

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND

BOARD OF REGENTS

The regular meeting of the Board of Regents was held on Thursday, April 11, 1996, in the Board Room of the University, at 4:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

Ms. Janet Gardiner, Chair
Ms. Jeannie French, Vice-Chair
Dr. Arthur May, President and Vice-Chancellor
Dr. Jaap Tuinman, Vice-President (Academic) & Pro Vice-Chancellor
Mr. Jerry Bishop
Ms. Mary Ennis
Mr. Peter Fenwick
Ms. Gudrid Hutchings
Mr. Ed Kennedy
Mr. Robert Mendoza
Mr. George Neal
Mr. David Power
Mr. Alexander Roche
Ms. Grace Stapleton
Ms. Betty Williams
Ms. Maureen Woodrow
Ms. Eleanor Bennett, Secretary

APOLOGIES: The Honourable John C. Crosbie, Mr. David Andrews, Dr. Ches Blackwood, Mr. Aubrey Bonnell, Mr. Chris Facey, Mr. Sean Hanrahan, Ms. Barbara Lewis, Dr. Robert MacLeod, Ms. Frankie O'Neill, Mr. Raymond Rose, Ms. Heather Tulk, and Mr. Mel Woodward.

PRESENT BY INVITATION: Mr. Wayne Thistle, Vice-President (Administration and Finance) and Legal Counsel.

1. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Regents held on Thursday, March 14, 1996, copies of which were circulated prior to the meeting, were accepted by the Board.

2. BUSINESS ARISING

1. VOLUNTARY EARLY RETIREMENT INCENTIVE PROGRAM (VERIP)

The President updated the Board concerning the VERIP, and advised that the acceptance deadline had been extended to April 15, 1996. It would not be certain until the end of April exactly what the take-up would be, but it was expected that it would be a smaller number than had been originally anticipated. He also advised that permission had been sought from Government to offer the VERIP to staff employees and it was expected that a favourable reply to this request would be forthcoming.

2. CONGRATULATIONS TO ROBERT MENDOZA

The Chair and members of the Board extended congratulations to Mr. Robert Mendoza on being recently elected as President of the Council of the Students' Union.

3. EXPIRATION OF TERM FOR ED KENNEDY

The Chair extended best wishes to Mr. Ed Kennedy, one of the student representatives, whose term on the Board will conclude at the end of April. On behalf of the Board, she presented him with a certificate of appreciation for his contribution to the Board during his term.

4. MEETINGS OF COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD

1. FINANCE COMMITTEE

The regular meeting of the Finance Committee scheduled for April 11, 1996, was cancelled.

2. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS COMMITTEE

A Summary of Business Transacted at the Employee Benefits Committee meeting held on April 11, 1996, copies of which were circulated at the meeting, was presented by the Chair of the Committee, Ms. Grace Stapleton, and accepted by the Board. There were no items requiring specific approval of the Board.

3. APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

A report of the Appointments Committee meeting held on April 11, 1996, copies of which were circulated at the meeting, was presented by the Chair of the Committee, Ms. Grace Stapleton and accepted by the Board.

3. SENATE MINUTES

The Minutes of the Regular meeting of Senate held on March 12, 1996, and the Special meeting of Senate held on March 12, 1996, copies of which were circulated prior to the meeting, were presented by the President and accepted by the Board. Specific approval was given to the following item:

ITEM 45 – REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
NO. 45.4

7. PRESIDENT'S BUSINESS

1. ESTATE OF THE LATE MISS ANNA C. TEMPLETON

Tabled for information was correspondence related to the estate of the late Miss Anna C. Templeton, in which she bequeathed a total of \$70,000.00 to the Scholarship Fund of the University.

2. UPDATE CANADA GAMES PARK

The President tabled a progress report from the Board of Directors of the Canada Games Park. The report addressed initiatives to increase revenues and decrease costs; initiatives to promote integration and cooperation with the School of Physical Education and Athletics; initiatives to increase participation by students and employees of the University; and initiatives to increase community participation, as well as a strategic planning process. He reported that good progress is being made in all areas.

3. SPRING CONVOCATION

Circulated for information was a list of times and dates for the seven sessions of Spring Convocation to be held in St. John's on

May 23, 24 and 25, the one session to be held in Corner Brook on May 10, along with the names of the honorary graduand for each session.

4. MUN PENSION

The Board was informed that MUNFA representatives had met independently with Mr. John Bennett, Assistant Deputy Minister of Debt Management and Pensions with the Government, regarding the removal of government guarantee of the MUN Pension Fund. Concerns were expressed that MUNFA was consulting with Government independent of other university groups and outside of the University Pensions Committee.

5. EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – CORNER BROOK RECPLEX

The President advised the Board that the City of Corner Brook was seeking expressions of interest for the purchase, lease or operation of their Recplex. The Board agreed that this facility did not complement the program and activities of Sir Wilfred Grenfell College now or in the foreseeable future. and that the University would not express an interest in the property.

6. PRESIDENT'S AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING RESEARCH

Circulated for information were copies of a memo outlining a recommendation from the Senate Committee on Research that Dr. John de Bruyn, Department of Physics and Physical Oceanography, receive the President's Award for Outstanding Research for 1996.

7. FORMALIZATION OF SIR WILFRED GRENFELL COLLEGE ART ACQUISITION TRUST ACCOUNT

The President tabled correspondence requesting the formalization of Sir Wilfred Grenfell College Art Acquisition Trust Account. The following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents grants approval to the establishment of the Sir Wilfred Grenfell College Art Acquisition Trust Account as follows:

1) The purpose of the account is to acquire works of art for the Sir Wilfred Grenfell College Collection consistent with the College's Art Acquisition Policy.

2) The \$25,000.00 currently in the account be restricted as an endowment of the principal for such acquisitions.

3) That the Principal of Sir Wilfred Grenfell College should have discretion to recommend additions to the principal as she/he sees fit.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

1. BOARD MEETING AND CONVOCATION – CORNER BROOK

Circulated for information at the meeting was a revised schedule of events for the Board meeting and Convocation to be held in Corner Brook May 10 and 11, 1996.

2. PRE-BUDGET CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

Circulated for information prior to the meeting were copies of the submission to Government, "Pre-Budget Consultation on Fiscal Position and Choices" along with a covering letter to the Minister of Finance from the President.

10. PRE-PLANNING FOR 1996-97 BUDGET

The President reviewed background information concerning the pre-budget planning process and informed the Board of the outcome of recent meetings held with government officials to discuss the University's budget situation. Mr. Thistle then provided the Board with a detailed presentation of the 1996-97 budget summary. He specifically described expenditure projections, revenue analyses, and funds required to achieve reductions within a balanced budget, all over a three-year time horizon.

Circulated for information following the presentation were copies of a letter to the Minister of Education from the President in which he outlined in detail the University's budget situation and expressed grave concern for the inability to cope with reductions in the Government grant.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.