

Item: Senate Minutes, July 1992
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DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

MINUTES

OF

SENATE MEETING

Senate met in regular session on Monday, July 13, 1992 at 3:00 p.m. in the Senate and Board Room.

Present with Mr. Dunn in the chair were:

A. Andrews, E. Angelopoulos, M. Banerjee, J. Bankier, J. Barkow, D. Betts, R. Boyd, S. Boyd, M. Bradfield, R. Carlson, G. Curri, J. Fingard, P. Girard, G. Klassen, L. Maloney (Secretary), B. Mason, E. McKee, H. Melanson, B. O'Shea, P. Pross, J. Ritchie, T. Ruggles, T. Sinclair-Faulkner, D. Stairs, C. Stuttard, J. Sutherland, S. Wood, J. Yogis.

Invitees: B. Christie

Regrets: H. Clark, D. Clarke, A. Cohen, J. Gilroy, J. Jones, P. Lane, R. Purdy, J. Ruedy, M. Tan, K. Zakariasen.

The meeting was called to order at 3:03 p.m.

92:088

Minutes of the Meeting of June 8, 1992

The minutes of the meeting of June 8, 1992 were approved upon motion (M. Bradfield/G. Klassen).

92:089

Minutes of the meeting of June 25, 1992

The minutes of the meeting of June 25, 1992 were approved with the following changes:

- it will be noted that Mr. Pross had asked about the Environmental Scan Committee Report and was informed that it was to be made available.
- add H. Eberhardt's name to the list of those present
- change the 5th line of the first paragraph in 92:086 to read:

Leslie "which the university will face in the coming years. H. Eberhardt and J. estimate..."

92:090

Notice of Motion of 10 August 1992 Senate Meeting - DSU

Mr. Maloney read the Notice of Motion submitted by the Student Union.

Ms. Banerjee indicated the Student Union's Course Evaluation Committee had circulated plans for the class evaluation project to all departments asking for advice. The Committee has also consulted with A. Wright.

Prior to the Senate meeting of 10 August 1992 an information package will be distributed to members of Senate.

Mr. Stairs expressed concern about the time frame and suggested it may be more appropriate to consider the matter at the September meeting of Senate when there was a greater likelihood of better attendance. Ms. Banerjee indicated she was first seeking Senate support in principle at the August meeting. It is the Student Union's hope to present the details of the Course Evaluation system at the September meeting of Senate.

Mr. Stuttard noted that in respect of Dalhousie tradition, the term "class" should be used rather than the term "course".

Members of Senate are encouraged to offer comments to the Student Union Course Evaluation Committee prior to the August meeting of Senate.

92:091

Nominations to Senate Committees

Ms. Angelopoulos presented the list of nominees as distributed with the agenda and indicated this slate of nominees will fill all vacant committee positions.

In response to a question from Mr. Bradfield, Ms. Angelopoulos indicated the members of the Search Committee for Vice-President (Academic & Research) were not identified according to academic unit because the terms of reference for this committee do not require representation by Faculty.

After the appropriate call for further nominations, Mr. Dunn declared the slate of nominees elected.

In response to a question from Mr. Andrews, Ms. Angelopoulos indicated that, according to the Terms of Reference, the Search Committee for Vice-President (Academic & Research) is not necessarily chaired by the President. He is, however, an ex-officio member of the Committee. Mr. Dunn agreed to check into this matter and report back to Senate.

92:092

Annual Reports to Senate - Senate Discipline Committee

It was moved and seconded (J. Yogis/M. Bradfield) that Senate accept the report of the Senate Discipline Committee.

Mr. Andrews referred to the two cases of alleged plagiarism and asked why the Committee had chosen to consider one and not the other. Mr. Yogis replied that in one incidence the student was no longer a member of the Dalhousie University community. Therefore, the Committee felt it had no jurisdiction in the matter.

Mr. Andrews reminded the meeting that the University has taken back a degree in light of confirmed academic offences after the student had left the University. However, Mr. Yogis noted that this case was dealt with by an ad hoc committee of Senate rather than the Senate Discipline Committee.

In the case of the allegation that was not dealt with by the Committee, Mr. Andrews inquired about the nature of the notation in the student file. Ms. Curri indicated a notation could not be placed on the student's transcript but the issue is flagged in the computer system for activation upon enquiry by the student or application for re-admission. Mr. Bradfield noted that even though the student may have withdrawn from the University at the time of the alleged offence, he/she was a member of the Dalhousie University community and, therefore, should be subject

to the judgement of the Committee. Ms. Curri suggested that in such cases, perhaps approval of the request to withdraw should be denied until the matter has been dealt with by the Committee.

In response to a question from Mr. Andrews, Ms. Curri confirmed that a student who had such a notation on file would not be re-admitted (or provided services by the University) until the discipline matter was resolved.

The question having been called, the motion was carried.

92:093

Annual Reports to Senate - 1991-92 Annual Report of SACID

It was moved and seconded (J. Barkow/G. Klassen) that the 1991-92 Annual Report of SACID be accepted by Senate.

Mr. Andrews referred to the statement on page 2 of the report that noted "...Dalhousie's growing involvement with Eastern Europe,..." and asked about the process leading to this development. Mr. Barkow (past chair of the Committee) replied that this was not something determined by formal discussion within the Committee. There was a perceived need to provide some monitoring and advice to the President, however, there was no consensus within the Committee as to whether SACID should or should not be assigned this responsibility.

Mr. Andrews asked whether SACID had reviewed the consequences of the Federal Government's decision to terminate the International Centre for Oceans Development. Mr. Barkow indicated there had been limited informal discussion. He indicated that this was a legitimate request and suggested

the Chair of Senate should refer the matter to an appropriate committee for consideration.

Mr. Stairs noted that Dalhousie has been concerned with this matter because of the funding implications for a graduate program. There have been discussions with CIDA since the closing of ICOD and Dalhousie University has received assurance of funding as previously agreed. However, no funds have been received to date.

The question having been called, the motion was carried.

92:094

Annual Reports to Senate - Senate Library Committee

The Chair of the Senate Library Committee was not able to be in attendance, therefore, with the consent of Senate, Mr. Dunn deferred this item to the next meeting of Senate.

92:095

Termination of the Cardiovascular & Thoracic Surgery Program

Mr. Klassen introduced this item by indicating that the Faculty of Medicine had recommended the termination of the Cardiovascular & Thoracic Surgery Program to SAPC because of low enrolment and declining demand. In turn, the recommendation was approved by that Committee.

Mr. Stuttard noted that the authority for approval and termination of academic programs rests with Senate.

It was moved and seconded (G. Klassen/R. Carlson) that, in light of the recommendation from the Faculty of Medicine and the recommendation of SAPC, Senate approve the termination of the Cardiovascular & Thoracic Surgery Program.

Ms. Gray indicated that no students remain registered in the program.

The question having been called, the motion was carried.

92:096

Response to Question Raised at 8 June 1992 Meeting re: Capital Funding

Attention was drawn to the response prepared by Mr. Mason (distributed with the agenda). There were no further questions.

92:097

Capital Campaign

Mr. Dunn introduced this item and drew attention to the "Form for Identification of Critical Issues" distributed at the meeting. Members were encouraged to complete the form and send to Mr. Dunn.

In response to a question by Mr. Bradfield, Mr. Stairs confirmed that the term "capital campaign" was still being used.

Mr. Sinclair-Faulkner indicated that he assumed that the purpose of identifying critical issues was to be able to present an informal request to potential donors. As such he suggested our current and recent planning process should provide a significant amount of information. Mr. Stairs agreed that there is evidence on file that would be instructive, however, the current request was to ensure consultation with the academic community. He indicated such information would be combined with an assessment of what we think donors will support.

Mr. Sinclair-Faulkner expressed concern that the information being requested might unduly influence the planning process in which Dalhousie has been engaged for the past several years.

Mr. Sinclair-Faulkner asked if the Chair of the Financial Planning Committee intended to prepare a report on the priorities supported by the current planning process. Mr. Carlson indicated a long-term report on FPC views will be tabled in the next year. He indicated a similar report would be developed by the Academic Planning Committee and the Physical Planning Committee.

Mr. Pross asked if the document "1990 and Beyond" and other such documents had been reviewed in preparation for the Capital Campaign. Mr. Stairs indicated that the President's Office had conducted general discussions, but the consultative process is in the early stages. Mr. Dunn suggested that the five task forces would assume such activity as part of their responsibilities. Mr. Pross suggested this might be undertaken by Mr. B. Christie's office.

Ms. Curri expressed concern that issues other than those identified by Senate committees might be forgotten. She noted scholarships as one example. Mr. Stairs responded by noting it is very early in the consultative process and there is no intent at this time to produce a detailed wish list.

Mr. Bradfield reminded Senate that at its June 25, 1992 meeting, Ms. Barbara Snelling indicated that each task force would include a faculty member. However, he expressed concern that these representatives are not elected and, therefore, not accountable to Senate. Furthermore, he suggested the apparent lack of Senate involvement resulted in no process for debate. Mr. Bradfield suggested Senate should receive regular reports from each of its representatives on task forces.

Mr. Stairs indicated that the work of the task forces would be confined to a very short-time

frame. He indicated that membership is being determined in preparation for a general meeting of the campaign committee on September 3, 1992. Following that two or three meetings are anticipated to determine critical issues, the task forces will likely disband prior to Senate's September meeting.

It was moved and seconded (M. Bradfield/C. Stuttard)

that at each meeting of Senate, the Senate members on Task Forces report on the progress of Task Forces.

The motion was carried.

In response to a question by Mr. Pross, Mr. Stairs indicated that Task Forces were being established but the membership of some Task Forces was incomplete. Mr. Dunn added that, as Chair of Senate, he was asked for advice on membership of Task Forces. He reminded Senate that these were Board of Governors committees and task forces. Mr. Carlson indicated he has also been asked for advice on membership on the Task Force on Finance.

Mr. Pross expressed concern that Senate does not have an institutionalized role in this process. Rather, appointments to task forces are based on the preference of persons organizing the campaign which is not in keeping with our traditional democratic processes. Mr. Dunn noted that the Capital Campaign is on the agenda for the July 14, 1992 meeting of the Senate Steering Committee.

Mr. Andrews noted his support for the process identified by Mr. Pross. He also noted that the identification of critical issues such as scholarships may well imply or result in increased tuition fees. As such he expressed disagreement with a process that resulted in concealed recommendations on the fee structure.

Ms. Fingard noted that with respect to Dalhousie University's ability to attract competent students, scholarships are critical.

Mr. Bradfield asked if any decision has been taken with regard to the cost of the campaign - are the incremental costs of the campaign charged against campaign revenue or against Dalhousie University's operating budget? Mr. Mason indicated the cost of the campaign will be charged against campaign revenue. However, this does not include the cost of current staff.

Mr. Bradfield asked whether the increase in administrative positions in the Development Office were justified as preparation for the campaign. Mr. Mason indicated that staffing for the

campaign had not yet begun.

In reply to a question from Mr. Andrews, Mr. Mason indicated that the current complement of staff in the Development Office would be as it currently exists regardless of whether Dalhousie University was engaged in a campaign or not. Ms. Ritchie noted that the need for a better staff infrastructure in the Development Office was identified by the Financial Strategy Committee. She also noted that it was understood that specific campaigns would demand further staff, the costs of such staff to be charged against campaign revenues.

Ms. Ritchie emphasized the need to have Senate more involved in this campaign to prevent the serious frustration felt by faculty during the last campaign.

92:098

1992-93 Dalhousie University Recommended Budget

Mr. Carlson referred to a single page distributed with the agenda and indicated that the process leading up to the development of these figures begins in November of each year. The Board of Governors has now approved this recommended budget.

Mr. Carlson pointed out that there were minor changes from earlier versions and these related to reduced interest, water/taxes/insurance, elimination of a few administrative costs, enrolment related adjustments for Faculty, and revision of tuition fees and scholarships.

Mr. Carlson noted that FPC found nothing of concern in 1992-93 recommended budget.

Mr. Carlson indicated that the major changes compared to 1991-92 were based on the Financial Strategy Report, a 1% cut for all departments, step increases in the salary lines, and career development. He also noted that 1992-93 is the last year of wage freeze according to current legislation.

Mr. Bradfield asked why there was a 33% drop in interest as an operating expense without a similar change in investment revenue. Mr. Mason indicated the revenue item was reduced according to the policy to retain some investment income to offset inflation. Furthermore, he noted the reduction in expenses was due to the drop in rates and a reduction in Dalhousie University's debts (therefore, less borrowing).

Mr. Bradfield asked whether the budget item on ancillaries included debts related to mortgage and unfunded capital costs. Mr. Mason indicated that those ancillary programs with facilities are expected to include payments toward those debts under their costs.

92:099

Statement on Discriminatory Harassment

Mr. McKee reported that since the May meeting of Senate the Drafting Committee has carried out further consultation with the University community and received numerous responses and helpful suggestions.

The Committee has since met and determined a strategy. It is expected that the revised document will be tabled at the September meeting of Senate.

92:100

Report of the President

There was no report from the President for this meeting.

92:101

Question Period

Mr. Andrews asked whether any action had been taken with regard to the motion passed by Senate at its June 8th meeting which expressed disagreement with the proposed amalgamation of SSHRC and the Canada Council. He indicated that it had been reported to him that a more rapid response from the academic community would have served to help prevent the proposed amalgamation. He informed Senate that significant negative response was currently being generated across the country.

Mr. Dunn said he would investigate the matter and ensure appropriate communications were sent to government officials, AUCC and SSHRC.

Mr. Bradfield asked for information about Dalhousie's purchase of a house at 1491 Seymour Street. He asked that someone confirm the purchase and also provide information on renovations being carried out on the house. Mr. Mason agreed to report to Senate at the next

meeting.

92:102

Other Business

There were no items of other business.

92:103

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m. upon motion (J. Ritchie/G. Klassen).

Secretary

Chair