

Item: Senate Minutes, June 1990
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DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY
MINUTES
OF
SENATE MEETING

Senate met in regular session on Monday, 26 June 1990 at 4:00 p.m. in the Senate and Board Room.

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

Bankier, Barkow, Bérard, Betts, Birdsall, Burns, Carlson, T.S. Cameron, Casey, R.F. Chandler, Corvin, Cromwell, Curri, Duff, E. Frick, M.W. Gray, Hart, Helleiner, Holloway, Klassen, Leffek, Lutley, MacLean, McNeil, McNiven, Mezei, M.J. Myers, O'Halloran, Parker, Pross, Retallack, Silvert, Simpson, Singh, Stairs, Sullivan, Young, Yung.

Invitees: B.D. Christie, P. Farmer.

Regrets: Belzer, Carruthers, Cochrane, Cohen, deBurger, Egan, Fry, Gilroy, J. Gray, Haley, Hawkins, Konok, Murray, Ritchie, Smillie, Walker, Wassersug, Writer, Zakariasen.

90:098.

Minutes of the Meeting of 28 May 1990

The minutes of the meeting of 28 May were approved upon motion (G. Klassen/J. Barkow).

90:099.

Correction to the Minutes of 16 May 1990

Mr. Bérard reported receipt of a letter (previously circulated) from J. Fingard, Assistant Dean of Graduate Studies, asking for a correction to the approved minutes of the meeting of 16 May 1990 to reflect her having moved, on behalf of the Faculty of Graduate Studies, and Senate having approved that the M.B.A. degree be awarded to Patrick Lawrence Brean, retroactive to May 1988, not to Angus Sumner Orford. It was moved (J. McNiven/R.F. Chandler)

that this change in the minutes be approved.

The motion carried without dissent.

90:100.

Report of the President

Mr. Clark presented his report (appended) and noted that, due to delays in the announcement of funding from the provincial government, the University's 1990-91 budget remains uncertain. It is expected that the budget can be completed in early to mid-July. Mr. Clark urged all Senators to read the report of the Financial Strategy Committee, which was accepted by the Board of Governors on 25 June 1990. He commented briefly on the matter of proposed increases in tuition fees, emphasizing that the Board of Governors had passed a general policy statement on tuition fees, not a set of specific fees. Specific recommendations would be sent to the Board in the fall. He added that fees at Dalhousie were now the lowest in Nova Scotia and much lower than those at Acadia University. Finally, he noted that twenty-five per cent of added revenues from fee increases would be directed toward student financial aid.

Mr. Clark recognized several members of the University community, including Mr. Donald Betts and Mr. Kenneth Leffek, stepping down as Dean of Science and Dean of Graduate Studies, respectively, Mr. Joe Johnson, retiring as Director of Environmental Health and Safety, Mr. Patrick Donahoe, leaving the position as Dean of Men, and Mr. Daniel O'Brien, leaving the position of Director of the Maritime School of Social Work to assume the presidency of St. Thomas University.

Mr. McNiven asked if large tuition increases had had any appreciable effect on that university's number of applications or acceptances of places offered. Mr. Clark replied that his understanding was that the tuition increases had no effect on these numbers.

90:101.

Question Period

Mr. Young said that some students in the Faculty of Health Professions had complained that the number of guests for each graduating student in that convocation had been limited to two. Mr. Clark said that most guests were accommodated in the Cohn Auditorium and that most comments received about this year's convocations were positive. Mr. Young asked why convocations had been moved later this year, and Mr. Clark replied that the dates for convocations had been adjusted to allow more time between the end of the examination period and convocations.

Mr. Clark presented his response, in a letter to the Chair of Senate (appended), to questions raised at the previous meeting (Sen. Mins. 90:092) about the Advisory Committee on a Campus Plan. He said that this committee would not itself be responsible for planning but for managing the process and ensuring widespread consultation.

90:102.

Motion from Senate Physical Planning Committee re Studley Field

Mr. Kimmins presented a brief report on the conclusions of the SPPC about future development of Studley Field (previously circulated). He noted the limitation of outdoor athletic facilities at Dalhousie, the deteriorating condition of the field, and the growing problem with providing adequate parking at the University. It was then moved, on behalf of the Senate Physical Planning Committee (W. Kimmins/J. McNiven)

that Senate recommend that the provision of an

all-weather playing surface on the Studley Field be among the highest priority projects for future development on campus, and that the University proceed to evaluate the possibility of building the playing surface on top of a one-floor parking area.

Mr. Singh asked if there were any plans to make part of the Studley Field area a natural surface playing field. Mr. Kimmins replied that he was not sure if sufficient space existed for two full playing surfaces. Mr. Singh asked further if any consultation had been done with physiotherapists about problems associated with all-weather surfaces, such as that at St. Mary's University. Mr. Kimmins replied that some consultation had been done, and it was planned to examine the installation of a sand-bed surface, which was thought to reduce the number and severity of injuries associated with all-weather surfaces.

Mr. Gratwick asked if there was a breakdown as to what percentage of the cost of the project would be devoted to parking, as opposed to the athletic facility. Mr. Kimmins said that the Director of Physical Plant and Planning had some sketchy figures, but he noted that the total cost would likely be close to ten million dollars.

Mr. Farmer asked if any consideration had been given to providing security in an indoor parking area. Mr. Kimmins said that the matter had not been raised by SPPC but that he would raise it with the Director of Physical Plant and Planning. Mr. McNiven asked if some of the parking would be metered. Mr. Kimmins said that the University would have to continue its present ratio of metered to permanent parking spaces.

Mr. Birdsall asked why priority was being given to this project at this time. Mr. Kimmins replied that no decision on the matter could be made final before the report on an overall campus plan. He noted further that the project could not be funded from operating revenues and would have to await special capital funding. Mr. Kimmins observed finally that the University had to make an effort to solve its parking problem both to improve relations with the surrounding community and to free up other developable space on campus.

The motion carried without dissent.

90:103.

Proposed Admissions Requirements for the College of Pharmacy

Mr. Carlson explained the background to the decision of the College of Pharmacy to propose changes in its admissions requirements to admit to a four-year programme only those applicants who had completed one year of a general university science programme. These changes had been discussed on two occasions by the Senate Academic Planning Committee, which had recommended approval of the proposed changes (SAPC 90:016/90:089). Mr. Carlson presented a slightly revised wording for the proposal (appended), which, he said, only clarified the meaning of that recommended by SAPC. It was moved (R. Carlson/G. Curri)

that Senate approve the proposed changes in admissions requirements for the College of Pharmacy.

Mr. Holloway asked how many students would be affected by the proposed changes. Mr. Chandler replied that the College admitted sixty-six students and expected that about half of those admitted would come from Dalhousie. Mr. Kwak asked when the admissions decisions would be made. Mr. Chandler replied that final admissions decisions would wait until the final marks of the year of general science were received.

The motion carried without dissent.

90:104.

Academic Plan

Mr. Barkow, on behalf of the Senate Academic Planning Committee, presented the Committee's academic plan, 1990 and Beyond (previously circulated). He observed that it was a compendium of different documents, which included summaries of the academic plans prepared by various academic and support units, the results of SAPC's evaluations of those plans, statements of the current status of previous recommendations, and an assessment of the general strengths and weaknesses of the University. He said that several of the report's recommendations would be forwarded to the appropriate committees of Senate for consideration, but added that several of its recommendations -- specifically, Nos. 7.1.8, 7.1.11, 7.1.12, 7.1.13, 7.1.16, 7.2.6, 7.3.1, and 7.3.6 -- required approval of the full Senate at this time.

Several members objected to the wording of recommendation 7.1.11. It was moved (J. Barkow/R. Carlson)

that the following wording be adopted for recommendation 7.1.11: The Executive Director of the Office of Institutional Affairs should ensure that the Guidelines for Areas of Special Emphasis (Appendix C) be put into effect by December 1990. His or her report should have been received by Senate by that date.

The motion carried.

It was then moved (J. Barkow/R. Carlson)

that Senate approve the following recommendations from 1990 and Beyond:

7.1.8 - The Faculty of Graduate Studies in consultation with the appropriate units and the Office of Instructional Development and Technology should report to Senate on ways to improve the professional development and support services for teaching assistants.

7.1.11 - The Executive Director of the Office of Institutional Affairs should ensure that the Guidelines for Areas of Special Emphasis (Appendix C) be put into effect by December 1990. His or her report should have been received by Senate by that date.

7.1.12 - The President should consult with the appropriate Faculties concerning the most effective ways to use the ERBA formula to encourage cost efficient enrollment expansion.

7.1.13 - The Registrar's Office and the Office of International Affairs should establish a data collection and analysis process to assess the actual and potential impact of new policies or actions directed at attracting and retaining able students.

7.1.16 - The President should report to SAPC and Senate, by December 1990, on the desirability and feasibility of potential cooperative efforts on program rationalization and delivery proposed for Dalhousie with other Nova Scotia institutions emanating from the Role and Capacity exercise, discussions with NSCHE and other institutions.

7.2.6 - That the Vice-President (Academic and Research) in consultation with the Deans and the academic planning committees of the relevant Faculties, develop recommendations to improve the level of research funding from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada and other agencies supporting research in the social sciences, humanities and languages. (Note this is repeated from 1987 and Beyond, 7.2.1 because it was not achieved.)

7.3.1. - The President should report to Senate, by September 30th of each year, on: (a) his use of ad hoc Presidential Committees and Task Forces that work outside the normal bounds of Senate; and (b) the extent to which bodies he has created duplicate or substantially overlap in function with existing Senate Committees and Subcommittees.

7.3.6. - The President should report to Senate by December 1990 on the current status of opportunities for faculty career development and incentives especially in regard to making changes called for in the Financial Strategy.

The motion carried without dissent.

90:105.

Other Business - Honorary Degree Nominations

Mr. Bérard reminded Senators that the Honorary Degrees Committee would meet on 29 June 1990 and that nominations for candidates for honorary degrees would continue to be received by the Senate Office until 27 June 1990.

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Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m. upon motion (T. Cromwell/P. Pross).

Secretary

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