



## SENATE

### Approved Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday, February 25, 2019 at 3:00pm Theatre A, Sir Charles Tupper Medical Building, Carleton Campus, Halifax

The Senate met in regular session on Monday, February 25, 2019 in Theatre A, Sir Charles Tupper Medical Building.

**Present:** K. Hewitt (Chair); G. Adolphe-Nazaire; R. Agu; V. Allen; D. Anderson; M. Aston; T. Balsler; R. Barker; D. Bourne-Tyson; R. Chang; R. Croll; L. Cutmore; P. Cyrus; B. Davis; C. Diallo; C. Dieleman; A. Doucette; P. Doyle-Bedwell; T. Duck; B. Foster; N. Gear; L. Goldberg; M. R. Goodday; D. Grujic; A. Habib; J. Hall; K. Harman; F. Harvey; S. Holmes; G. Horne; V. Howard; D. Kelley; K. Kesselring; J.S. Kim; L. Macdonald; P. MacKinnon; C. Macy; C. Moore; N. Nadeem; J. Newhook; R. Orji; M. Pacurar; D. Patterson; J. Phinney; S. Ponomarenko; A. Prosper; B. Rathgeber; A. Rau-Chaplin; C. Richardson; G. Scherkoske; D. Silvio; L. Spiteri; S. Stackhouse; A. Steenbeek; S. Stone; G. Warner; E. Welsh; D. Westwood; D. White; S. Wildeman; H. Xu

**Regrets:** A. Aiken; A. Almallah; J. Blustein; A. Cochrane; T. Cyrus; L. Diepeveen; D. Gray; L. Hackett; I. Joseph; M. Leonard; D. McKeen; V. Nams; T. Packer; W. Phillips; A. Sarhan; A. Siegel; F. Taheri

**Absent:** V. Bhargava; C. Cameron; K. Dakin-Hache; H. El Naggar; J. Fasuyi; F. Jones; M. Khan; C. Kozey; W. Lahey; S. Patles; J. Penney; S. Theriault; D. Thomas; L. Turnbull; P. Tyedmers; I. Waldron

**Guests:** Nicole Blinn (BSc Health Promotion student); Leah Carrier (MSc Nursing student); Jeff Hoyle (Faculty of Agriculture); Suzanne Le-May Sheffield (Director, Centre for Learning and Teaching); Marilyn Macdonald (Chair of Senate Nominating Committee); Courtney Sutton (Academic Assurance Manager, Office of the Provost and VP Academic); Susan Brousseau (Secretary of Senate); Sundari Pashupathi (Associate Secretary of Senate); Nenyo Kwasitsu (Student Minute Taker)

The Dalhousie University Senate acknowledges that this meeting is taking place in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People.

#### **1. Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was approved as **presented**.

#### **2. Consent Agenda**

##### **2.1 Approval of the Draft Minutes of February 11, 2019 Senate Meeting**

Approved by **CONSENT**.

#### **3. Matters Arising from the February 11, 2019 Senate Meeting Minutes**

##### **3.1 Approval of Draft Minutes of January 28, 2019 Senate Meeting Minutes**

Senator Cutmore presented proposed amendments to the January 28 minutes. As these amendments involved more than minor edits and were not provided in advance for review by senators, Senator Hewitt requested Senator Cutmore to send the proposed edits the Secretariat to be forwarded to all senators for review before the next meeting on March 11. As a result, approval of the January 28, 2019 meeting minutes was postponed and these will be presented for approval at the next Senate meeting.

## **FOR APPROVAL**

### **4. Senate Academic Programs and Research Committee**

#### **4.1 Revised Certificates Framework**

Senator Harman introduced the item and presented the motion on behalf of the Senate Academic Programs and Research Committee.

## **MOVED**

**THAT Senate approve the modifications made to the Certificates Framework as presented.**

S. Le-May Sheffield spoke to the revised Certificates Framework. The framework was first developed back in 2015 in response to the MPHEC plan to formulate a framework and also to address the fact that there was no clear definition of a “certificate” at Dalhousie University. It was agreed that a review of the framework would be conducted two years after the initial creation and the current proposed revision is the result of that review. S. Le May Sheffield outlined the modifications recommended by the working group. The changes remove reference to diplomas in the framework (as, procedurally and academically, they resemble academic programs more than certificates), streamline the approval process for certificate programs in several ways, and remove annual reporting requirements for Faculties (moving this into the program review for affiliated programs). Also, graduate certificates approval process has been streamlined and Faculty of Graduate Studies has the delegated authority to approve these certificates.

The motion **CARRIED**.

Senator Harman noted that the SAPRC has started reviewing the process by which program proposals are reviewed by the various committees of SAPRC. Also being reviewed is the appropriateness of the kind of assessment conducted at each level to ensure there is value added without duplication of efforts in reviewing program proposals. Also, plans are underway for a Fall Forum on Curriculum Diversification in conjunction with the Provost. This will be an opportunity for faculty, students and staff to learn how to apply curriculum diversification at a practical level in the classroom and in interactions with students.

### **5. Steps to Make Diversity and Inclusion a Reality**

Leah Carrier (Blackfoot MSc Nursing student) and Nicole Blinn (Mohawk BSc Health Promotion student), representing the Indigenous Health Interest Group (IHIG), presented on issues impacting indigenous students and, in particular, the transition of urban indigenous students to university. To further the goal of curriculum diversification they encouraged the adoption of indigenous forms of research methodology, curricula and ways of knowing into classes and programs. This could be done for example by including indigenous readings and authors in class. They also stressed the importance of hiring and recruiting indigenous faculty and staff members to increase the opportunities for mentorship. Efforts should be made to ensure a diversity of resources that support both undergraduate and graduate

students; currently most resources are targeted to undergraduate students and there is a need for programming that addresses graduate student needs. The presenters noted that funding currently available for indigenous students is largely targeted to r Mi'kmaq students and, while this is appropriate, Dalhousie could also be a leader in bringing in students from other nations if funding opportunities were expanded. Students are also concerned about cultural safety in the classroom and more training for faculty and students would help to address the racism they experience from both professors and other students.

## **FOR APPROVAL (continued)**

### **Senate Nominating Committee**

#### **4.2 Election of Chair of Senate (Term July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2022)**

Senator Harman assumed the chair and introduced the item noting that each nominee for the Chair of Senate position would speak to Senate and answer questions and that the election would be by preferential ballot. Marilyn Macdonald presented the names of the three nominees in alphabetical order: Kevin Hewitt, Faculty of Science; Jeff Hoyle, Faculty of Agriculture; and Louise Spiteri, Faculty of Management. All three nominees made a five-minute presentation to the Senate after which the voting was conducted.

Following the election, Senator Harman announced that Senator Hewitt had received the required number of votes for election to the position of Chair of Senate.

Senator Spiteri **MOVED**, Senator Cyrus seconded:

**THAT Senate appoint Kevin Hewitt as the Chair of Senate for the term July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2022.**

The motion **CARRIED**.

Senator Hewitt accepted the position and expressed appreciation to Senate for the confidence shown in him.

## **FOR DISCUSSION**

### **6. Reports**

#### **6.1 DSU Report on Annual Survey Results**

Senator Prosper presented on the Dalhousie Student Union Annual Survey 2019. He noted that the aims of the survey were threefold: to provide the DSU with a benchmark on their impact on students; to ensure that planning and actions reflect student needs; and a means to consult, collaborate and gather information from students. The survey, which had 4,645 respondents, asked a total of 41 questions across the categories of demographic, satisfaction and awareness of DSU among students, DSU businesses and services, priorities and concerns, community and general questions.

Discussion and questions following the presentation focused primarily on the usage of the DSU foodbank, particularly by graduate and international graduate students. There was also a suggestion that having a breakdown of the survey data by campus would be useful.

## **6.2 Chair of Senate's Report**

Senator Hewitt reported there are two items to note from the Senate Planning and Governance Committee. A survey on the Senior Administration Appointment Committee to help inform the review being conducted by the Board of Governors will be distributed to Senators by email. Additionally, at the March 11<sup>th</sup> meeting, Senate will receive a report on the engagement with the Board on fossil fuel investments and the inclusion of climate change related factors in Dalhousie's investment policy.

## **6.3 President's Report**

Senator McKinnon congratulated Dr. Ann Marie Ryan (Department of Earth Sciences) on being recognized with the national 3M Teaching Award. He also congratulated the Dalhousie Tiger swim teams for winning their 22<sup>nd</sup> consecutive Men's and 18<sup>th</sup> consecutive Women's AUS Conference Championship titles, as well as the Men's and Women's Track and Field teams who won the AUS Conference Championship.

Senator MacKinnon reported on several items under the four "Rs" of Strategic Direction (retention, research, returns to society and respect), including the announcement of the appointment of Dr. OmiSoore Dryden (Department of Community Health & Epidemiology, Faculty of Medicine), as the incoming James Robert Johnson Chair in Black Canadian Studies; current student enrolment data for 2019-20 which indicates an increase overall in undergraduate applications by 8.3% relative to last year; a recent Round Table convened with federal Minister Bernadette Jordan focused on the creation of a Rural Economic Development Strategy by the end of June 2019; and the call for nominations for the President's Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Award that was launched in 2018 in line with Strategic Priority 5.2. Senator MacKinnon also noted that the annual report to the community outlining progress on equity, diversity and inclusion initiatives should be available to the campus in early March. Senator McKinnon commended co-chairs Jasmine Walsh and Barbara Hamilton-Hinch and others for their work on the report.

## **6.4 Questions for Reports**

There were no questions on the reports.

## **7. Question Period**

There were no questions.

## **8. Other Business**

There was no new business arising.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00pm.