

Item: Senate Minutes, May 2002
Call Number: Senate fonds, UA-5

Additional Notes:

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DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY
APPROVED MINUTES
OF
SENATE MEETING

SENATE met in regular session on Thursday, May 16, 2002, at 10:00 a.m., in University Hall, MacDonald Building.

Present with Mr. Mo El-Hawary in the chair were the following:

Ben-Abdallah, Binkley, Breckenridge, Caldwell, Caley, Cochrane, Coughlan, Cunningham, Downe-Wamboldt, Egan, Fraser, Galarneau, Gupta, Guy, Huebert, Jalilvand, Kwak, N. MacDonald, MacInnis, Macrae, Maes, McGrath, McIntyre, Mobbs, Moore, Morgan, Neumann, Neves, Rajora, Sastri, Saunders, Schroeder, Slonim, Sommerfeld, Tindall, Traves, Whyte.

Regrets: Corke, Elder, Guppy, Lahey, Phillips, Rowe, Scully, Starnes.

2002:043.

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was amended to move the Proposal for Program Modification—Bachelor of Health Science (specific Health Discipline) forward on the agenda so Ms. McIntyre could be present for the discussion.

2002:044.

Minutes of Previous Meetings

The minutes of the meeting of February 25, 2002 were adopted as circulated.

The minutes of the meeting of March 28, 2002 were adopted as circulated.

2002:045.

Awarding of Degrees

College of Arts and Science

Ms. Marian Binkley, Provost of the College of Arts and Science, recommended the following degrees and diplomas:

Bachelor of Arts	365
(Distinction 13; Honours 66; First Class Honours 31; Adv. Major 109; 20-Credit Major 7)	
Bachelor of Arts Advanced Major Conversion	2
Bachelor of Arts Honours Conversion.....	2
Diploma in Costume Studies	20
Bachelor of Music	12
Bachelor of Science.....	339
(Distinction 23; Honours 64; First Class Honours 58; Adv. Major 131; 20-Credit Major 9)	
Bachelor of Science Advanced Major Conversion.....	5
Bachelor of Science Honours Conversion	8
Diploma in Meteorology	4
	<u>TOTAL 757</u>

Faculty of Computer Science

On behalf of the Faculty of Computer Science, Dean Jacob Slonim recommended degrees be awarded as follows:

Bachelor of Computer Science	46
(Distinction 1; First Class Honours 2)	
Bachelor of Science.....	10
(Distinction 7; First Class Honours 1)	

TO

Faculty of Dentistry

On behalf of the Faculty of Dentistry, Dean William MacInnis recommended degrees and diplomas be awarded as follows:

Doctor of Dental Surgery	35
(Distinction)	
Diploma in Dental Hygiene	36
	<u>TOTAL 71</u>

Faculty of Engineering

On behalf of the Faculty of Engineering, Dean William Caley recommended degrees and diplomas be awarded as follows:

Bachelor of Engineering	190
Diploma in Engineering.....	67
	<u>TOTAL 257</u>

Faculty of Health Professions

On behalf of the Faculty of Health Professions, Dean Lynn McIntyre recommended degrees and diplomas be awarded as follows:

Diploma in Disability Management.....	1
Bachelor of Physical Education	1
Bachelor of Science (Health Education)	14
(Distinction 4)	
Bachelor of Science (Kinesiology)	49
(Distinction 10)	
Bachelor of Science (Kinesiology) - Honours	7
(Distinction 4)	
Bachelor of Science (Kinesiology) - Honours conversion	3
Bachelor of Science (Recreation)	17
(Distinction 4)	
Bachelor of Science (Recreation)/B. Management combined degree	2
Diploma in Health Services Administration	14
Bachelor of Science (Nursing)	
Basic (Distinction 10)	81
Post RN (Distinction 1)	5
Diploma in Nurse Practitioner Studies, Primary Health Care for Remote and Under-Served Communities - Post Baccalaureate Stream	3
Bachelor of Science (Occupational Therapy)	45
(Distinction 5)	
Bachelor of Science (Pharmacy)	62
(Distinction 2)	
Bachelor of Science (Physiotherapy).....	47
(Distinction 2)	
Bachelor of Social Work	42
(Distinction 7)	
	<u>TOTAL</u>
<u>393</u>	

University Medals awarded to the following students graduating in the Faculty of Health Professions:

Karen Lister – Bachelor of Science (Pharmacy)
 Son Hai Truong – Bachelor of Science (Recreation)
 Faith F. Stoll – Bachelor of Science (Nursing)
 Ryan Maldre – B.Sc. (Occupational Therapy)
 Tanya Nichol – Bachelor of Science (Physiotherapy)

Faculty of Law

On behalf of the Faculty of Law, Acting Dean Phillip Saunders recommended degrees be awarded as follows:

Bachelor of Laws 143

Faculty of Management

On behalf of the Faculty of Management, Dean Abolhassan Jalilvand recommended degrees and diplomas be awarded as follows:

Bachelor of Commerce 149
 Bachelor of Management..... 4
TOTAL 153

Faculty of Medicine

On behalf of the Faculty of Medicine, Dean Noni MacDonald, recommended the following degrees:

Doctor of Medicine..... 83
 Bachelor of Science in Medicine..... 6
TOTAL 89

Faculty of Graduate Studies

On behalf of the Faculty of Graduate Studies, Dean Jan Kwak recommended degrees be awarded as follows:

Executive Master of Electronic Commerce 15
 Doctor in the Science of Law 1
 Bachelor of Laws/Master of Business Administration 11
 Bachelor of Laws/Master of Health Services Administration..... 5
 Bachelor of Laws/Master of Public Administration 2
 Master of Laws 10
 Master of Arts 20
 Master of Architecture (First Professional)..... 24
 Master of Applied Science 20
 Master of Business Administration 62
 Master of Business Administration (Information Technology)..... 5
 Master of Computer Science 17
 Doctor of Medicine/Master of Science 1
 Master of Development Economics 7
 Master of Electronic Commerce 5
 Master of Engineering..... 12
 Master of Environmental Studies..... 12
 Master of Health Services Administration 16

Master of Library and Information Studies	26
Master of Nursing	9
Master of Public Administration	24
Master of Science	81
Master of Social Work	20
Master of Urban/Rural Planning (MURP).....	8
Doctor of Philosophy.....	30
	<u>TOTAL</u>

443

Mr. Jalilvand moved:

That Senate approve the awarding of degrees to the candidates identified in correspondence to the Secretary of Senate.

The motion was CARRIED.

Ms. Binkley moved:

That the appropriate Dean or the Provost of the College of Arts and Science, and the Registrar, in consultation with the Chair of Senate, be authorized to amend the graduation list to correct any errors or omissions discovered before the relevant Convocations; and that each amendment and its explanation be reported to Senate.

The motion was CARRIED.

Mr. Slonim reported that at Convocation the following week, the first 13 students would be graduating with the Executive Master of Electronic Commerce degree—offered through a partnership of the Faculty of Computer Science, the Faculty of Law, and the School of Business Administration. Several federal government representatives from Ottawa would be present at Convocation since the program had been developed in cooperation with federal government departments.

2002:046.

Report of the Chair

Mr. El-Hawary welcomed the new Student Senators: Joanne Macrae, the 2002-2003 DSU Vice-President Student Advocacy; Ben Rheault; and Rob MacGregor.

2002:047.

Proposal for Program Modification—Bachelor of Health Science (Specific Health Discipline)

On behalf of the Senate Academic Priorities and Budget Committee, Mr. El-Hawary moved:

THAT the Senate approve the proposed modification to the Baccalaureate of Health Science program whereby eligible students exercising the diploma exit option be

awarded the Diploma in Health Science (Specific Health Discipline) from Dalhousie University rather than from the QEII Health Sciences Centre, as was stipulated in the original program.

Ms. McIntyre reported that this program modification had been requested by the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission, and was supported by the QEII Health Sciences Centre (now the Capital District Health Authority), and by the students. The first Dalhousie graduates with the Diploma would be at the October 2002 Convocation. The Diploma is not new, but only the fact that it, if approved, it would in future be awarded by Dalhousie.

The motion was CARRIED.

2002:048.

Question Period

Mr. Tindall noted that on the Senate email distribution list, Mr. Bradfield had circulated several questions, addressed to the President, concerning strike costs and the cost of newspaper advertisements during the recent labour disruption. Mr. Tindall wondered when the information would be available; Mr. Traves responded that it would be made available as soon as he has the information.

Mr. McGrath, noting the announcement by the Board of Governors of an 8% increase in tuition, raised as a concern the fact that students must receive provincial student assistance to be eligible to apply for a Dalhousie bursary. Many students who do not receive student loans are nevertheless in need of financial assistance. He wondered how the needs of these students could be met. Mr. Traves responded that an emergency assistance fund was administered by the Vice-President, Student Services. It was not limited to students receiving provincial student assistance, but it was also true that it was intended for short-term emergencies rather than longer-term student support. Mr. Traves suggested that Mr. McGrath raise the issue of longer-term assistance for such students with Vice-President McKee. This was an opportune time to do so, since the policies with respect to student financial assistance were soon to be reviewed.

2002:049.

Graduate Student Representation on Senate

On behalf of the Senate Steering Committee, Mr. El-Hawary moved:

THAT the Senate adopt an amendment to the Constitutional Provisions Governing the Operations of Senate to provide for an additional Senate seat designated for a graduate student, with the graduate student being elected for a one-year term as determined by the Dalhousie Student Union.

Mr. El-Hawary reminded members that notice of motion had been given at the April 29, 2002 meeting, and since this was an amendment to the constitution, in order to be approved, it required a two-thirds majority of those present and voting.

Ms. Galarneau drew to members' attention the Preamble to the original motion submitted to Senate Steering Committee, and included with the background material provided to Senators. The DSU believed it to be very important for Senate to have the benefit of graduate students' perspectives as a complement to the existing student representation.

Noting that the Preamble made reference to the number of Student Senators in 1985, Mr. Saunders enquired about the size of Senate at that time. Mr. El-Hawary responded that in 1985, prior to the restructuring of Senate, Senate was considerably larger, including all faculty with the rank of Professor. Mr. Saunders indicated that he supported the motion and, although the representation of students had increased significantly as a result of Senate reform, he believed sound arguments had been provided for graduate student representation on Senate.

Mr. El-Hawary recognized Ms. Jessica Squires, Vice-President External of the Dalhousie Association of Graduate Students, who urged members to pass the resolution. Graduate students comprise almost one-quarter of the student body. Graduate students typically are older than undergraduates, have different responsibilities, and have higher student debt. Many of the issues of concern to them—including research, academic governance, and their roles as teaching assistants—are different from the concerns of undergraduates.

Mr. Kwak reported that the Faculty of Graduate Studies strongly supported the representation of graduate students on Senate.

The motion was CARRIED.

Mr. El-Hawary indicated that the new graduate student representative would take office as of July 1, 2002.

2002:050.

Statement on Prohibited Discrimination—Complaints Procedure for Complaints Against Students

Mr. El-Hawary provided a brief overview of the background to the proposed statement, which had been prepared by Mr. McKee, Vice-President (Student Services), in light of changes to the Code of Student Conduct. Representatives of the DSU had reviewed and endorsed the document. Senate Steering Committee recommended its adoption.

On behalf of the Senate Steering Committee, Mr. El-Hawary moved:

THAT the Senate adopt the Statement on Prohibited Discrimination—Complaints Procedure for Complaints Against Students.

The motion was CARRIED.

2002:051.

Trimester Study Report

Mr. El-Hawary reported that, responding to a request from the Facilities Renewal Strategy Committee of the Board of Governors, the Office of Institutional Affairs had prepared a report on whether implementing a trimester system at Dalhousie would reduce demands on the physical plant and thus save the university money. The report was reviewed by SAPBC at its April 22, 2002 meeting. A copy of the report, and of the relevant section of the SAPBC Draft Minutes had been circulated to Senators for their information. In addition, the report was available through the website for the Office of Institutional Affairs. The report concluded that rather than alleviating Dalhousie's problems with regard to the cost of the physical plant, the trimester system likely would confound them. SAPBC had received the report with thanks, and proposed no further action, beyond informing Senate of the report's conclusions.

2002:052.

Financial Impact of New or Modified Programs

Mr. El-Hawary reported that, at its April 22, 2002 meeting, SAPBC discussed the financial impact of new and modified program proposals on units other than the home Faculty and at what point, if any, the negative financial impact on another unit should constitute the basis for rejecting a proposal. A copy of the relevant portion of the SAPBC Draft Minutes had been circulated to Senators for their information.

The SAPBC agreed that since the circumstances would vary from situation to situation, the emphasis should be placed on ensuring that information on financial impacts was provided to the bodies charged with responsibility for program approvals. While the financial analysis by the Office of Institutional Affairs assessed these costs and should continue to do so, it was the view of SAPBC that the unit submitting the proposal should be responsible for identifying such costs in the first instance. In order to ensure that this occurred, the Senate form "*Information Required to Support Proposals for New or Modified Academic Programs*" would require revision to incorporate appropriate questions. In its assessment of program proposals, SAPBC would consider this additional information, and ensure that it was communicated clearly to Senate and to the Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Governors.

Mr. Slonim suggested that often it was difficult to predict the impacts of new programs on other units. He was thus concerned that, if such information was required as part of program submissions, the information would be of marginal value, but the necessity of providing it would lengthen the time required for program approval. Since he felt the approval process already was too long, he recommended a review of the entire process, rather than modifying the process in a piecemeal fashion.

Mr. El-Hawary responded that in some cases, impacts of program changes on other units were quite clear. This would be the case, for example, if the responsibility for teaching certain classes was being transferred from one faculty to another. The change suggested by SAPBC was intended to ensure that such financial impacts were appropriately identified. With respect to the issue of time, Mr. El-Hawary indicated that it was not his impression that the approval process was lengthy, once program proposals were received by the Senate Office, but he offered to examine this issue and report back to Senate.

Ms. Binkley suggested that by focusing on financial issues, Senate was deflecting attention away

from more important issues related to the academic integrity of programs. Currently, because of the ERBA formula, it was significantly less expensive for a Faculty to teach classes outside the scope of its own areas of expertise, by employing part-time instructors from other disciplines, rather than having service teaching done by full-time faculty in other Faculties of the university. Greater program quality would be assured if the host Faculty, instead, worked cooperatively with its sister-Faculty to have the class offered by a researcher/teacher with a long-term commitment to the university and to the field. This, in turn, would support greater collaboration between units. When Faculties hire part-time instructors in areas normally taught by other Faculties, they undermine the academic integrity and integration of programs, and foster a “silo” mentality, rather than the kind of cross-disciplinary sharing which should be fundamental to a university. In approving programs, Senate should be focusing on the intellectual and human character of the programs, not restricting itself to a financial cost-benefit analysis.

Mr. El-Hawary indicated that he would take this back to SAPBC for further consideration, and suggested that SAPBC may well want to call on the Deans to assist it with this process.

Ms. McIntyre cautioned that many programs are subject to multiple levels of review: within the Faculty; on an Inter-Faculty or university-wide level; and often externally, especially in the case of professional programs. The approval processes within a Faculty unit structure are the best equipped to review all of this input, and as you move farther away from that centre, there is a danger of values being imposed which may not be appropriate.

Mr. Kwak agreed, and indicated that, at least with respect to graduate programs, he believed there had been a reasonable division of labour. The academic aspects of new programs are considered in great detail in the home faculty and in the Faculty of Graduate Studies, and the SAPBC review focuses primarily on financial aspects. If we were to have an academic examination of programs in Senate, this would raise Dean Slonim’s concern about a labyrinth of committees and bodies looking at each proposal.

Mr. Jalilvand suggested that the key issue was what we would do with the information obtained. If, for instance, a proposed program change does impose a financial burden on another Faculty, and the home Faculty does not have the financial resources to cover that cost, if the program is sufficiently important to the university, we must provide the resources so that the second Faculty can play the role required of it.

Mr. El-Hawary observed that from the discussion it appeared that this issue should be examined further. He would thus refer the matter, and the discussion, back to SAPBC, and would anticipate a further report in the new academic year.

2002:053.

Conflict of Interest Policy

Mr. El-Hawary asked if there was a motion to adopt the May 7, 2002 draft of the Conflict of Interest Policy.

Mr. Traves, on a Point of Order, indicated that he believed Senate was not being asked to adopt the policy. This was an item for the Board of Governors to deal with exclusively, but as was the

case on two previous occasions, Senate was being asked for any comment or advice which it wished to offer on the current draft of the policy. This would be conveyed to the Board when it considered the policy. The matter was therefore being brought to Senate for comment, rather than for adoption.

Mr. El-Hawary clarified that the proposed wording of the motion, "to adopt," was based on the *Statutes of Nova Scotia*, which stipulated, "The internal regulation of Dalhousie College and University is committed to the University Senate, but any such internal regulation is subject to the approval of the Board." He thus thanked Mr. Traves for the clarification that action by Senate is subject to the approval of the Board, and indicated that the wording of the motion should reflect Senate's responsibility for internal regulation, but also reflect the fact that Senate's recommendations are subject to ratification by the Board.

Mr. Traves responded that, with respect to the proposed Conflict of Interest Policy, he had received legal advice which indicated that this was a matter dealing with employment relations, not a matter dealing with the internal regulation of an academic program or a matter dealing with student discipline. The proposed policy deals with the legal relationship of the employees, the students, and the members of the Board, to the University as a legal entity. The portion of the *Statutes of Nova Scotia* quoted had never been applied in such a way as to involve Senate in employment relations. The proposed policy has been brought to Senate, and to the university community, for feedback. It is thus a matter for discussion, which will go to the Board of Governors at its June meeting, for decision. If Senate wishes to make comments, or suggestions for improvements, those would be most welcome, but it is not a matter for Senate to adopt because it does not fall within the framework of Senate's operations.

Mr. El-Hawary noted that no motion had yet been made on the matter, and asked if a member wished to make a motion, so that discussion could proceed.

Mr. Traves responded that like the last two items on the agenda, in this case he did not believe any motion was required. The proposed policy had been discussed by Senate Steering Committee and was being brought forward to Senate for discussion, rather than for action.

Mr. El-Hawary noted that with 34 members present, Senate had dropped below its quorum of 35, but suggested that members might wish to continue to discuss the matter informally.

Ms. MacDonald drew attention to clause 5.3.5, "Student Involvement in Research Involving a Personal Interest." When this item had been discussed previously by the Deans, there was concern that legal advice be sought to ensure that this clause was tough enough to protect students involved. If, for example, a student engaged in research for a company, when the student has completed the research, we do not want them held up from graduation because, for some reason, the company did not want the research to be made public. Ms. MacDonald sought assurance that legal advice had been received confirming that this provision was sufficient to protect students in such a situation.

Mr. Tindall, on a Point of Order, indicated that he believed that once the Chair had observed that the meeting had lost its quorum, the meeting was adjourned.

2002:054.

Adjournment

As a result of the loss of a quorum, Mr. El-Hawary adjourned the meeting at 11:02 a.m.

Secretary

Chair