

**DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY  
APPROVED MINUTES  
OF SENATE MEETING**

Senate met in regular session on Monday April 8, 2013, at 4:00pm, in University Hall, MacDonald Building.

Present with Mr. Lloyd A. Fraser in the chair were the following: Arron, Barrett, Beale, Bisset, Bourne-Tyson, Brooks, Canning, Castleden, Chen, Cochrane, Cox, Crago, Cunningham, DasGupta, Denike, Doman, Gardner, Garduno, Gibson, Grant, Harman, Hewitt, Hoyle, Hughes, Langille, Leon, MacLennan, Magill, Mansour, Matte, McLarney, Miller, Mitchell, Moore, Oore, Packer, Pegg, Pinder, Rogers, Ross, Shukla, Stadnyk, Summerby-Murray, Tennessen, Tillotson, Traves, Wach, Watters, Westwood, Woodman, Yiridoe.

Regrets: Ali, Amirault, Becke, Boran, Boudreau, Cook, Cooper, Gorsky, Helland, Johnston, Leach, Manning, Marrie, Rahemtulla, Shepherd.

Absent: Baur, Khan, MacDonald, Macy, Persaud, Schellinck, Smirnov, Webster.

**2013:46**

**Adoption of the Agenda**

The April 8, 2013 Senate agenda was **adopted**.

**2013:47**

**Consent Agenda**

**Approval of Draft Minutes of April 8, 2013 Senate Meeting**

**THAT** Senate **approve** the draft Senate minutes of March 11, 2013.

**Approved by Consent.**

**SNC Nomination to Senate Honorary Degrees Committee**

**THAT** Senate appoint Nancy Pitts, Faculty of Agriculture, to the Senate Honorary Degrees Committee for the term April 9, 2013 – June 30, 2016.

**Approved by Consent.**

**SPGC Nominations to University Committees & Senate Nominating Committee**

**THAT** Senate appoint Christopher Hartt, Faculty of Agriculture, to the Senate Nominating Committee for the term April 9, 2013 – June 30, 2016.

**THAT** Senate appoint Marty Leonard, Faculty of Science, to the University Hearing Committee for the term April 9, 2013 – June 30, 2016.

**Approved by Consent.**

**SLTC: Approval of the Bachelor of Agriculture Hood**

**THAT** Senate approve the Bachelor of Agriculture hood design of royal blue satin with royal blue/gold satin border.

**Approved by Consent.**

**2013:48**

**President's Report**

Mr. Traves began his report by providing an update on enrolment for 2013-2014 and noted that applications are solid, and he expects target enrolment will be reached. He also noted that any surplus tuition revenue would be placed in the reserve fund.

With regards to the budget, Mr. Traves noted that there has been some discussion regarding fund allocation, and he is more than willing to discuss this item more fully at a later date. He noted that there is confusion regarding two figures, and \$4 million per year is used to finance the debt for certain capital projects. In response to a question, he also explained that the heating plant is at capacity and nearing the end of its useful life. The university is currently exploring various options for constructing a generation unit that would produce electricity to meet the university's needs, and at the same time provide both heating and cooling for university buildings. This is a large-scale project for which the preliminary work has been completed; the university is in discussion with the provincial government to determine if Dal would be eligible for any grants. It was noted that in comparison with other universities in North America, Dalhousie currently under-spends on campus renewal. Mr. Traves noted that Dalhousie is on the progressive edge, but deferred maintenance needs to be dealt with. With regard to recent commentary on university finances, Mr. Traves stated that there is a budget process that has already included considerable consultation. Nevertheless, helpful observations and suggestions certainly would be taken into consideration. Mr. Fraser then noted that there would be a further opportunity to discuss campus facilities and financial issues later in the spring.

**2013:49**

**Matters Arising from the March 11, 2013 Senate Minutes**

There were no matters arising from the March 11, 2013 Senate minutes.

**2013:50**

**Chair of Senate's Report**

Mr. Fraser, on behalf of Senate, expressed condolences to family, friends, and former colleagues of Charles Keith Hoyt, Mona June Horrocks, and Kraft Eberhard Freiherr who passed away since the last Senate meeting.

Mr. Fraser noted that the Report on the Ratification of Faculty AIOs' Assessments and Recommended Penalties, covering the period of January 1, 2013 to March 31, 2013 could be found in the meeting package. He then reminded Senators that each year the University Secretariat prepares a feedback survey for Senators and Senate Standing Committee members to complete, and this year the survey would be sent out in mid-April. The feedback will first go to the Senate Planning and Governance Committee for discussion in May, and a summary of the feedback will be presented to Senate at the June meeting. He then noted that Senate is next scheduled to meet April 22, 2013.

Mr. Fraser then asked Jeff Hoyle, Chair, Senate Academic Programs and Research Committee (SAPRC), to report on several items approved by SAPRC on behalf of Senate. Mr. Hoyle reported on:

1. Suspension of admission to the Diagnostic Cytology Program within the Bachelor of Health Sciences for two years (2013-2014 and 2014-2015);
2. Approval of the Graduate Certificate in General Practice Dentistry;
3. Approval of the Minor in History, effective July 1, 2013;
4. Renaming of the Minor in Oceanography to a Minor in Ocean Sciences; and
5. Suspension of admission to the Bachelor of Science 20-credit double major in Oceanography, and the following BSc combined Honours programs:
  - o Combined Honours in Marine Biology and Oceanography;
  - o Combined Honours in Chemistry and Oceanography;
  - o Combined Honours in Earth Sciences and Oceanography;
  - o Combined Honours in Mathematics and Oceanography;
  - o Combined Honours in Physics and Oceanography; and
  - o Combined Honours in Statistics and Oceanography.

The suspension of admission is to be effective with the 2014-15 academic year, subject to the approval of the BSc in Ocean Sciences by the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission (MPHEC). Each program is to be formally terminated once all students have graduated from the program, or have left the program, or have exhausted the specific time for completion of the program. The Oceanography programs being terminated are replaced by the new programs in Ocean Sciences, approved by Senate in November, 2012.

## **2013:51**

### **DSU President's Report**

Mr. Arron began his report by noting an increase of 20% in the number of students voting in the recent DSU election. He noted that the most significant issue for the DSU is the communication around the operating budget. He noted that DSU funding has been approved for mental health issues support, including a peer support program. One major issue will be working with faculty to help students in need, learn of the resources available to them. Mr. Fraser thanked Mr. Aaron and all student Senators for their contributions to Senate and Senate Standing Committees.

## **2013:52**

### **Senate Academic Programs and Research Committee:**

#### **Strategic Research Plan**

Mr. Fraser called upon Martha Crago, Vice-President, Research to present the Draft Strategic Research Plan (SRP). Ms. Crago noted that the plan is a requirement for applications to the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) and the Canadian Research Chairs Program (CRC). Reviewers for CRC and CFI

consult the SRP Summary when reviewing applications. Ms. Crago noted that the development process examined levels of research activity and awards within the past decade, as well as the university's potential growth areas for the next decade. It was a three-year process, and those consulted include Deans, Associate Deans, and their Faculties; Dalhousie Research Advisory Committee; Capital District Health Authority and the IWK Health Centre; and the university community as a whole. Consideration was given to all replies received, and almost all of the suggestions have been incorporated into the plan.

Ms. Crago outlined the priority research areas and the areas of emerging research strength. She noted that areas that fall outside of the plan are also integral to the fabric of Dalhousie. It was noted that in Section 5 of the document, the institutional repository should be added.

Mr. Hoyle, on behalf of the Senate Academic Programs and Research Committee, **MOVED:**

**THAT** Senate **approve** the Dalhousie University Strategic Research Plan, dated April 3, 2013.

The motion **CARRIED**.

### **Draft International Strategy**

Mr. Fraser called on Alain Boutet, Executive Director, International Relations to present the Draft International Strategy. Mr. Boutet outlined key trends and changes related to internationalization, and noted a strong need for better coordination of our international needs. The focus areas of Dalhousie's international strategy are a roadmap and adjustments can be made in terms of recruitment, mobility, internationalization of academic programs, and support for international students. Mr. Boutet emphasized that the international strategy can be aligned with the research strategy. Without being exclusive, the strategy focuses on partnerships with Brazil, Chile, China, and the European Union.

In terms of operational objectives for internationalization regarding academics, Mr. Boutet emphasized increasing the size and diversification of international student enrolment, enhancing support to increase retention and academic success, promoting scholarly exchanges of students and faculty, and reviewing programs. With regards to operational objectives in research, he emphasized the importance of understanding the needs of the faculty and revamping our current resources. The International Strategy attempts to build a strategic partnership between the academy and administrative units.

With regard to the process of creating this document, it was noted that Faculty Councils and working groups were consulted, but the final document had not been circulated to the wider university community. It was suggested that initiatives should be multi-lingual, and they should not privilege an English-only exchange. It was also noted that identifying key indicators for retention of international students is crucial, and it was suggested that representation of international students on the committee would be very helpful.

After some discussion, it was agreed that Senate would refer the Draft International Strategy back to the Senate Academic Programs and Research Committee for further development.

**2013:53**

**The Dal Libraries: Digital Curation, Collaboration and Perpetual Collections**

Mr. Fraser welcomed Donna Bourne-Tyson, University Librarian, to the meeting to provide a presentation on the Dal Libraries: Digital Curation, Collaboration and Perpetual Collections. Ms. Bourne-Tyson began by noting the changing face of libraries, focusing on access rather than ownership, researchers and supporters of research, focusing on student academic success, increasing retention rates, and collaborative learning. In order to support learning, she noted that research assistance is necessary, as well as instruction in digital literacy. With the use of BBLearn, E-Reserves and research support services, the libraries are capable of aiding with data management (at the beginning of the research cycle), accessing institutional repositories, open access, maintaining author rights, journal hosting, digital collections, accessing technology, and supporting a digital scholarship initiative.

Ms. Bourne-Tyson envisions the Dal libraries two years from now as being virtual equivalents of vibrant and varied spaces, with seamless delivery and storage. She noted that funding has been secured to do studies of an inter-university shared offsite depository. Items would be either digitized or retrievable within a day, and a climate-controlled environment would maintain the quality of the books.

**2013:54**

**Question Period**

There were no additional questions.

**2013:55**

**Other Business**

There was no additional business.

**2013:56**

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 6:00pm.