

**DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY
APPROVED MINUTES OF
SENATE MEETING**

Senate met in regular session on Monday February 11, 2013, at 4:00pm, in University Hall, MacDonald Building.

Present with Lloyd Fraser in the chair were the following: Barrett, Baur, Beale, Bisset, Boran, Boudreau, Canning, Castleden, Chen, Doman, Garduno, Grant, Harman, Hewitt, Hoyle, Hughes, Johnston, Langille, MacLennan, Magill, McLarney, Miller, Mitchell, Moore, Packer, Pegg, Persaud, Pinder, Ross, Schellinck, Shukla, Stadnyk, Summerby-Murray, Tennessen, Traves, Wach, Watters, Webster, Westwood, Yiridoe.

Regrets: Ali, Amirault, Becke, Bourne-Tyson, Cochrane, Cook, Cooper, Cox, Crago, Cunningham, DasGupta, Denike, Gibson, Gorsky, Helland, Khan, Leon, MacDonald, Macy, Manning, Mansour, Marrie, Matte, Oore, Rogers, Smirnov, Tillotson, Woodman.

Absent: Arron, Brooks, Gardner, Leach, Rahemtulla, Shepherd.

Prior to the start of the meeting, Mr. Fraser welcomed a new Senator, Faye Woodman, Schulich School of Law. Ms. Woodman replaces Elizabeth Hughes who is on leave. Mr. Fraser extended Senate's appreciation to Ms. Hughes for her contributions as a member of Senate and also as a member of the Senate Planning and Governance Committee.

2013:23

Adoption of the Agenda

The February 11, 2013 agenda was **adopted**.

2013:24

Consent Agenda

Approval of Draft Minutes of January 28, 2013 Senate Meeting

THAT Senate **approve** the draft Senate minutes of January 28, 2013.

Approved by Consent.

Senate Nominating Committee: Approval of Senate Standing Committee Nominations

THAT Senate **appoint** Tarjei Tennessen, Faculty of Agriculture, for the term February 12, 2013 – June 30, 2013 to the Senate Learning and Teaching Committee (SLTC).

THAT Senate **appoint** Robert Beiko, Faculty of Computer Science, and Christopher Taggart, Faculty of Graduate Studies, for the term February 12, 2013 – June 30, 2015 to the Honorary Degrees Committee (SHDC).

THAT Senate **appoint** Kevin Hewitt, Faculty of Science, for the term February 12, 2013 – June 30, 2013 to the Senate Planning and Governance Committee (SPGC).

Approved by Consent.

2013:25

Matters Arising from the January 28, 2013 Senate Minutes

There were no matters arising from the meeting of January 28, 2013.

2013:26

Chair of Senate's Report

Mr. Fraser, on behalf of Senate, expressed condolences to family, friends, and former colleagues of Mary Turner and Alexander Taylor who passed away since the last Senate meeting. He then congratulated Dalhousie University for being one of only 15 Nova Scotia employers recognized for offering an exceptional place to work by the editors of Canada's Top 100 Employers.

Mr. Fraser proceeded to provide an update from the SRI 2012 Fall Review Work Group. He noted that the work group is on track to present a preliminary report to SLTC on March 6, 2013, a final report to SLTC on April 3, 2013, and SLTC will then report to Senate. Mr. Fraser followed this update by noting that the Report from the Senate Forum on Undergraduate Education is now available on the Senate Website. Following up on the Forum, the DALVision/Academic Innovation Initiative will be hosting consultations in Faculties and other venues. These consultations will consider which of these ideas should be more fully developed and how ongoing initiatives support the themes.

Finally, Mr. Fraser noted a few items for information. There is information on the termination of the combined Master or Planning/Master of Engineering programs attached to the agenda. The separate programs continue; it is the combination that is terminated. Mr. Fraser noted that there are currently no students in the combined program and, at the request of the units involved, its termination was approved by SAPRC, on behalf of Senate. He also noted that the approved schedule for the next three years for Senate Reviews of Faculties is also appended to the agenda. Mr. Fraser then reported that the Senate Planning and Governance Committee has cancelled the next regular meeting of Senate scheduled for February 25, 2013. Senate will, therefore, meet next on March 11, 2013.

2013:27

President's Report

Mr. Traves noted multiple ongoing initiatives currently in process, which he will comment on in future reports.

2013:28

Senate Honorary Degree Nominations (In Camera)

Mr. Fraser announced that the Senate session would go in camera, and asked that all non-senators leave the meeting. When Senate returned to open session, Mr. Fraser announced that the slate of Honorary Degree nominations had been approved.

2013:29

Senate Nominating Committee: Election of Interim Vice-Chair (Academic Programs)

Mr. Fraser noted that there were two nominations for the position of Interim Vice-Chair (Academic Programs) for the period from February 12, 2013 to June 30, 2013. Katherine Harman from the Faculty of Health Professions and Jeff Hoyle from the Faculty of Agriculture have been nominated and both have indicated a willingness to serve. Mr. Fraser then noted that the constitution provides for the possibility of nominations from the floor. He indicated that after each nominee has spoken, there would be an opportunity for questions and a ballot vote by members of Senate to follow. Mr. Fraser made a call for further nominations for the position of Interim Vice-Chair (Academic Programs), and hearing no new nominations, invited the two nominees to provide a brief presentation to Senate.

Upon completion of the ballot tabulation, Mr. Fraser reported that and congratulated Mr. Hoyle for being elected as Interim Vice-Chair (Academic Programs), and he thanked both candidates.

2013:30

Senate Learning and Teaching Committee

Alignment of Dalhousie and the Faculty of Agriculture Admission and Academic Regulations

Alan Pinder, Chair, Senate Learning and Teaching Committee, noted that in September 2012, Dalhousie merged with the former NSAC, and it was agreed that the new Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture would follow the NSAC Academic Calendar for the 2012-13 academic year, with a single Dalhousie undergraduate academic calendar applying in 2013-14 and beyond. He noted that a large number of academic regulations apply across all undergraduate Faculties, but there are some regulations that differ from Faculty to Faculty. Mr. Pinder indicated that a work group had been formed to propose the appropriate alignment of the Faculty of Agriculture admission and academic regulations. The fourteen motions resulting from this process are presented to Senate as a package. All motions are recommended by the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Agriculture and endorsed by the Senate Learning and Teaching Committee. These changes would be incorporated in the 2013-2014 Calendar.

Mr. Fraser, Chair of the Work Group, noted that the group met with the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Agriculture in December and January, and there was a very positive and helpful discussion regarding the regulations. Mr. Fraser noted that the goal of the changes is to ensure a smooth transition for faculty, staff, and students. It was noted that the Faculty of Agriculture's grade scale has been percentage based; therefore, a number of regulations were changes to incorporate the GPA change. With regards to good standing, a GPA of 2.0 is suggested to align with other Faculties. This will allow for a smooth transition to other programs to match student interest. With regards to diplomas, these programs have been offered historically by NSAC; therefore, there are now three levels of study being offered— diploma, undergraduate, and graduate. It was also noted that SAPRC is currently discussing certificates and diplomas. They are in the process of putting together a work group to recommend a university wide set of procedures.

On behalf of the Senate Learning and Teaching Committee, Mr. Pinder MOVED:

THAT Senate approve the motions attached hereto as listed in the "Alignment of the Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture Admission Requirements and Academic Regulations" document dated February 11, 2013.

The motion **CARRIED**.

The motions for the Alignment of the Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture Admission Requirements and Academic Regulations are appended to the minutes.

Revised Policy on Academic Forgiveness

Mr. Pinder noted that changes to the Policy on Academic Forgiveness are to incorporate the diploma in technology programs, which are two-year programs. Changes in the policy include the addition of technology students, change to 24 credit hours (instead of credits) for four-year programs, and addition of 8 credit hours for two-year programs. It was also noted that the word “hearing” in the former policy was changed to “decision.” Students will need to complete at least half their credits after receiving forgiveness. It was noted that these changes will take effect the next academic year. It was also emphasized that graduate students are not eligible under this policy and it will appear only in the undergraduate calendar. It was also noted that all grades prior to receiving forgiveness remain on the transcript.

On behalf of the Senate Learning and Teaching Committee, Mr. Pinder MOVED:

THAT Senate approve the revised Policy on Academic Forgiveness, effective as of September 1, 2013.

The motion **CARRIED**.

The revised Policy on Academic Forgiveness is appended to the minutes.

Academic Calendar Amendment: Change from Class to Course

Mr. Pinder noted that use of the term “course” is a more common term than “class” and, if approved, the changes in terminology would take effect immediately, but the transition would take time. It was emphasized that the term “class” will not be re-defined; it is simply being replaced. A sum of classes is considered a course.

On behalf of the Senate Learning and Teaching Committee, Mr. Pinder MOVED:

THAT Senate approve the term **course**, replacing the term **class**, to identify a unit of study in a subject area. Such a course is identified by a course/subject label, number, credit unit value and title. The change will be effective immediately.

The motion **CARRIED**.

2013:31

Senate Review of the Faculty of Dentistry

Mr. Fraser called on Tom Boran, Dean, Faculty of Dentistry to present the Senate Review of the Faculty of Dentistry. He thanked the Senate Review Committee, chaired by John McCabe, School of Health and Human Performance, and noted that the review was combined with the Accreditation review. He noted

that the shared experience was a beneficial process for both committees, and joint reviews should be encouraged and supported for the next accreditation site visit.

Mr. Boran noted that the majority of the recommendations had already been completed or were in the process of completion. He then highlighted recommendations 1, 2, 3, 8, and 11, which can all be found in the meeting package, and he emphasized the importance that all stakeholders were involved in the strategic planning process to review its academic plan and priorities for the next five years. Mr. Boran also highlighted the clinic and facilities renewal plans, and the importance of first year students being exposed to patients immediately.

2013:32

Question Period

There were no questions.

2013:33

Other Business

There was no other business.

2013:34

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:35pm.

Approved Motions - Alignment of the Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture Admission Requirements and Academic Regulations

THAT Faculty Council recommend to Senate the proposed admissions requirements for the Diploma in Engineering:

Admission Requirements

- English 12
- Pre-calculus 12
- Physics 12
- Chemistry 12
- One other acceptable university-preparatory class 12
- Minimum final grades:
 - o English, Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics = 65%
 - o Other subjects = 60%
 - o Overall average = 70%

Applicants who have not completed or have not achieved the minimum grade in the science and math requirements may be admitted to the Diploma in Engineering and complete the missing classes during their first year of studies. Students must complete the preparatory classes prior to taking the university level equivalent. Preparatory classes are available on campus.

THAT Faculty Council recommend to Senate the following student academic workload regulation for the Faculty of Agriculture:

Student Academic Workload

A normal full-time course load for students registered in the degree programs in Agriculture is considered to be five classes per semester. A normal full-time course load for students registered in the technology programs in Agriculture, as well as the Diploma in Engineering is five to six classes per semester, depending on the program. Students wishing to increase their workload to six classes per semester (degree) or seven classes per semester (technology) with a sessional GPA greater than 3.00 should contact the Registrar's Office. Students with a GPA less than 3.00 will need the permission of the faculty advisor and the Assistant Dean, Students.

THAT Faculty Council recommend to Senate the proposed addition to the undergraduate academic calendar, Academic Regulations, Section 6 – Counting of Credits for Two Dalhousie Undergraduate Degrees:

Current Dalhousie Regulation Common to all Faculties:

Students who hold one undergraduate degree from Dalhousie and who wish to gain a second undergraduate degree must fulfill the requirements of the second degree and meet the following stipulations:

1. Only credits that are applicable to the program for the second degree may be counted for credit.
2. Each credit carried forward must have a grade of C or higher.

Proposed Addition:

6.7 Faculty of Agriculture

For degrees in the Faculty of Agriculture a minimum of 10 new full credits must be taken.

THAT Faculty Council recommend to Senate the proposed addition to the undergraduate academic calendar, Academic Regulations, Section 15 – Duration of Technology and Undergraduate Studies:

15.6 Faculty of Agriculture

Students in the Bachelor of Science (Agriculture) are normally required to complete their undergraduate studies within ten years of their first registration. Students in the Bachelor of Technology and the Diploma in Technology are normally required to complete their studies within six years of their first registration. Students in the Diploma in Engineering are normally required to complete their studies within four years. This is also the normal limit for transfer credits.

However, the Assistant Dean Students may recommend to the Registrar that a student be given a reasonable extension to complete the degree or diploma requirements, with the stipulation that the student must meet the graduation requirements in force when the extension is granted.

THAT Faculty Council recommend to Senate the proposed addition to the undergraduate academic calendar, Academic Regulations, Section 18 – Good Standing:

Current Dalhousie Regulation:

Students who meet the required GPA are considered to be in good academic standing.

Proposed Addition:

In the Faculty of Agriculture, a cumulative GPA of 2.00 is required.

THAT Faculty Council recommend to Senate the proposed addition to the undergraduate academic calendar, Academic Regulations, Section 19 – Probation.

Faculty of Agriculture:

Students with a cumulative GPA of less than 2.00 and greater than or equal to 1.70 who have completed at least four full credits will be placed on academic probation.

Students on probation are allowed to continue to register on probation provided their term GPA is at least 2.00. Students will be returned to “good standing” when they achieve a cumulative GPA of 2.00. Students on probation who do not achieve a term GPA of 2.00 will be academically dismissed.

Students require a cumulative GPA of 2.00 to graduate. Therefore, no one will be

allowed to graduate while on probation.

THAT Faculty Council recommend to Senate the proposed addition to the undergraduate academic calendar, Academic Regulations, Section 20 – Academic Dismissal.

Faculty of Agriculture:

Students with a cumulative GPA of less than 1.70 who have completed at least four full credits will be academically dismissed for a 12-month period.

Students on probation who do not achieve a term GPA of 2.00 or greater will be academically dismissed for a 12-month period.

Students who have been academically dismissed will not be allowed to continue their studies for at least twelve months. Such students will be required to apply for re-admission.

Students who have been academically dismissed for the first time and have subsequently been re-admitted after an absence of a 12-month period may reregister on probation.

Faculty of Agriculture students who have been academically dismissed for the second time will not normally be allowed to apply for re-admission for at least three calendar years. Students who have been dismissed for either the first or second time may appeal this decision (see section 24 of the academic calendar).

THAT Faculty Council recommend to Senate the proposed revisions to the admission requirements for the Bachelor of Science (Agriculture) and Pre-Veterinary Medicine program:

Admission Requirements:

Five grade 12 academic level subjects including:

- English 12
- Pre-calculus 12
- Chemistry 12
- Elective 12
- Elective 12

Minimum overall average: 70%

Subject minimum grade: 65%

Applicants who do not have the Math or Science requirements can be admitted on the condition that they complete the required pre-university level subject prior to taking the university level subject. Preparatory classes are available on campus.

Applicants in all majors except Agricultural Business, Agricultural Economics and Plant Science will be required to have Physics 12 or to take the preparatory physics on campus prior to enrolling in university level physics.

It is recommended that applicants also take Biology 12, and where available at the high school level, courses in Agriculture or Food Science.

THAT Faculty Council recommend to Senate the proposed changes to the Diploma in Technology – Plant Science admission requirements:

Admission Requirements:

Eight high school level subjects including:

- English 12
- Math 11
- Chemistry 11
- Science 10 or Biology 10
- Four Grade 12 level electives

THAT Faculty Council recommend to Senate the proposed changes to the Diploma in Business Management admission requirements:

Admission Requirements:

Eight high school level subjects including:

- English 12
- Math 11
- Chemistry 11 or Biology 11 or Agriculture
- Science 10 or equivalent
- Four Grade 12 level electives

THAT Faculty Council recommend to Senate the proposed changes to the undergraduate academic calendar, Academic Regulations, Section 21 – Graduation Standing:

Proposed Change:

Minimum Cumulative GPA

A minimum cumulative GPA of 2.00 is required for the awarding of an undergraduate degree in the Faculties of **Agriculture**, Architecture and Planning, Arts and Social Sciences, Computer Science, Engineering, Health Professions, Management and Science.

A minimum cumulative GPA of 2.00 is required for the awarding of technology diplomas in the Faculty of Agriculture.

For details on the required standing for graduation in honours programs, see the Degree Requirements section of this calendar for the Faculties of Arts and Social Sciences, Science and the appropriate faculty/school section for honours programs in other faculties.

Graduation with Distinction

Faculties of Agriculture, Architecture and Planning, Arts and Social Sciences, Computer Science, Engineering, Science and Management

A cumulative GPA of at least 3.70 is required to graduate with distinction. For the

purpose determining whether a student will graduate with distinction, all classes taken while registered in a level of study at Dalhousie, including classes taken on letter of permission, repeated classes, and classes for which non-passing grades were obtained, are included. At least half of the classes must be completed at Dalhousie. The notation "Distinction" will appear on the transcript.

THAT Faculty Council recommend to Senate the following academic regulation for the Faculty of Agriculture:

Counting of Credit for two Dalhousie Diploma in Technology Programs

Students who hold one technology diploma from Dalhousie and who wish to gain a second technology diploma must fulfill the requirements of the second diploma and meet the following stipulations:

- a. Only credits that are applicable to the program for the second diploma may be counted for credit.
- b. Each credit carried forward must have a grade of C or higher.
- c. At least half of the credits in the second diploma must be new credits.

THAT Faculty Council recommend to Senate the following academic regulation for the Faculty of Agriculture:

Counting of Credit from Diploma in Technology to Undergraduate Programs

Students who have completed technology diploma level classes may be eligible to receive degree level credit for such classes, to a maximum of 60 credit hours, evaluated on a class by class basis with a minimum grade of "C". Students who successfully complete a Technical Diploma program in the Faculty of Agriculture and apply to the Bachelor of Science (Agriculture) program will receive a minimum of 30 credit hours toward the degree.

THAT Faculty Council recommend to Senate the following academic regulation for the Faculty of Agriculture:

Counting of Credit from Continuing Education Classes toward Diploma in Technology Programs

Special permission to complete a limited number of select continuing education classes in the Faculty of Agriculture may be granted to students enrolled in technology diploma programs. These classes must be approved in advance by the Dean or designate. Any student who wishes to explore this option should contact their academic advisor.

ACADEMIC FORGIVENESS POLICY

Approved by SCAA, December 6, 2006

Amended by Senate, February 11, 2013

The Academic Forgiveness policy allows a returning student to apply to the Registrar's Office for academic forgiveness of his/her prior cumulative grade point average. The policy is designed for undergraduate and technology students who have had a period of absence from their academic program and have demonstrated acceptable academic performance following their return. The Academic Forgiveness policy is subject to the following regulations.

REGULATIONS

1. Academic Forgiveness applies only to returning undergraduate and technology students who have had an absence of at least three calendar years from their program or faculty at Dalhousie University.
2. For undergraduate students, a minimum of 24 credit hours of coursework, or for Diploma in Technology students, a minimum of 8 credit hours, with a grade point average of at least 2.0, must be completed after returning before a written request for Academic Forgiveness may be submitted to the Registrar's Office.
3. Academic Forgiveness will affect the student's cumulative grade point average in all courses taken prior to the minimum three-year absence. Academic Forgiveness applies to all courses taken at all colleges/universities during the forgiveness period, not only selected courses or terms.
4. No punitive grades resulting from an Academic Discipline decision will be forgiven.
5. A student can have the Academic Forgiveness policy applied to his or her academic record only one time.

With the approval of the Registrar or designate, in consultation with the Dean, the student will be granted Academic Forgiveness. The student's transcript will remain a record of all coursework completed and original grades obtained. Courses taken prior to the three or more year absence will not be used in computing the student's cumulative grade point average, with the exception of punitive grades awarded as the result of an Academic Discipline decision. Students will be eligible to retain credit for courses in which they received a passing grade. However students will be required to complete at least half the credits required for their academic program following Academic Forgiveness before they will be eligible to graduate.

The transcript will have "Academic Forgiveness" noted on it at the end of the last term for which the student receives forgiveness.