

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND

BOARD OF REGENTS

The regular meeting of the Board of Regents was held on Thursday, December 11, 1997, at 3:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the University.

PRESENT:

Mr. Edward Roberts, Chair  
Ms. Jeannie French, Vice-Chair  
Dr. Arthur May, President and Vice-Chancellor  
Dr. Jaap Tuinman, Vice-President (Academic) and Pro Vice-Chancellor  
Mr. Alick Andrews  
Ms. Gail Aylward  
Mr. Cyril Bonia  
Mr. Aubrey Bonnell  
Mr. William Dilny  
Ms. Sharon Duggan  
Mr. Fred Durant  
Mr. Peter Fenwick  
Dr. Georgina Hedges  
Ms. Nancy Kelly  
Dr. Brendan Lewis  
Mr. George Neal  
Ms. Frankie O'Neill  
Mr. Brendan Paddick  
Ms. Joan Pinsent  
Mr. David Power  
Mr. Stephen Power  
Mr. Alexander Roche  
Mr. Harvey Short  
Mr. Robert Stack  
Ms. Amy Wyse  
Ms. Eleanor Bennett, Secretary

APOLOGIES: The Honourable John C. Crosbie, Chancellor, 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 November 6, 1997, and the special meeting held on December 4, 1997, copies of which were circulated, were accepted by the Board.

#### 2. UPDATE ON THE ALAN LAW CASE

The President reported that since the December 4 special meeting of the Board, both sides had agreed to postpone the court hearing until January 12, 1998, and that discussions were proceeding toward reaching a mutually agreeable settlement. Concerns were expressed about the delay in receiving a legal opinion, and, in reply, Mr. Thistle presented a chronological report of the events and the background to the recommendation made by the President to the Chair of the Board dated December 3.

#### 3. TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Background information relating to the establishment of an Executive Committee had been circulated. The objectives and responsibilities and the number of members on the committee were discussed. These points were taken under advisement and a recommendation would be brought back to the Board for its January meeting.

#### 4. POLICY STATEMENT ON ENTREPRENEURIAL ACTIVITY IN NONACADEMIC AREAS

A copy of this report was circulated and Dr. May and Mr. Thistle addressed the issues contained therein. After discussion it was the consensus that there was a need for further consultation within the University and the community at large. The President was requested to consider the points raised and report back to the Board at its March meeting.

#### 5. TERMS OF REFERENCE OF EMPLOYEE BENEFITS AND PENSIONS COMMITTEES

Copies of the amendments to the terms of reference of the Employee Benefits and Pensions Committees were circulated. It was agreed that the composition of the committees needed further streamlining. Mr. Thistle agreed to redraft these terms of reference and make further recommendations at a future meeting.

## 6. SENATE

The minutes of the regular and special meetings of Senate held on November 18, 1997, copies of which were circulated, were presented by the President and accepted by the Board.

## 7. MEETINGS OF COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD

### 1. APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

A Report of the Appointments Committee meeting held on December 11, 1997, copies of which were circulated, was presented by the Chair of the Committee, Mr. Roche, and accepted by the Board.

### 2. FINANCE COMMITTEE

A draft of the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on December 11, 1997, copies of which were circulated, was presented by the Chair of the Committee, Ms. French, and accepted by the Board. The following resolutions were passed with respect to the items requiring specific Board approval:

#### ITEM A – STUDENT AID RENOVATIONS

RESOLVED:

That the Board grants approval to the Investment Committee to finance the renovation costs for the Student Aid Offices (Department of Education) through the Pooled Investment Fund at market interest rates with a ten to twelve year amortization.

#### ITEM B – COMPUTER SCIENCE INTERNSHIP FEE STRUCTURE

RESOLVED:

That the Board approves a new fee of \$200 per semester for students registered in the Computer Science Internship, effective Winter Semester 1998.

Mr. Stack left the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

### 3. CAMPUS PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the Campus Planning and Development Committee meeting held on December 11, 1997, copies of which were circulated, were presented by the Chair of the Committee, Mr. Short, and accepted by the Board. There were no items requiring specific Board approval.

### 8. SOFTWARE ENGINEERING

Ms. O'Neill declared a conflict of interest and left the meeting during discussion of this item. The President provided background information on the Software Engineering issue by way of a memo which had been circulated. He reported that the Canadian Council of Professional Engineers (CCPE) had decided to take the issue to court and that its target would be Memorial. The Association of University Colleges of Canada (AUCC) has been alerted on the issue and an attempt is being made to join a discussion with CCPE in an effort to come to some resolution on a national basis. The Board would be further advised on this matter at the next meeting.

### 9. BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

Circulated for information were copies of the following:

- (a) Correspondence to and from Dr. A.F. Aboulazm
- (b) Ms. Trudi Brake's letter of resignation and the Chair's reply
- (c) Art Gallery Annual Report
- (d) Report from the Faculty of Business Administration

### 10. CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION

Circulated for information was a letter from the Minister of Education to the Chair of the Board in which he raised a number of issues. He requested that the Board undertake a review of its budgetary decisions and re-examine all operations with a view to

waiving the tuition fee increases scheduled to come into effect next fall. The President advised that a full report of the preliminary budget estimates, which would address this matter, would be available for the January meeting.

The Minister noted that an amendment to the Memorial University Act was being drafted to accommodate increased student representation on the Board of Regents. He also requested that the Board give future consideration to conducting a more thorough review of the total Act.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.