending meetings of the committee. He asked if consideration had been given to selecting one member of the University Environmental Health and Safety Committee (on which all union groups are represented). Ms. Lane replied that that option had not been considered and that the employee groups contacted all seemed eager to be represented on this committee. Mr. Mason said that he was not surprised that this was so. The question called, the motion carried.

90:023.

Tabling of Names - Honorary Degree Candidates (Spring 1990)
[IN CAMERA]

Mr. Clark reported that the Honorary Degrees Committee had met once in December and once in January to consider nominations for honorary degrees to be awarded at spring convocations. The Committee had discussed the general criteria for the awarding of honorary degrees but also wished to consider, in looking at each nominee, why the person should be honoured particularly by Dalhousie. Mr. Clark tabled the names of eleven persons whom the Honorary Degrees Committee has recommended to Senate. He pointed out that a ballot would be held at the next meeting of Senate and that biographical information would be available on that ballot.

90:024.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:03 p.m. upon motion (E. Angelopoulos/T. Cromwell).