

Item: Board of Governors Minutes, March 1988
Call Number: Board of Governors Fonds UA-1, 55.16

Additional Notes:

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Minutes of a Meeting of the
Board of Governors held on Tuesday
March 15, 1988 at 4:00 pm. in
the Board and Senate Room

Dalhousie University
Halifax, Nova Scotia

PRESENT: Mr. W. Struan Robertson	Mrs. Vivian Layton
Chairperson	Dr. Albro D. MacKeen
Dr. Howard C. Clark	Mr. Edward MacNeill
President	Sr. Sheilagh Martin
Ms. Mary Clancy	Mr. George C. Piercey
Mr. Barrie Black	Vice-Chairperson
Mr. Peter Doig	Mr. George Thompson
Mr. Michael Dunn	Ms. Maxine Tynes
Mrs. Linda Fraser	Miss Caroline Zayid
Miss Sherry Golding	Mr. Sherman Zwicker
Mr. J. Gordon Lawley	

Also present were Mr. Bryan G. Mason (Vice-President, Finance & Administration); Dr. Robert S. Rodger, (Observer for Senate); Dr. J. Andrew Wainwright (Observer for D.F.A.); Ms. Gudrun Curri (Registrar), Mr. Mike Roughneen (Director of Personnel Services); Mr. Mike Wright, (Director of Financial Services), and Mrs. Elizabeth A. Christian (Secretary).

Regrets were received from Mr. George Cooper, Dr. Donna Curry, Ms. Cherry Ferguson, Mr. Brian Flemming, Mrs. Betty Flinn, Mrs. Jean Harrington, Mr. Norman Newman, Mr. Cedric Ritchie, Mr. Allan Shaw and Mr. Donald Sobey.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. George Piercey who continued in the chair after the Chairman had joined the meeting during the President's commentary on his report.

Minutes

A clarification to the motion at the top of Page Three of the minutes of the meeting of January 19, 1988 concerning the establishment of the R. Howard Webster Chair of Medical Research had been distributed prior to the meeting and a copy is enclosed with these minutes for members' information. Approval was given to the January 19, 1988 minutes as circulated.

President's
Remarks

Dr. Clark apologized to members for the cancellation of the ceremony to unveil a plaque which had been scheduled to precede today's Board meeting. This function will be held at some future date.

Agenda

An item relating to changes in the DFA collective agreement was added to the agenda. This is dealt with below.

Board
Matters

Membership of the Board's expanded ad hoc Policy Committee for D.F.A. Negotiations had been reported at the January Board meeting. The President advised that Ms. Bernadette Macdonald has agreed to serve as a member of this committee.

Dr. Clark mentioned he had received a letter from Dr. Hicks thanking the Board for its expression of sympathy on the recent death of Mrs. Hicks.

Messages of gratitude have been received from a number of the University's retirees regarding the Board's ex gratia payments.

The recent death of Dr. Donald M. Sinclair was noted. He had received an honorary degree from Dalhousie in 1975 and had served as an Alumni member of the Board from 1961-1967.

The President announced that the Windsor Foundation would be providing a grant of \$200,000 over the next two-year period for Novanet's new computerized library system.

Reports of
Standing
Committees

Finance and Budget Committee

Mr. Piercey reported that work on the 1988-89 budget was progressing well but that it was a difficult task. The major problem areas are Arts and Science, Health Professions and Physical Plant. There is no change in the deficit forecast for the 1987-88 budget from that reported to the Board earlier. The Board will be kept up to date on the budget process.

Buildings and Grounds Committee

This Committee had not met since the last Board meeting and there was nothing to report.

Staff Relations Committee

A list of staff changes had been circulated with the agenda and an Addendum was distributed to those present at the meeting (copies enclosed with these minutes for those not present). In Mr. Shaw's absence, Mr. Sherman Zwicker noted two corrections (these have been made on the official copy on file) and drew members' attention to a few items of particular interest. The report on staff changes was then approved.

Mr. Zwicker informed members that the Committee has now received a preliminary report on pay equity, a matter which has been under study by the university for the past two years. This is expected to be a matter of some complexity, and the Board will be kept informed of developments.

Changes to
Collective
Agreement

Appendix IX of the collective agreement with the D.F.A. contains a list of library administrative positions and the administrative stipends to be paid. A minor reorganization within the Library system had made certain changes in the collective agreement necessary. It was resolved that

The words "Head of Technical Services" set out under Macdonald Library be replaced by the words "Coordinator of Public Services" and the following new item be added, immediately following item 12, "12(b) Head of Serials and Documents \$854.00".

Campaign
For
Dalhousie

Dr. Clark reported that the total committed to the Campaign was close to \$33,500,000 (96%). Several activities are presently under way and it is hoped the Campaign can be brought to a conclusion over the next few months. In answer to a question it was explained that the government's contribution of \$10 million was designated for capital projects and that the University is reimbursed as projects are completed.

Enrolment

A document showing student enrolments for the past twelve years was circulated at the meeting (copy enclosed with these minutes for information). Ms. Gudrun Curri commented on the increases in the undergraduate and graduate faculties and noted that ~~81~~⁸⁷6% of the University's students come from the Maritime Provinces.

Amendment
to the
University's
Statute

A copy of a draft Bill to allow Faculty members and the Chair of Senate to be appointed to the Board of Governors, and to provide for a more appropriate process for the determination of the membership of Senate, was distributed to those present at the meeting. Dr. Clark noted that the wording in the Bill had been suggested by the Legislative Counsel and that, although it differed slightly from the wording approved earlier by Senate and the Board, no major difference from the original proposal could be found. Dr. Rodger expressed concern that the wording in section 2 subsection (3) in the Bill might preclude faculty members from taking part in Board discussions on some academic issues which formed part of the terms and conditions of employment, e.g. academic freedom and tenure. Dr. Clark assured Dr. Rodger, and members of the Board, that the wording in the Bill was not intended to restrict discussion on the generalities of academic appointments but rather to restrict discussion on specific aspects of collective bargaining and related matters.

Following this discussion, it was resolved

That the Governors hereby approve in form and substance the Bill attached hereto as Appendix A and authorize the President and Vice-Chancellor to take steps necessary or advisable to request the introduction thereof into the Nova Scotia House of Assembly.

Government
Funding

A document setting out the 1988-89 grants to Nova Scotia universities announced earlier today by government was distributed at the meeting (copy enclosed with these minutes for information). Dr. Clark commented that the overall increase of 6% (excluding capital projects) to Nova Scotia universities was better than in the past

few years, and commended the government for its early announcement which would be helpful in preparing the budget for next year. In commenting on Dalhousie's increase, Dr. Clark pointed out that while the restricted grant had increased for alterations, renovations and equipment, and additional funding had been provided for the Medical School in the supplementary grants, the 4.9% increase in Dalhousie's operating grant for 1988-89 actually translated into 3.1% when the supplementary grants are removed. This, he said, would make it very difficult to balance next year's budget.

The President informed members that the Minister was aware of the inequities of the present allocation formula and was committed to having a revised formula in place by 1989. Discussions between government and university presidents are expected to commence in the near future.

by an amendment to the Long Term Disability Insurance policy,
For the past five years, the Board has provided benefit indexation payments to employees who commenced LTD benefits after 31 January 1984. The Board was now asked to provide the same inflation protection to recipients who had commenced benefits on or before that date. To cover the Board's share of the costs involved, it was agreed

*Amended
May 16/88*
L.T.D.
Indexation
Payments

That the Board of Governors approve the transfer of \$18,499 to the employees' surplus account in recognition of the provision from employees' surplus of lump sum payments to Long Term Disability recipients who commenced benefit on or before 31 January 1984.

President's
Report

Copies of this report were distributed at the meeting, and a copy is attached to these minutes as Appendix B. The President commented on the impression he had received at recent meetings of the Association of Commonwealth universities about the unanimity in the views held by the government and the public in many Commonwealth areas regarding universities. He also spoke about the legislation now proposed in Australia and England for a unified national system for post-secondary education.

The success of the 1987-88 Annual Fund under the leadership of Dr. Donna Curry was noted and the efforts of all those involved in this fund raising effort were recognized.

The resignation of Mr. John Mabley, Assistant Vice-President, Development, was noted with regret.

Symposium on
Undergraduate
Education

The President acknowledged the work of Dr. Fred Wien and all those who had participated in organizing the successful Symposium held March 3-5. A copy of the President's statement made at the conclusion of the Symposium is contained in Appendix B attached to these minutes.

Members present enthusiastically expressed their appreciation to the President for his vision and enthusiasm in bringing about this Symposium at Dalhousie.

Dalhousie
Association
of Physically
Challenged

Ms. Tynes informed Board members about her association with a small group of disabled students at Dalhousie (DAPC) who were concerned with improving facilities on campus for the physically challenged. She said the group would like to expand its membership to persons in the administration, faculty and students to form an ad hoc committee to address issues of concern to the disabled at the university. A list of the group's short- and long-term goals will be published in the near future.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.



Donna M. Curry
Honorary Secretary



W. Struan Robertson
Chairperson

Memorandum to the Board of Governors

Minutes of Board Meeting of 19 January 1988

The motion at the top of page 3 of the above-noted Minutes concerning the establishment of the R. Howard Webster Chair of Medical Research incorrectly suggests that a pledge of \$250,000 made by the Windsor Foundation to the Campaign has been designated to the Dalhousie Medical Research Foundation. In fact, the money in question has been pledged by the Webster Foundation and will remain part of the University's endowment and will not be transferred or "designated" to DMRF. However, income from the endowment will be put towards the cost of the Chair, as well as income from a similar donation by the Webster Foundation to the DMRF.

March 15, 1988