

Item: Board of Governors Minutes, April 2012

Call Number: Board of Governors fonds, UA-1

Additional Notes:

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BOARD OF GOVERNORS

**Approved Minutes of the Meeting (Open Session)
held on April 17, 2012 at 3:00 p.m.
Coburg Board Room, Mona Campbell Building**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jim Spatz (Chair), Jay Abbass, Michelle Awad, John Baxter, Barrie Black, William (Bill) Black, Joyce Carter, Wadih Fares, Fred Fountain, Lloyd Fraser, Dustin Griffin, Lynn Irving, Max Ma, Nancy MacCready Williams, George McLellan, Aubrey Palmeter, Gail Tomblin Murphy, Chris Saulnier, Chris Smith, Larry Stordy, Tom Traves, Jim Wilson, Susan Brousseau (University Secretary)

NON-MEMBERS PRESENT: Ken Burt (VP Finance and Administration), Bonnie Neuman (VP Student Services), Katherine Sheehan (Asst. VP Human Resources), Carolyn Watters (VP Academic and Provost), Tony Virgin (Minute Taker)

REGRETS: Stan Spavold, Candace Thomas, Martha Crago (VP Research), Floyd Dykeman (VP External)

1. Approval of Agenda

Moved by M. Awad, seconded by J. Wilson:

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

The motion CARRIED.

2. Consent Agenda

2.1 Approval of Minutes of the Meeting of February 14, 2012

Motion: **THAT the minutes of the meeting held on February 14, 2012 be approved as presented.**

Approved by Consent.

2.2 Appointment of Student Board Members

Motion: **THAT the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Governance and Nominating Committee, approve the appointment of Jamie Arron as a Student Board Member from May 1, 2012 to April 30, 2013, and the appointment of Curtis Johnston as a Student Board Member from May 1, 2012 to April 30, 2014.**

Approved by Consent.

2.3 Appointment of University Representative to Halifax Student Housing Society Board

Motion: **THAT the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Governance and Nominating Committee, approve the appointment of Mrs. Melissa MacKay to replace Ms. Kimberly Mason as one of the Board's three representatives on the Board of Directors of the Halifax Student Housing Society, which operates Peter Green Hall.**

Approved by *Consent*.

2.4 Interim Spending Authority

Motion: **THAT in order to allow the continued operation of the University until such time as the 2012- 13 operating budget is given final approval, the Board of Governors authorize expenditures of up to 25% of the 2011-12 operating budget amounts as presented in the BAC XLVIII Report. The President or his designate, in consultation with the Executive Committee of the Board, is authorized to approve expenditures in excess of 25% in special cases to permit the orderly management of the University.**

Approved by *Consent*.

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

3.1 Naming Policy

W. Fares noted that this motion presents an amendment to the Naming Policy to address one point of clarification raised at the Board meeting held on February 14, 2012. The new policy, approved at the February meeting, provides a framework for granting named recognition with respect to University assets and University-sponsored initiatives or activities.

Moved by W. Fares, seconded by M. Awad:

THAT the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Operations Committee, approve the amendment to Section B of the Naming Policy as presented.

The motion **CARRIED**.

3.2 Proposed Student Fees Review

W. Fares introduced the motion, noting that the Chris Saulnier, DSU President and Board member, has requested the preparation by University administration of a report on current student ancillary and auxiliary fees, this report to be received at the Board of Governors meeting in November 2012. The Operations Committee reviewed this request and is recommending it to the Board.

Moved by W. Fares, seconded by J. Wilson:

WHEREAS Dalhousie University is exiting a lengthy period of funding stability; two signed Memorandums of Understanding existed between 2005 and 2011, which provided for set government grant levels and tuition rates.

WHEREAS Dalhousie University has entered a period of funding uncertainty due to the Provincial Government setting grant funding levels and allowed tuition increases on a year to year basis.

WHEREAS Dalhousie University is being forced to make cuts to its operating budget due to decreases to provincial grant amounts which are larger than allowed increases in revenue collected through tuition fees.

WHEREAS Dalhousie will have to continue making strategic investments in the quality of its programs and student experience to progress toward being the best University in Canada,

WHEREAS Dalhousie University should have a clear understanding of its current resources, and the current use of those resources, to make the best decisions regarding how fees will be collected and applied to support strategic priorities.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT a report on student fees be prepared by the Senior Administration on behalf of the Board of Governors' to be received at the November 2012 Board of Governors' meeting.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the report contain a complete breakdown of all ancillary and auxiliary fees collected by the university including but not limited to:

- the manner in which each fee was brought into existence,
- the justification for and original purpose of each fee,
- modifications to each fee over time,
- the current services, programming and/or staffing that the fee is being used to provide.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this report is used in combination with Dalhousie's strategic priorities when considering modification to fees for the 2013-14 University operating budget.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT after being presented to the Board the report is made publically available on the Dalhousie website to be used as a supplemental document when considering fee increases.

The motion CARRIED.

4. Chair's Report

J. Spatz reported on the recent presentation of the 2012 Governors Awards to students Sarah Bouchard, Duane MacLeod, Rebekah Oomen and Chris Saulnier in recognition of their exceptional leadership and community service. He also congratulated student Board members Dustin Griffin and Max Ma on the various honours they received at the first annual Student Impact Awards on March 27th.

Dr. Spatz thanked student Board members Dustin Griffin, Max Ma and Chris Saulnier for their service on the Board and their many contributions to Board deliberations and activities during their respective terms.

5. President's Report

T. Traves reported on several items, including early student enrolment numbers for 2012-13, the progress of the current capital campaign which has now reached the \$200 million mark, and his upcoming visit to Brazil as part of a delegation of 30 university presidents led by the Governor General, His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston. Dr. Traves noted that the Brazilian government is providing significant funding to students to study abroad and the goal of the trip is to promote the benefits of Canadian education to Brazilian students and to build academic partnerships with Brazilian researchers.

6. Dalhousie Student Union President's Report

C. Saulnier noted that this is his last report as DSU President and thanked members for the experience of serving on the Board. He reflected on his own learning throughout his term and encouraged the Board to continue to build on the increased engagement and strategic orientation he has observed over the past two years. Mr. Saulnier commented on some of the interesting and innovative partnerships that have developed over the past several years between the DSU and the University, and the DSU and the Dalhousie Alumni Association. He noted the recent

agreement to move the provision of MSI-equivalent health insurance for international students from the University to the DSU as an example of a partnership that has a direct benefit in reducing costs for students.

7. Items for Discussion

7.1 Budget Advisory Committee Report XLVIII/Report on Student Fee Consultations

C. Watters reported on the work of the Budget Advisory Committee and its Report XLVIII, which presents the Operating Budget Plan for 2012-13. Dr. Watters also reported on the recent student consultation sessions carried out under the new Tuition and Fee Consultation Procedures and reviewed the recommendations on tuition and fee changes, as well as the proposals for improving the consultation process for next year.

In response to a question regarding the two or three primary risk factors of not achieving a balanced budget, Dr. Watters noted that she would see these as being soft enrolment, student retention and government operating grant reductions.

In response to a question on action coming out of the recommendations presented by Vice-Presidents Watters and Burt, T. Traves responded that he has reviewed these with the Vice-Presidents and he supports the recommendations. He noted that the two specific recommendations with respect to the consultation process itself will be incorporated now. His feeling is that a fuller review of the process should happen after a further year of experience with it (i.e. after spring 2013). With respect to the recommendations related to fees, these are done or will be acted upon.

C. Saulnier and D. Griffin spoke briefly to their concerns respecting the consultation sessions this spring and voiced support for the changes to be incorporated for next year. C. Saulnier noted the importance of thorough information as a basis for decision-making and well-developed justifications for the proposals to increase fees.

K. Burt gave a brief report on the use of the past operating surplus and some discussion followed on how such decisions are made. Mr. Burt noted that although some funds are set aside to help fund future capital projects, specific funding proposals will come to the Board for decision as each of those projects is brought forward for approval. It was agreed that the Board should receive such a report annually through the Operating Committee (in years where there is a resulting surplus).

7.2 Report on Student Fee Consultations – Student Experience Committee

J. Wilson introduced the motion.

Moved by J. Wilson, seconded by B. Black:

THAT the Student Experience Committee recommend that the Board of Governors review the recent experience with the Tuition and Fee Consultation Procedures approved by the Board on February 14, 2012, such review to include consideration of the SEC recommendation that the student consultation session prescribed in the Procedures be facilitated by an independent third party.

The motion CARRIED.

8. Items for Decision

8.1 2012-2012 Student Fee Proposals

W. Fares, Chair of the Operations Committee, introduced each of the fee proposals presented on the recommendation of the Committee.

8.1.1 Tuition Fees

C. Saulnier spoke to fees for international students, suggesting that more information is needed on the breakdown of costs to educate international students. He inquired as the report on the use of the differential fee increase from last year and C. Watters responded that the report is in the process of being completed. She noted that this will be provided to the Board shortly and it will also be provided to the Minister of Labour and Advanced Education as part of the commitment made last year. In response to a question, T. Traves and C. Watters also provided information on the funding of graduate students, noting that it is a somewhat more complex situation than for undergraduate students.

Moved by W. Fares, seconded by M. Awad:

THAT the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Operations Committee, approve the 2012-13 tuition fees as presented in Appendix C, pages 15 and 16 of the Budget Advisory Committee Report XLVIII and incorporating the following adjustments:

- a) A 3% general tuition fee increase for all programs (except as noted in b and c) and the international differential fee effective April 2012.**
- b) Tuition fees in Law to increase by 5% and by 6% in MD and DDS (including Md/MSc Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery) programs.**
- c) Tuition fees for students in MSc Occupational Therapy and MSc Physiotherapy will be frozen at 2006-07 levels.**

The motion CARRIED.

8.1.2 Facilities Renewal Fee

C. Saulnier inquired as to the need for the increase in the Facilities Renewal Fee this year. K. Burt spoke to the continuing deferred maintenance backlog and the fact that this fee is used to assist in the renewal of physical assets.

Moved by W. Fares, seconded by M. Awad:

THAT the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Operations Committee, approve an increase of 3% in the auxiliary fee for facilities renewal to \$77.25 per term for full-time students effective April 2012.

The motion CARRIED.

8.1.3 Auxiliary Fees

Moved by W. Fares, seconded by J. Abbass:

THAT the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Operations Committee, approve the following:

<i>Current Fee</i>	<i>Proposed Fee</i>
<i>2011-12</i>	<i>2012-13</i>

MPA - Professional Development Program Fee

A Implementation of a \$1,000 fee for all students in the program to be phased in over three years beginning in 2012-13. (Fee proposal has been endorsed by the Public Administration Student Society)

1st Year students	per year	\$ 250.00	\$ 500.00
2nd Year students	per year	\$ -	\$ 250.00

Co-op Fees:

B Co-op fees to be aligned for the Faculties of Science, Computer Science and Engineering as follows:

Co-op Seminar Fee

Engineering and Computer Science	one time fee	\$ -	\$ 300.00
Science	one time fee	\$ 212.00	\$ 300.00
Co-op Fee	per work term	# 300.00	\$ 500.00

Music - Applied Skills Classes:

C Increased fee based on accompaniment costs in skills courses

Selected Courses	per billing hour	\$ 154.50	\$ 170.50
Selected Courses	per billing hour	\$ 154.50	\$ 187.50

Engineering :

D New fee for students in ENGI1101 for laboratory consumables and Blackberry Playbook. (students will be able to opt out of a portion of this fee where they possess a Playbook or similar device)

1st Year students enrolled in ENGI1101	\$ -	\$ 152.00
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Lab Fees:

E Increased lab fees for courses in Engineering and Science with a lab component to cover costs for laboratory supplies and consumables.

Courses in Engineering and Science with a lab component	per billing hour	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.15
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F New auxiliary fees for specific Engineering courses where there are supplemental costs not covered by the standard auxiliary fee for lab courses. (This per course fee will be assessed instead of the standard lab fee per billing hour as shown above)

Engineering - ENGI1202	per course	\$ 15.00	\$ 40.00
Chemical Engineering - CHEE4773	per course	\$ 15.00	\$ 40.00
Industrial Engineering - IENG3301	per course	\$ 15.00	\$ 30.00
Industrial Engineering - IENG3321	per course	\$ 15.00	\$ 52.00
Industrial Engineering - IENG4445	per course	\$ 15.00	\$ 30.00

Commerce Co-op Fee:

G Increase in Co-op fee to cover increasing costs. (this fee was last increased in 2006-07)
Students in B. Comm. program per academic term \$ 427.00 \$440.00

8.1.4 Student Services Fee

Moved by W. Fares, seconded by B. Black:

THAT the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Operations Committee, approve the 2012-13 Student Services Fees including the below noted increases and disbursement of additional revenues as directed by the Vice President, Student Services:

That the Student Services fees for all undergraduate students be increased by:

- \$6.50 per term for full-time student,
- \$3.63 for a part-time student in fall and winter, and
- \$5.15 for a full-time summer student.

And that the Student Services fees for professional faculties be increased by \$13.00 per 8- month period for full-time students in Medicine and Dentistry.

And that the increase in fees will be used as follows:

- \$3.00 per term to support the hiring of additional part-time counselors
- 3% increase to support services in the Student Academic Success Services units.

The motion CARRIED.

8.1.5 Residence and Food Services Fees

Moved by W. Fares, seconded by J. Abbass:

That the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Operations Committee, approve the 2012-13 residence room and meal plan rate schedule as presented.

The motion CARRIED.

8.1.6 Student Referendum Fee Proposals

The various motions presented for student referendum fee proposals were dealt with as an omnibus motion.

Moved by W. Fares, seconded by A. Palmeter:

THAT the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Operations Committee, approve the 2012-13 increase to the Dalhousie Student Union Fee of \$3.00 per full-time student and \$2.00 per part-time student per academic year.

The motion CARRIED.

THAT the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Operations Committee, approve the 2012-13 increase to the Arts Society Levy of \$2.00 per semester per full-time undergraduate Arts and Social Sciences student.

The motion CARRIED.

THAT the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Operations Committee, approve the 2012-13 Dalhousie Women's Centre levy increase of \$.80, bringing the levy to \$3.15 per full-time student.

The motion CARRIED.

THAT the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Operations Committee, approve the 2012-13 increase to the BScN Student Auxiliary Fee of \$10.00 per student per academic year.

The motion CARRIED.

8.1.7 Metro Transit U-Pass Fee Increase

Moved by W. Fares, seconded by J. Abbass:

THAT the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Operations Committee, approve the 2012-13 U-Pass fee of \$142.50 for full-time students (prorated to \$71.25 for the winter term).

The motion CARRIED.

8.2 Senate Constitution – Amendments Requiring Board Approval

L. Fraser introduced the motions as outlined in the materials provided to members. Amendments to the University Senate Constitution (Section 2 - Senate Membership), are proposed as a consequence of the merger of Dalhousie University with the Nova Scotia Agricultural College.

Moved by L. Fraser, seconded by A. Palmetter:

SUBJECT TO Dalhousie University entering into an agreement with the Province of Nova Scotia concerning the merger of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College with Dalhousie University;

AND SUBJECT TO any legislation required to give effect to the merger becoming in full force and effect:

THAT Section 2.4(b) and (c) of the Dalhousie University Senate Constitution be amended to read:

2.4(b) Students: Seven students, one of whom shall be a graduate student and one of whom shall be a student whose academic studies are primarily located on the Agricultural Campus, shall be elected to Senate for one-year terms as determined by the Dalhousie Student Union.

2.4(c) Affiliated Institutions: One representative of the University of King's College shall be a member of Senate.

9. Items for Information

9.1 Board Standing Committee Reports

J. Spatz referred Board members to the written reports for the following committees: Operations and Student Experience. There were no questions on the reports.

IN CAMERA SESSION

The Board moved *in camera* for the remainder of the meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.