

Item: Senate Minutes, April 2012

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 Monday, April 9, 2012, at 4:00 pm, in University Hall, Macdonald Building.

Present with Mr. Lloyd Fraser in the chair were the following: Bennett, Boran, Boudreau, Bourne-Tyson, Canning, Castleden, Chen, Cochrane, Cox, Crago, Cunningham, Dionne, Gibson, M. Gilbert, Gorsky, Grant, E. Hughes, Johnston, Langille, Leach, Leon, MacLennan, Magill, Marrie, Matte, McLarney, Meynell, Moore, Oomen, Packer, Pelot, Pinder, Robski, Rogers, Saulnier, Scrimgeour, Shepherd, Singleton, Summerby-Murray, Tillotson, Traves, Wach, Watters, Webster, Westwood.

Regrets: Amirault, Becke, Bouchard, Brooks, DasGupta, Doman, Gardner, R. Gilbert, J. Hughes, Leavitt, Macy, Mansour, Mitchell, Noble, Pegg, Pierce, Ross, Shukla, Stadnyk, Susko, Thorburn.

Absent: Denike, Farina, Garduno, MacLaren, Rapaport, Schellinck.

2012:038

Adoption of the Agenda

The April 9, 2012 Senate agenda was **adopted** with two amendments: Item 2.1, Approval of Draft Minutes of March 12, 2012 Senate Meeting and Item 9, Student Accommodation Policy – Policy Review Process and Recommendations 2012 were removed.

2012:039

Consent Agenda

Senate Planning and Governance Committee (SPGC): Senate Nomination to the Board of Governors

THAT Senate approve the nomination of John Baxter, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, as a Senate representative to the Board of Governors for a further term, July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2015.

Approved by Consent.

2012:040

Matters Arising from the Minutes of March 12, 2012

Mr. Fraser stated that the revised Scholarly Misconduct Policy will be brought forward to the Senate at the May 14, 2012 meeting.

2012:041

Chair of Senate's Report

Mr. Fraser began his report by thanking those who completed the survey regarding the National Study on Governance at Canadian Universities. He reminded those who have yet to complete the survey that it has been sent out to members, and it would be appreciated if this could be completed in the near future. Mr. Fraser also indicated that a survey will be distributed to Senators asking for feedback on the operations of the Dalhousie

Senate and Senate Standing Committees over the past year. This survey will be distributed at the end of April. Mr. Fraser congratulated the student members of Senate who recently were honoured at the first annual Student Impact Awards. Sarah Bouchard was a recipient of the Malcolm Honour Award, Jon Magill was a nominee for the Top DSU Council Member Award, and Sarah Bouchard, Rebekah Oomen, and Chris Saulnier received Board of Governors Awards. Mr. Fraser thanked and extended best wishes to all student senators completing their terms on April 30, 2012: Sarah Bouchard, Jonathan Magill, Rebekah Oomen, Ryan Robski, Chris Saulnier, and Margaret Scrimgeour.

2012:042

President's Report

Mr. Traves noted that the collective agreements with the Dalhousie Faculty Association and the Nova Scotia Government & General Employees Union (Local 77) had been ratified. The impact of the federal budget on research funding for universities was more benign than anticipated and the University's 2012-13 provincial operating grant in the recent provincial budget was recently confirmed. Mr. Traves congratulated the Faculty of Dentistry which was recently recognized with the 2012 William J. Gies Award for Achievement from the American Dental Education Association's ADEA Gies Foundation. The Faculty is the first Canadian Faculty of Dentistry to be presented with this pre-eminent recognition of exceptional contributions to, and in support of, oral health care and dental education around the world. Mr. Traves acknowledged the success and hard work of all faculty, staff and students and noted that he hopes to see many members of the university community at the May 2012 convocation ceremonies.

2012:043

DSU President's Report

Mr. Saulnier began his final report by noting that the transition to a new DSU executive and the orientation for new student senators has begun and will be completed by May 1, 2012. Mr. Saulnier noted the addition in 2012-13 of a new student Senator from the agricultural campus. He thanked all Senators for the opportunity to serve on Senate over the past two years.

2012:044

Senate Academic Program and Research Committee:

New Program Proposal: Bachelor of Agriculture, International Food Business

Ms. Dian Patterson, Associate Vice President Academic Programs, Nova Scotia Agricultural College (NSAC), and Mr. Steven Russell, Associate Professor and Executive Director, Atlantic Centre for Agri-Business, NSAC, outlined the proposed new dual degree program, Bachelor of Agriculture, International Food Business, to be offered in partnership with Dronen University in the Netherlands. This program would be unique in Canada; there are currently seven other agricultural faculties in Canada and none offers an International Food Business program. The program is jointly designed and will be jointly delivered by NSAC and Dronen; all students will complete a portion of their studies in the Netherlands and a portion at the NSAC Campus in Nova Scotia. The program provides a great learning opportunity for students, and there is a strong job market for graduates.

Ms. Patterson and Mr. Russell responded to several questions concerning program details. A question was raised concerning the potential for the program to impact accreditation within the Faculty of Management. It was noted that the program would have no impact on accreditation at this time as the program would be offered through NSAC; if any accreditation issues emerged as a result of the Dalhousie-NSAC merger, these would be addressed.

On behalf of the Senate Academic Programs and Research Committee, Mr. Fraser **MOVED**:

THAT Senate approve the Bachelor of Agriculture, International Food Business Program offered by the Nova Scotia Agricultural College.

The motion **CARRIED**.

2012:045

Dalhousie University and Nova Scotia Agricultural College Merger

Ms. Susan Spence Wach, Associate Vice President, Academic, provided an update on the merger between Dalhousie University and the Nova Scotia Agricultural College. An agreement in principle is in place and, subject to final agreement and the enactment of provincial legislation, the Faculty of Agriculture would become the thirteenth Faculty of Dalhousie University on July 1, 2012. An advisory council will be created to provide strategic advice, and the Dalhousie Board of Governors will be appointing a new member from the agricultural community. On the effective date of the merger, all NSAC employees will become Dalhousie employees, and all properties and assets will be transferred to Dalhousie (the campus by deed and the research farm lands on a long-term renewable lease). Full academic integration is expected to occur over the course of the coming year. Students studying at the agricultural campus will continue to compete in the Atlantic Colleges Athletic Association (ACAA). Student representatives will be joining the Dalhousie Student Union in the fall, and the transition process will begin shortly. Ms. Spence Wach also announced that Dr. Harold Cook, former Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, will be the inaugural Acting Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture. A national search will be undertaken for the appointment of the Dean. Mr. Fraser indicated that Senate and Senate committees would continue to be involved in consultation and decision-making on academic matters through the transition period.

2012:046

Question Period

There were no questions raised during question period.

2012:047

Other Business

There was no other business.

2012:048

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 5:20 PM.