

**DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY
APPROVED MINUTES
OF SENATE MEETING**

Senate met in regular session on Monday May 13, 2013, at 4:00pm, in University Hall, MacDonald Building.

Present with Lloyd Fraser in the chair were the following: Ali, Amirault, Barrett, Baur, Beale, Becke, Boudreau, Brooks, Canning, Castleden, Chen, Cochrane, Cooper, Cox, Cunningham, Doman, Gardner, Garduno, Gorsky, Hartigan, Helland, Hughes, Jha, Killham, Leach, Leon, MacLennan, Mansour, Marrie, Matte, McLarney, Moore, Oore, Packer, Persaud, Pinder, Rogers, Ross, Shepherd, Shukla, Smirnov, Stadnyk, Summerby-Murray, Tillotson, Traves, Watters, Westwood.

Regrets: Boran, Bourne-Tyson, Cook, Crago, DasGupta, Gibson, Hewitt, Hoyle, Johnston, Langille, Macy, Mitchell, Pegg, Schellinck, Taylor, Tennessen, Wach, Woodman, Yiridoe.

Absent: Eldridge, Khan.

Mr. Fraser welcomed Sagar Jha, Alexandra Killham, Rebecca Eldridge, Ryan Hartigan, and Brett Taylor, the new Student Senators to the meeting and Aaron Beale the returning Student Senator.

2013:57

Adoption of the Agenda

The May 13, 2013 agenda was **adopted**.

2013:58

Consent Agenda

Approval of Draft Minutes of April 8, 2013 Senate Meeting

THAT Senate approve the draft Senate minutes of April 8, 2013.

Approved by Consent.

2013:59

Matters Arising from the April 8, 2013 Senate Minutes

Mr. Fraser noted that at the last meeting, there was a question regarding funds from the operating budget, which were allocated to capital expenditure. Mr. Fraser noted that Mr. Traves had circulated a memo to the University community on the matter.

2013:60

Chair of Senate's Report

Mr. Fraser began his report by commenting on the Senate and Senate Standing Committee feedback survey. He noted that the number of Senate Committees included in the survey was expanded slightly this year, and the Senate Planning and Governance Committee (SPGC) has received a complete record of

the responses. The SPGC will provide a summary report at the June Senate meeting, and he thanked all who took the time to provide feedback and suggestions.

Mr. Fraser noted that by an email vote ending May 2, 2013 Senate had approved an Academic Stole (gold satin with black satin stripe) for graduands receiving all Dalhousie diplomas. He noted that the Chair of Senate may call for an electronic vote if the matter is time-sensitive and is either routine in nature or has been the subject of substantive discussion by Senate in prior meetings, and where the quorum of Senate is lacking. Mr. Fraser then reminded Senators of upcoming Convocations and Honorary Degree presentations, and he noted the success of the Faculty of Agriculture's Convocation, which was held on May 3, 2013, with an Honorary Degree presented to Hans Christian Jost. On May 16, 2013 the University of King's College Encaenia will occur, where Mr. Traves will be receiving an Honorary Degree. Mr. Fraser encouraged Senators to attend the Convocations.

With regards to items for information, Mr. Fraser directed members to the meeting package for information regarding the Approval of Graduands between Convocations, Dalhousie University Graduands, Call for Honorary Degree Nominations, and the Current Senior Administrative Appointments Policy. Mr. Fraser finished his report by commenting on the reduction of food and beverages at Senate meetings to reduce the University Secretariat's operating costs.

2013:61

President's Report

Mr. Traves began his report by echoing Mr. Fraser's invitation to convocation. He also took the time to thank faculty members and administration for the efforts and support in fostering students' learning.

2013:62

Senate Nominating Committee: Nomination of Senate Vice-Chair (Academic Programs)

Mr. Fraser noted that the Senate Nominating Committee has nominated Jeff Hoyle, Faculty of Agriculture, as the Senate Vice-Chair (Academic Programs) for the term July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2015. He then asked members of Senate if there were any further nominations. Hearing no further nominations, Mr. Fraser declared Jeff Hoyle to be elected Senate Vice-Chair (Academic Programs) for the term July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2015.

2013:63

Senate Planning and Governance Committee:

Mr. Fraser noted that the proposals for the establishment of two new Dalhousie research institutes had been reviewed by both the Senate Academic Programs and Research Committee (SAPRC) and the Senate Planning and Governance Committee (SPGC). SAPRC has a mandate to make recommendations on research related matters, so the committee and its Research Sub-Committee had thoroughly reviewed both proposals. The Senate constitution gives to SPGC responsibility for recommending to Senate the establishment of any new research Institute or Centre, so that committee had also reviewed both proposals and recommended their establishment.

Overview of University Institutes

Mr. Fraser then invited John Newhook, Associate Vice-President, Research to provide an overview of the role of research Centres and Institutes within the university.

Institute for Big Data Analytics Proposal

Mr. Fraser invited Michael Shepherd, Dean, Faculty of Computer Science and Stan Matwin, Professor, Faculty of Computer Science to summarize the key elements of the proposal to establish the Institute for Big Data Analytics proposal. Mr. Shepherd began by noting that Big Data is a term applied to data sets whose size is beyond the ability of commonly used software tools to capture, manage, and process the data. The current challenges for the Faculty of Computer Science in terms of Big Data include volume, velocity, variety, and veracity. He noted that the objective of the institute would be to provide leadership and an externally visible identity to this research, focusing on research already in progress at Dalhousie.

In terms of potential collaboration, he also highlighted areas of local, national, and international application. The institute is also interested in working with neighboring universities and individual researchers. Mr. Shepherd indicated that Mr. Matwin has been selected as the director of the institute, and membership is open to the Dalhousie community, with current commitments from the advisory board. He noted that the Faculty of Computer Science will guarantee funding for the institute's first three years of operation, and it also will provide the space.

On behalf of the Senate Planning and Governance Committee, Mr. Fraser **MOVED:**

THAT Senate **approve** the establishment of the Institute for Big Data Analytics, as outlined in the proposal dated April 17, 2013.

The motion CARRIED.

Institute for Children and Youth in Challenging Contexts Proposal

Mr. Fraser welcomed Michael Ungar, Killam Professor, School of Social Work to the meeting to present the proposal for the Institute for Children and Youth in Challenging Contexts. Mr. Ungar began by stating that the institute's vision is to create a global source of collaboration, and focus on the factors that pose serious risks to children and youth exposed to significant adversity across contexts and cultures. He noted that the institute will consist of an interdisciplinary network of scholars and community partners, with the support of four Faculties, and there is potential to collaborate with the Nova Scotia Government and other universities. He emphasized that the institute would pursue cross-disciplinary functions and themes.

Initial operating funding has been secured for the first three years, and Networks of Centres of Excellence, member held funding, and the Canada Research Chair in Global Children's Well-being will also provide financial support. Mr. Ungar also noted that it is a standard-structured institute; however, there is potential for the implementation of a youth-advisory council, allowing youth to have a voice in the issues, as there are many stakeholders.

On behalf of the Senate Planning and Governance Committee, Mr. Fraser **MOVED:**

THAT Senate **approve** the establishment of the Institute for Children and Youth in Challenging Contexts, as outlined in the proposal dated March 8, 2013.

The motion CARRIED.

2013:64

Senate Academic Programs and Research Committee

Doctoral Degree in Law converted from a JSD to a PhD

Mr. Fraser welcomed Stephen Coughlan, Associate Dean (Graduate Studies), Schulich School of Law to the meeting to present the proposal to convert the doctoral degree in law from Doctor in the Science of Law (JSD) to Doctor of Philosophy (PhD). Mr. Coughlan began by noting that the proposed change will decrease the level of confusion, both internally and externally, between the undergraduate (JD) and graduate (JSD) degrees. He noted that both the JSD and PhD degrees exist as doctoral degrees at many universities. The JSD consists solely of a thesis, but the PhD has other requirements. He noted that the requirements for the JSD changed quite some time ago, but the name of the degree did not reflect the change.

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

THAT effective September 1, 2013, Senate **approve** the renaming of the Doctoral Degree in Law from Doctor in the Science of Law (JSD) to Doctor of Philosophy (PhD).

The motion CARRIED.

2013:65

IN CAMERA Senate Honorary Degrees Committee:

Honorary Degree Nominations Fall 2013 – Spring 2014

Senate moved in camera to discuss the Honorary Degree Nominations Fall 2013 – Spring 2014.

On behalf of the Honorary Degrees Committee, Mr. Traves **MOVED:**

THAT Senate approve the slate of names of Honorary Degree candidates contained in the April 15, 2013 memorandum from the Senate Honorary Degrees Committee.

The motion CARRIED.

2013:66

IN CAMERA Senate Planning and Governance Committee:

Proposal from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

Senate remained in camera to discuss a proposal from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

2013:67

University Appointments

Mr. Fraser noted that there have been a number of appointments related areas in which the university had either no clear policy or outdated policy and procedures, requiring revision. As a result, there has been considerable work over the last several months to develop a coordinated set of policies and procedures that address the various appointment categories. He emphasized that these policies are only for discussion and feedback at this meeting, and that the Board and its committees are also reviewing them, since they are joint Board-Senate policies. Based on the feedback, there will be an opportunity for revision, and it is anticipated that the three documents will be brought back to Senate at its next meeting for approval, to the extent that academic matters within the purview of Senate are involved.

New Academic Appointments Policy

Mr. Fraser called upon Carolyn Watters, Vice-President, Academic and Provost to present the new Academic Appointments Policy. Ms. Watters began her report by emphasizing that this document crafts a single point of reference. The goals of the policy are to standardize current practice across academic units, create a single reference document for academic hiring, and amend the process of academic hiring decisions by delegation of the Board's decision to the Vice-President, Academic and Provost. Ms. Watters noted that the policy does not address the terms and conditions of academic employment, nor does it overwrite contracts of employment. This policy would apply to all academic appointments, and it defines and identifies the approvals required for the types of academic appointments, re-appointments, and modifications of appointments. Ms. Watters noted that the Vice-President, Academic and Provost would report to the Board of Governors four times annually, and this policy reduces the number of letters sent to appointees by one. It was also noted that with regards to the language on joint appointments, the policy is intended to address joint appointments within Dalhousie, and the policy does not cover joint appointments across institutions.

Revised Policy on Senior Administrative Appointments

With regards to the revised Policy on Senior Administrative Appointments, Mr. Fraser noted that the current Joint Board and Senate policy dates from 1997. A number of senior administrative appointments and reviews had highlighted the need for revision of the policy, as had the recent appointment of the new President, which involved the first use of those procedures. It had also been noted that there were some inconsistencies in the existing policy and some procedures that did not conform to current practice. The Board Governance and Nominating Committee and the Senate Planning and Governance Committee agreed that President Traves and Mr. Fraser, as Chair of Senate, would work with University Legal Counsel to develop a new draft policy for consideration.

Mr. Fraser then called upon Karen Crombie, University Legal Counsel, to present the revised Policy on Senior Administrative Appointments. She noted that while the policy applies to all senior administrative appointments, the procedures for Faculty-based senior administrative positions are determined at the Faculty level. There are two streams of appointments: those where the responsibilities are academic in nature (Term Appointments) and those where the responsibilities are not academic in nature (Appointments that are not Term Appointments).

Ms. Crombie provided an overview of the review and search committee processes, and she noted that Senate is among those consulted in the development of candidate profiles for academic senior administrators. The Board Chair also consults with the Senate Chair concerning composition of the Presidential Search Committee. Ms. Crombie noted that an “open” search process is not desirable for the recruitment of a President to protect the identity of candidates; therefore, that option within the previous policy has been eliminated. There is, however, the potential for a public search process for the Vice-President, Academic and Provost

With regards to the creation of new senior administrative roles, Ms. Crombie noted that a change in policy would not be required, provided the role reflected one of the given categories discussed in the policy. With regards to review processes for “without term” appointments, it was noted that annual performance reviews of the Vice-Presidents are done with the Board of Governors and the Chairs of the various Board Committees. The Vice-Presidents also perform annual reviews of the Assistant Vice-Presidents.

Guidelines on Adjunct Appointments

Ms. Watters reported on the guidelines on adjunct appointments, and noted that the focus was on clarity of their responsibilities. There are four types of adjunct appointments, including those in the Faculty of Graduate Studies, Departmental/School appointments, Scholar, and Professional Preceptor or Clinical Associate. It was noted that there are external supervisors for honor students, and it is not anticipated that these supervisors will apply for grants, but it is at the discretion of the school or department to determine whether or not these appointments will be supported in grant applications. Ms. Watters emphasized that there should be a signed document by the Dean regarding the appointee agreeing to supervise the student.

Policy Addressing Appointments in Medicine

Mr. Fraser called upon Tom Marrie, Dean, Faculty of Medicine, to review the policy addressing appointments in Medicine. Mr. Marrie noted that the policy contains improved job descriptions for clinical faculty, and he noted that all instructors require an academic appointment at the university. He emphasized that the new process includes an annual meeting with the department head or designate, allowing for a more meaningful process.

2013:68

Question Period

There were no additional questions.

2013:69

Other Business

There was no additional business.

2013:70

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:00pm.