

Item: Senate Minutes, February 1993

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DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

MINUTES

OF

SENATE MEETING

Senate met in regular session on February 8, 1993 at 4:00 p.m. in the University Hall, Macdonald Building.

Present with Mr. Dunn in the chair were: M. Banerjee, J. Bankier, B. Bednarski, M. Bradfield, N.B. Brett, M. Brooks, R.W. Carlson, D.B. Clarke, M. Crowley, G. Curri, J. Fingard, G. Fitzgerald, I. Fooladi, S. Fullerton, J. Gilroy, P.V. Girard, L. Haley, B. Harsanyi, C. Kozey, K. MacDonald, W.A. MacInnis, L. Makrides, T.L. Maloney, L. McIntyre, E.A. McKee, D. Moore, F. Myrick, D. Myers, B.J. O'Shea, J.R.E. Parker, A.P. Pross, R. Ravindra, J.A. Ritchie, T. Ruggles, T. Sinclair-Faulkner, R.J. Smith, J.D. Stolzman, K. Sullivan, J.E. Sutherland, F.C. Wien.

Invitees: B. Crocker

Regrets: I.D. Cameron, S.G. Carruthers, H.C. Clark, J. Clovis, A.D. Cohen, D.W. Jones, P.A. Lane, D.R. MacLean, B. Mason, G.S. Roberts, D.W. Stairs,

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m.

93:032

Minutes of the Meeting of January 25, 1993

The minutes of the meeting of January 25, 1993 were approved upon motion (R. Smith/K. Sullivan).

93:033

Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Meeting of January 25, 1993

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the meeting of January 25, 1993.

93:034

Conferral of Degrees - All Faculties

Mr. Dunn asked a representative from each Faculty to present their candidates for degrees, diplomas

Senate Meeting
February 8, 1993

and certificates.

College of Arts and Science

Mr. Smith proposed that degrees, diplomas and certificates be awarded as follows:

Bachelor of Arts	37
(First Class Honors 1, Adv. Major 2)	
Bachelor of Arts Advanced Major Certificate	2
Bachelor of Arts Honours Certificate	1
(Honours 1)	
Bachelor of Education	6
Bachelor of Science	35
(Honours 2, First Class Honours 1, Adv. Major 6)	
Bachelor of Science Honours Certificate	2
(Honours 2)	
Diploma in Engineering.....	3
TOTAL.....	86

Faculty of Graduate Studies

Ms. Fingard proposed that degrees and diplomas be awarded as follows:

Doctor of Philosophy.....	18
Master of Arts	9
Master of Science	11
Master of Business Administration	4
Master of Environmental Studies	1
Master of Laws.....	1
Master of Library and Information Studies.....	1
Master of Public Administration.....	3
Diploma in Public Administration.....	1
Master of Developmental Economics	2
Master of Nursing	4
TOTAL.....	55

Faculty of Management

Senate Meeting
February 8, 1993

Mr. Parker proposed that degrees and certificates be awarded as follows:

Bachelor of Commerce	14
TOTAL.....	14

Faculty of Law

Mr. Girard proposed that degrees be awarded as follows:

Bachelor of Laws.....	9
TOTAL.....	9

Faculty of Health Professions

Ms McIntyre proposed that degrees and diplomas be awarded as follows:

Bachelor of Recreation	2
Bachelor of Physical Education	1
Bachelor of Physical Education/Bachelor of Education.....	6
Diploma in Outpost and Community Health Nursing.....	4
TOTAL.....	13

It was moved and seconded (R. Smith/L. McIntyre)

that the candidates proposed and identified in correspondence to the Secretary of Senate should be awarded their respective degrees, diplomas and certificates by Senate.

The motion carried without dissent.

It was moved and seconded (D. Myers/M. Bradfield)

that the Provost of the College of Arts and Science or the Dean of the

Senate Meeting
February 8, 1993

4

appropriate Faculty and the Registrar, in consultation with the Chair of Senate, be authorized to add to and remove from the graduation list the names of any students who have been omitted from or included in the graduation list due to demonstrable errors on the part of the University or one of its servants, and that any such additions or deletions be reported to Senate.

The motion was carried without dissent.

Upon the suggestion of Mr. Smith, it was agreed that, in the future, the wording in this motion be changed so as to delete the word "servants" and replace it with the word "officers."

93:035

Proposal for a Certificate Program in Addictions for First Nations Counsellors

On behalf of the Senate Academic Planning Committee it was moved and seconded (M. Stone/D. Myers)

that Senate approve the proposal for a Certificate Program in Addictions for First Nations Counsellors.

Mr. Carlson reported that the Senate Financial Planning Committee had reviewed the program proposal. In view of the fact that identified costs of the program were being covered by external funding, the SFPC had no objections.

Mr. Wien indicated that the program responded to a particular need in the 1st Nations community. Many adults in this community never had the opportunity for formal education but were now in positions of leadership and responsibility and faced with dealing with significant problems. The program was designed to provide fundamental training to these individuals. He noted that the program was structured so as to require one week of intense study followed by a three week period of work in the individual's job. This was done in recognition of past experience which indicated that study for extended periods of time for members of the 1st Nations community was impractical. He indicated that the program was a two-year program comprised of credit and non-credit course work. Professors for the credit courses would be appointed through departments following normal University procedures.

In response to a question from Mr. Bradfield, Mr. Wien indicated that St. Thomas University had terminated its program in this area because it was designed to meet a particular problem in New

Senate Meeting
February 8, 1993

5

Brunswick and that need had been met.

Mr. Myers spoke in favour of the proposal and its objective of meeting a specific need of this community. He suggested there will likely be an increase in such programs with a continued emphasis on quality but with a variety of new delivery formats.

In response to a question from Ms. Curri, Mr. Wien confirmed that all credit courses were approved by Schools and the Faculty of Health Professions.

The motion was carried.

93:036

Review of Ombud's Office

Mr. Maloney reminded the meeting that this matter had been referred to the Senate Committee on Academic Administration by Senate at its August 10, 1992 meeting. At this meeting, the members of Senate were left with the impression that the Ombud's Office reported no activity in the previous year and its value and need were questioned. Unfortunately, Mr. McKee was not able to be present at that meeting of Senate and the motion to have a review of the Ombud's Office was passed and referred to SCAA.

The SCAA discussed the matter and reviewed the recent report of the Ombud's Office for the 1991/92 year. That report and a verbal report from Mr. McKee confirmed that the activity of the Ombud's Office had increased approximately 70% from the previous year and a similar trend was being experienced this year.

Based on SCAA's review of the matter, it was recommending to Senate that a review of the Ombud's Office was not needed at this time.

It was moved and seconded (G. Curri/L. McIntyre)

that Senate rescind the motion of August 10, 1992 (minute # 92:107) that called for a review of the Ombud's Office.

Senate Meeting
February 8, 1993

6

The motion was carried.

93:037

Residence Study

Ms. Curri provided a brief summary of the activity that resulted in the final report. She indicated that the report had been considered by the SCAA. In particular she mentioned the emphasis placed on the need to find suitable replacements for the 150 residence places currently found in numerous houses owned by Dalhousie.

It was moved and seconded (G. Curri/E. McKee)

that Senate receive the Residence Study Report and endorse its recommendations.

The motion was carried.

93:038

Student Union Course Evaluation Committee

Ms. Banerjee indicated that 222 courses had been evaluated. She suggested the results will be compiled and ready for distribution in late spring.

Ms. Banerjee distributed a copy of an article from the FRANK Magazine. She also read a letter written to the Student Union by a Dalhousie professor that argued against the Student Union's course evaluation system. The professor had sent a copy of that letter to FRANK Magazine. Of particular concern was a statement by the professor that suggested if students did not like what they were getting, they could go elsewhere.

Ms. Bankier referred to the fact that it had been agreed that the Student Union course evaluation results were not to be used for tenure and promotion consideration. She also suggested it was inappropriate to be using FRANK Magazine for such purposes. Furthermore, she suggested the use of the results of these evaluations for course selection purposes was legitimate. Finally, she suggested the University has more responsibility to students than to suggest they go somewhere else if they do not like what they are getting. Ms. Curri supported this latter point noting that such an attitude was inconsistent with the University's dedication to excellence.

Mr. Bradfield suggested that if professors wish to publicly object to the course evaluation system they

should do so by writing to the University's student newspaper.

Ms. Banerjee indicated she would provide Senate with a further report on the course evaluation system later in the term.

93:039

University Environment Committee - Change in Structure

Mr. Maloney reported that the co-chairs (E. Angelopoulos and L. Makrides) of the University Environment Committee had expressed concern that the current structure of the Committee renders it ineffective and inefficient. This is mainly due to its size and the existence of a number of standing sub-committees. The co-chairs submitted a proposal for change to the Steering Committee that would establish a small working group to create short and long-term goals for the Committee and propose a more workable structure. The proposed change would also see the current standing committees replaced by ad hoc committees on an as-needed basis.

On behalf of the Senate Steering Committee, Mr. Maloney reported that the suggestions for change from the co-chairs were accepted and the University Environment Committee is actively pursuing the new direction.

93:040

Proposed Ad Hoc Disciplinary Committee

Mr. Dunn introduced this item by indicating he had been apprised by Mr. McKee of a series of inappropriate behaviours by a student. He indicated that many and varied attempts had been taken to resolve the issue. Those not being successful, the matter was directed to the Senate Steering Committee. This Committee concluded, after lengthy and thorough discussion, that out of respect for the welfare of students at Dalhousie University, the only option was to establish an ad hoc disciplinary committee to deal with this specific case.

It was moved and seconded (L. Maloney/E. McKee)

"BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate establish an Ad Hoc Committee of three persons (including at least one student) appointed by the Chair of Senate in consultation with the Steering Committee to review the behaviour of the student about whom the Chair of Senate

had received a complaint. The Ad Hoc Committee shall, in addition to reviewing the behaviour of the student, be authorized to determine whether the student should be allowed to continue to attend classes in the Faculty or the University and/or otherwise enjoy the rights and privileges of a student of the University. The Committee also shall be authorized to determine whether any conditions and, if so, what conditions should be attached to the student's continued attendance at classes and/or enjoyment of student rights and privileges.

"In addition to the above, the Ad Hoc Committee shall have general disciplinary authority in this case. It shall report to Senate upon the conclusion of its deliberations in the same way as the Senate Discipline Committee."

Mr. McKee noted that there have been a series of altercations between the student and many other individuals that have been reported to and documented by Security. He indicated there have been many attempts made to resolve the problem without success. He recognizes that the proposed solution must ensure due process and natural justice.

In response to a question from Mr. Bradfield, Mr. Dunn felt the ad hoc committee could act quickly enough to ensure the safety of other students.

Mr. Crocker confirmed that there is precedence for this type of approach. He indicated that while the Senate Discipline Committee has jurisdiction over breaches of academic regulations, the Senate, by way of the University Statutes, is recognized as having responsibility for other matters of student discipline.

Mr. Wien asked if, in this instance, there are standards of behaviour against which this student's behaviour can be judged as is the case of matters within the jurisdiction of the Senate Discipline Committee. Mr. Crocker indicated that the calendar does contain a general statement about appropriate student behaviour.

The motion was carried.

93:041

Report of the President

There was no report from the President.

93:042

Question Period

Ms. Banerjee asked if Senate was going to be given the opportunity to discuss the proposals regarding the transfer of credit policy proposed by the Nova Scotia Council on Higher Education. Mr. Dunn indicated he had written to the Deans of Faculties for their comments. In the near future the policy will go before the Senate Academic Planning Committee for consideration after which it will be placed on the agenda of a Senate meeting.

Mr. Bradfield asked about the progress of the Review Committee for the Dean of the Faculty of Management. Mr. Parker said he understood it had reported to the President with a recommendation. Mr. Dunn indicated he would alert the President to the question for response at a future meeting of Senate.

93:043

IN CAMERA - Report of the Honorary Degrees Committee - Voting and Tabling of the Names of Additional Nominees

Mr. Maloney reported that since the January 25, 1993 meeting of Senate, the Honorary Degrees Committee had voted to reduce the original list of ten nominees to a list of nine names.

On behalf of the Honorary Degrees Committee it was moved and seconded (L. Maloney/L. Makrides)

that Senate approve the slate of nine nominees for honorary degrees.

The motion was carried.

On behalf of the Honorary Degrees Committee, Mr. Maloney reported that it had considered two nominees for an honorary degree to be awarded at the convocation of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College. He read the two names and indicated short biographies would be available in the offices of the Dean of Medicine and the Dean of Law and in the Office of Senate for consideration by members of Senate. He indicated that the normal process would be followed - voting on the two nominees would take place in two weeks time. Approval of the candidates requires a two-thirds majority of those present and voting.

93:044

Senate Meeting
February 8, 1993

10

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned upon motion (R. Smith) at 5:00 p.m.

Secretary

Chair