

Item: Senate Minutes, November 1993

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DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

MINUTES

OF

SENATE MEETING

Senate met in regular session on Monday, 22 November 1993 at 4:00 p.m. in University Hall, Macdonald Building.

Present with Mr. Dunn in the chair were:

Andrews, Angelopoulos, Archer, B.P. Archibald, Bankier, R. Bérard, Binkley, Birdsall, J. Black, Bradfield, Breckenridge, Brett, Carlson, Clark, Clarke, Clovis, Coté, Craig, J.E. Crowley, Dykstra, Eberhardt, Fingard, Friedrich, Fullerton, Gilroy, Hansell, Harsanyi, Hobson, Holloway, Kaspar, Kemp, Klassen, Kozey, Kussmaul, Lewis, Lutley, MacInnis, MacLeod, Mann, Mason, Maxner, McIntyre, McKee, McPhee, Myers, Myrick, O'Shea, Owen, Rappell, Ravindra, Richards, Ritchie, Rutherford, Schroeder, A.M. Simpson, Sinclair, Sketris, K. Smith, Sorge, Starnes, Stoltzman, M. Stone, Stuttard, Sullivan, Sutow, Walker, Waterson.

Invitees: G. Bérard, J. Eastman, E. Flinn, M. MacDonald.

Regrets: Bhalla, Carruthers, M. Crowley, Cummings, G. Fitzgerald, Ghiz, Haley, Hare, J.V. Jones, T. Laidlaw, Moss, Roald, Schlech, J.E. Sutherland, Wassersug.

The meeting was called to order at 4:03 p.m.

93:154

Nominations from the Senate Committee on Committees

On behalf of the Committee on Committees, Mr Bérard tabled the following names for election to committees.

Senate Committee on Academic Administration

D. Tindall (Science)

Senate Financial Planning Committee

P. Pross (Management)

University Environment Committee

D. Farrell (FASS)

Senate Committee on Instructional Development

Y. Sankar (Management)

Senate Representative to the Advisory Council on Athletics

K. Dunn (Science)

Student Relations and Residence Committee of the Board

K. Dunn (Science)

After the requisite calls for further nominations, Mr Dunn declared the nominees elected by acclamation.

93:155

Dentistry Graduate

It was moved (W. MacInnis/E. Sutow)

**that Senate approve the awarding of the D.D.S. degree
to Mr Thomas Lerikos.**

The motion carried.

93:156

Change in Name for the Department of Russian and the B.A. degree in Russian

Mr Bérard reported that the Senate Committee on Academic Administration, acting on a request from the College of Arts and Science, had approved, at its meeting of 20 October 1993 (SCAA 93:045), changing the name of the Department of Russian to the Department of Russian Studies and changing the designation of the B.A. degree in Russian to a B.A. degree in Russian Studies. This was done in order to reflect better the nature of the programmes offered in the Department. It was moved on behalf of SCAA (R. Bérard/M. Binkley)

that Senate approve changing the name of the Department of Russian to the Department of Russian Studies; and

that Senate approve changing the designation of the B.A. degree in Russian to a B.A. degree in Russian Studies.

The motion carried.

93:157

Course Evaluation Report - Dalhousie Student Union

Mr Rappell reported that there were a number of problems that attended the efforts of the Dalhousie Student Union in the past academic year to carry out its programme of course evaluation. While many of these problems were the result of "growing pains" associated with any new initiative, the DSU accepted responsibility for them and would seek to rectify them. The most serious difficulty was the failure to provide an adequate opportunity, as promised in the instructions and editorial policy of the DSU Course Evaluation Handbook, for professors to respond to the evaluation exercise. A new procedural manual was being developed for this year, and professors will receive letters inviting their responses soon after the evaluations are completed.

Mr McPhee said that if any professor wished to respond to the 1992-93 evaluations, she or he should submit a commentary in writing and that the material would be published in the Dalhousie Gazette.

93:158

Alumni Affairs Update

Ms E. Flinn, Director of the Office of Alumni Affairs, made a brief presentation on the work and organizational structure of the Office. She described the scholarships and awards given through the Office, its regional and campus chapters, and the publications and public relations activities by which Dalhousie keeps in touch with its alumni and alumnae.

93:159

Reports from SAPC and SFPC to Senate re the Third Report of the Budget Advisory Committee

Mr Dunn reported that Senate, at a previous meeting (**SM 93:150**) had referred the Third Report of the Budget Advisory Committee (BAC) and the President's response to it to the Senate Academic Planning Committee and the Senate Financial Planning Committee for review. He said that SAPC had been meeting once or twice a week since that time to discuss the matter and had met with several Deans and representatives of the Dalhousie Art Gallery and the Dalhousie Review. While discussions were continuing, a motion had been passed at the last meeting of SAPC on 17 November (**APC 93:106**). Notice of this motion (appended) was being given at this meeting, and discussion of the motion would be placed on the Agenda for the meeting of 13 December 1993.

Mr Carlson reported that SFPC had spend most of its time in recent meetings on this matter and hoped to have a final report ready for the meeting on 13 December. Mr Bradfield asked if there was some coordination between the work of SAPC and SFPC on this issue. Messrs Dunn and Carlson said that each Committee was aware of the work of the other but that SAPC was currently dealing with the broader question of Senate's response to the Report, while SFPC was looking at a number of specific issues raised by the Report and the subsequent discussion of it.

Mr Lewis asked if the motion would state more clearly how priorities are to be set. Mr Dunn said that SAPC hoped to elaborate further on this question at the meeting of 13 December. Mr Brett asked how SAPC interpreted the words "a framework for budgetary planning". Mr Dunn said that more detailed discussion was needed within the Committee on this question. Mr Sinclair asked if the phrase "programme activities" included non-academic programme activities. Mr Dunn said that it was his understanding that the definition was a broad one. Mr Crowley asked when the Senate review of financial targets would begin. Mr Dunn said that targets for the 1994-95 budget year would be reviewed.

93:160

Report of the President

Mr Clark highlighted a number of items in his written report to Senate (appended). He noted also that, further to remarks on copyright policy at an earlier meeting, he had heard a report of three faculty members at the University of Ottawa who had been charged by police with violation of the law concerning copyrights. In response to a question from Mr Brett, Mr Clark said that the professors involved had sought to have course materials, which were under copyright and for which permissions had not been received, copied at an off-campus printer. Both the printer and the professors had been charged. Mr Clark said that he hoped that Mr Crocker, the University Legal Counsel, would be able to speak soon at Senate about this issue.

Mr Clarke asked about the review of graduate studies in Nova Scotia, being undertaken by former Acadia University president J. Perkin for the Nova Scotia Council on Higher Education. He said that

he was surprised that Mr Perkin would be using the Winegard Report as a starting point for his study. Mr Clark said that since the time of the Role and Planned Capacity exercise graduate studies has been identified by the Council as an area requiring study. Dalhousie has expressed some reservations about the study being undertaken. Ms Fingard said that the study may be a make-work project, but she has had discussions with Ms J. Halliwell, Chair of the NSCHE. Mr Dunn asked if there had been further inter-institutional discussions with the Technical University of Nova Scotia and the Nova Scotia Agricultural College on the Winegard Report. Mr Clark said that some discussion had taken place, but that further discussion was being delayed as a result of the appointment of a new president and new Board chair at TUNS.

Mr Bérard asked about the proposed collaborative programme in Nursing being discussed between the Dalhousie School of Nursing and officials of the Camp Hill Medical Centre and the Victoria General Hospital. The President's Report suggested that, when a satisfactory contractual agreement had been negotiated, a recommendation would be brought to the Board. Mr Bérard said that it seemed unlikely that the proposal described in the President's Report would be devoid of academic implications which should be considered by Senate. Ms Black, Director of the School of Nursing, said that the proposal would require certain curricular changes that would be brought through the normal Senate channels. Mr Stuttard said that the proposal would have implications for those departments that offered service courses to the School of Nursing and asked if those units had been consulted and if they might expect additional resources when the intake into the B.Sc. (Nursing) programme expands from 66 to 150 students per year. Ms Black said that discussions were continuing with those departments which offered service courses. Ms Angelopoulos asked if there was sufficient demand for nurses to justify increasing the size of the B.Sc. (Nursing) programme by more than double. Ms Black said that there was a demand for the kind of nursing practitioner graduated by the School of Nursing. Ms McIntyre said that the proposed collaborative programme would, in fact, reduce by about 38% the number of people graduating with nursing credentials from the three institutions combined.

93:161

Question Period

Mr Schroeder asked if the recent lay-off notices given to staff at the Dalhousie Art Gallery would affect attempts by the Gallery to raise external funds. Mr Clark said that he had as yet not received a formal proposal from the Art Gallery with respect to external fund-raising and that he saw little prospect that the Gallery could raise sufficient funds to forestall its closure.

The Secretary read several questions which had been submitted in writing by Mr Bradfield. The first dealt with why the University's accounts showed a write-down of the unfunded capital debt by \$5 million but of the accumulated operating deficit by only \$0.5 millions. Mr Mason replied that a decision was made to pay down more on the unfunded capital debt than on the operating deficit in part

because of the sources of funds available for paying down such debts. A provision of the so-called "pension holiday" negotiated with various employee groups was that savings realized would be put toward the unfunded capital debt. Other monies realized through property sales and savings on ancillary services seemed to be put appropriately to paying down the capital debt.

The second question dealt with the review of the Deanship of the Faculty of Management. Mr Clark replied that in September the Board approved an extension of the appointment of Mr J. McNiven as Dean of the Faculty of Management until 30 June 1994, after which time Dean McNiven would take a one-year administrative leave. Mr Clark added that this arrangement was made at the request of the Dean.

The third question asked for a report on the cost of renovations to the basement area of the President's Residence. Mr Clark replied that approximately \$25,000 of the regular maintenance budget had been spent over the past two years, primarily to stop the seepage of water into the basement of the house. While this work was being done, it was also decided to cover the basement floor with tile and to finish the walls in the basement. This area is now used, not, as has been rumoured, as a recreation room, but as a space which has been used by those catering University functions.

Ms Stone asked, in light of the plans of the Dalhousie Art Gallery to increase external support for the Gallery, if the administration had given consideration to those plans before deciding to send lay-off notices to staff. Mr Clark said that those plans had not yet reached the administration. Mr Mason said that all units were asked to submit detailed plans by the beginning of December. Ms M. Gallant, from the Art Gallery, said that a meeting had been set for 29 November for the Director of the Gallery to meet with the President to present her plan.

Ms Stone asked if the administration had considered the effect of the closing of the Art Gallery on the University's affirmative action programme with respect to Nova Scotian Blacks and MicMacs and on graduate programmes in the humanities and social sciences. Mr Clark said that these questions had been considered. He added that the University faces serious financial difficulties and asked when the University would face up to the need to reduce the number and/or size of its programmes and activities.

Ms Stone asked if the administration had considered the effects of closing the Art Gallery on University fund-raising. Mr Clark replied that there may be some impact on fund-raising, but that there were also donors who have not been supporting universities because of their failure to make difficult decisions in order to become more efficient.

Ms Bankier asked if one of the reasons for cutting programmes was to appeal to external donors. Mr Clark replied that no one would be so foolish as to make cuts in programmes to appeal to possible donors. Ms Bankier asked if a survey of potential donors done as part of the Capital Campaign could be released in some form. Mr Clark said that donors cooperated in the survey on the condition of

strict confidentiality and it was the intention of the administration to maintain such confidentiality. Ms Bankier asked who was involved in designing the questions for the survey, and Mr Clark said that the administration was involved in drafting some of the questions.

Mr Andrews asked if the President had consulted with the Senate Academic Planning Committee about the Art Gallery before sending lay-off notices to Gallery employees. Mr Dunn said that no such consultation had taken place.

Mr Sinclair asked if the Officers of Senate could find a different configuration for seating in the University Hall. Mr Dunn said that efforts would be made to improve the sound quality in the room for the December meeting.

93:162

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m. upon motion (M. Binkley/R. Carlson).

Secretary

Chair