

**DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY
APPROVED MINUTES
OF SENATE MEETING**

Senate met in regular session on Monday, April 28, 2014, at 4:00pm in University Hall, MacDonald Building.

Present with Lloyd A. Fraser in the chair were the following: Ali, Baur, Baylis, Beale, Becke, Boran, Bourne-Tyson, Burton, Byers, Cochrane, Cooper, Crago, Cunningham, Denike, Florizone, Gray, Harman, Hoyle, Hughes, Johnston, Leach, MacLennan, Macy, Mansour, McLarney, Mitchell, Moore, Mopoho, Packer, Persaud, Pinder, Ross, Shepherd, Stanish, Summerby-Murray, Watters, Woodman.

Regrets: Barrett, Boudreau, Brooks, Cox, Cross, Dionne, Gibson, Goodday, Grant, Habib, Kesselring, Kozey, Langille, MacDonald, Manion, Marrie, Matte, Mazzanti, Pegg, Shukla, Smirnov, Stadnyk, Steeves, Taylor, Trieger, Wach, Yiridoe.

Absent: Doman, Eldridge, Gruzd, Hartigan, Hewitt, Khan, Killham, Leon, Webster.

2014:54

Approval of Agenda

The April 28, 2014 agenda was **adopted** as circulated.

2014:55

Consent Agenda

2.1 Approval of Draft Minutes of April 14, 2014 Senate Meeting

THAT Senate approve the draft Senate meeting minutes of April 14, 2014.

Approved by Consent.

2014:56

Matters Arising from the Meeting of April 14, 2014

With respect to the funding arrangements for the IB&M program in the Schulich School of Law, Ms. Watters noted that she is awaiting a report from a small working group that has been established; who are waiting until provincial scholarships can be taken into account in drafting the report. The report is anticipated to be prepared prior to the June meeting of Senate.

2014:57

Chair of Senate Report

Mr. Fraser provided a report, beginning with an update on the Senate Officer nomination process. The nomination committee is continuing their work, and hopes to present one or more nominations at the June meeting of Senate. Mr. Fraser continued by announcing the recent academic program proposal

approvals by the Senate Academic Program and Research Committee (SAPRC), on behalf of the Senate: suspension of admission to the Bachelor of Arts, Italian Studies, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and the Diagnostic Cytology Program, Faculty of Health Professions; resumption of admission to the PhD Nursing Program, Faculty of Health Professions; changes in Medical Residency Programs, Faculty of Medicine, with an additional residency in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and a national change from a Medical Residency Program to an Area of Focused Competence (Diploma) Program for Transfusion Medicine; and program terminations of the Bachelor of Science (Nursing) Degree for Registered Nurses, Faculty of Health Professions and the Michener-Dalhousie Diploma in Health Science (Respiratory Therapy), Faculty of Health Professions. Mr. Fraser then drew Senators attention to the quarterly report on the Ratification of Faculty Academic Integrity Officer Assessments and Recommended Penalties for the reporting period January 1, 2014 to March 31, 2014.

2014:58

President's Report

Mr. Florizone provided a report, noting that the Board of Governors met on April 5th, where the Budget Advisory Committee report was received; the tuition fees for 2014-2015 were approved; and, the fitness facility was approved in principle. The Minister of Science and Technology, Ed Holder, visited Dalhousie on April 17th, engaged in a roundtable discussion, and toured the Engineering campus. He expressed the federal government's strong interest in commercialization and job creation. The recruitment for the Vice-President, Finance and Administration continues, the search committee has had its second meeting, and the position is being widely advertised. Mr. Florizone reviewed his recent trip to Toronto for three days of meetings with alumni, donors, and the Dalhousie Advisory Council (DAC). The DAC meeting included a review of the draft strategic directions to acquire feedback, as well as a retrospective of the Bold Ambitions campaign. His report concluded by highlighting that undergraduate applications and offers have increased by 13% - this is a strong sign for Dalhousie and reflects the diligent efforts undertaken by faculty and staff.

2014:59

DSU Report

Aaron Beale, DSU Vice-President, Academic and External, expressed appreciation for the opportunity of being engaged with Senate over the past two years. He noted that this is the annual time of transition for the DSU, with three new executive members and a new president. A response to the provincial budget has been prepared, indicating that the 1% increase in university funding is encouraging, however, there is concern regarding graduate student retention. Mr. Beale drew Senators' attention to the "How Would YOU React" campaign, initiated by Dalhousie University students to raise awareness of structural racism and oppression.

2014:60

Senate Planning and Governance Committee: Faculty of Agriculture Draft Faculty Procedures

The Chair welcomed David Gray, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, to provide background on the Faculty of Agriculture Draft Faculty Procedures. The development process for the documents was reviewed, noting that following the merger of Nova Scotia Agriculture College with Dalhousie University, a general structure for the new Faculty Council was approved and implemented; this has been successfully working since the merger 20 months ago. However, there were limited Faculty rules and regulations, therefore, a working group was established to develop proposed procedures, consistent with those of

other Faculties at Dalhousie. The proposed procedures were recommended by the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Agriculture, and the Senate Planning and Governance Committee.

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

THAT Senate approve the Faculty of Agriculture Rules and Procedures, as presented.

The motion **CARRIED**.

2014:61

Senate Planning and Governance Committee: Draft Senate Ad Hoc Professional Unsuitability Appeals Committee Terms of Reference

The Senate welcomed Karen Crombie, University Legal Counsel, to provide background on the Draft Senate Ad Hoc Professional Unsuitability Appeals Committee Terms of Reference. There are three Faculties of Dalhousie that have provisions requiring students to meet standards of professional suitability: Medicine, Dentistry, and Health Professions; therefore, procedures are needed to manage appeals that come forward to Senate related to professional unsuitability. The proposed document is an updated version of a previous Senate document. The membership of the Ad Hoc Appeals Committee was reviewed, highlighting a revision from the previous policy—at least two of the three members that comprise the Ad Hoc committee must be faculty members. The process outlined in the proposed document is similar to that of the Senate Appeals Committee.

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

THAT Senate approve the Senate Ad Hoc Professional Unsuitability Appeals Terms of Reference and Procedures, dated April 25, 2014.

In further discussion of the motion, the following points were noted:

The use of oral hearings in determining professional unsuitability was raised as a concern in terms of potential bias. There are rules set in place to limit bias during oral hearings and there is an option to choose not to have an oral hearing should a student not wish one. There should be no bias if the appeal committee is chosen correctly. Furthermore, not allowing for an oral hearing would be a violation of natural justice.

Committee membership was discussed, specifically the selection of one person from a relevant profession but another specialty; how this will be operationalized was questioned. Ms. Crombie indicated that the intent is to have a committee member with relevant subject matter expertise but with sufficient distance from the area of the Faculty involved in the appeal. It was noted that within the Faculty of Health Professions there are some professions where sub-specialties are not clearly defined. A concern was raised that stating “one person from the relevant profession (but who is from another specialty)” might rule out the inclusion of a faculty member on the committee if the profession has no sub-specialty. It was agreed that appropriate language to address this situation can be examined in the future to provide further clarity.

One correction was noted: on page one, under the heading ‘jurisdiction’, sub-heading ‘grounds’, the addition of the word “grounds” prior to the word “may”.

The motion **CARRIED**.

2014:62

Senate Planning and Governance Committee: Dalhousie University Vision, Mission, and Strategic Directions to 2018

Mr. Florizone and Ms. Watters, Vice-President, Academic and Provost, presented the Draft Strategic Directions 2014-2018 document. Mr. Florizone described this document as a statement of overall direction and expression of priorities for the next four years; specific initiatives will be subject to Senate and Board approval. The intent of the document is to build ownership, providing transparency and accountability of Dalhousie University governance. Collegiality and debate were fundamental to the development of the document, to expose ideas and have a full discussion of strategic directions. Practicality was also a fundamental idea behind the document, highlighting that collaborative work on strategic direction is essential; the Senate, the Board, and external partners, including the government and donors, must work together to move the priorities forward. Mr. Florizone concluded by extending gratitude to the Senate Planning and Governance Committee and the Senate for their engagement in this matter over the academic year.

Following the background, a thorough discussion explored several areas including the inclusion of diversity in the priorities, university values, need for additional graduate students, university rankings, and retention as prominent priorities.

Appreciation was extended by the DSU for the democratic approach taken in creating the *Strategic Priorities* document. Continued discussion was encouraged to ensure that this document continues to reflect the needs of students.

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

THAT Senate approve the *Strategic Directions 2014-18* as a statement of overall direction for the university, guiding the work of administration and others on major initiatives. Specific initiatives within *Strategic Directions* remain subject to Senate and Board approval as appropriate.

The motion **CARRIED**.

2014:63

Question Period

The timetable for the announcement of Killam awards was raised as a pressing issue that needs to be addressed as it is affecting the recruitment of graduate students. This will be discussed further at a future meeting of Senate.

2014:64

Other Business

There was no other business.

2014:65

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm.