

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND

BOARD OF REGENTS

The regular meeting of the Board of Regents was held on Thursday, January 9, 1997, at 4:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the University.

PRESENT:

Ms. Janet Gardiner, Chair
Ms. Jeannie French, Vice-Chair
The Honourable John C. Crosbie, Chancellor
Dr. Arthur May, President and Vice-Chancellor
Dr. Jaap Tuinman, Vice-President (Academic) and Pro Vice-Chancellor
Mr. Alick Andrews
Mr. Jerry Bishop
Dr. Ches Blackwood
Ms. Trudi Brake
Mr. William Dilny
Mr. Fred Durant
Ms. Mary Ennis
Mr. Peter Fenwick
Ms. Barbara Lewis
Dr. Robert MacLeod
Mr. Robert Mendoza
Mr. George Neal
Ms. Frankie O'Neill
Mr. David Power
Mr. Stephen Power
Mr. Alexander Roche
Mr. Robert Stack
Ms. Grace Stapleton
Ms. Betty Williams
Ms. Amy Wyse
Ms. Eleanor Bennett, Secretary

APOLOGIES: Mr. Aubrey Bonnell, Ms. Gudrid Hutchings 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, November 14, 1996, copies of which were circulated prior to the meeting, were accepted by the Board.

2. BUSINESS ARISING

COMPUTER SOFTWARE ENGINEERING

After careful reexamination of this issue and following a discussion of the concerns raised, the Board passed the following resolution:

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents grants approval to a recommendation that the Board accept the decision of Senate that the Computer Science Department offer the honours degree with a specialization in computer software engineering referred to in the pertinent minute of the November 1996 meeting of Senate. The Board agreed to instruct the Registrar to include in the University Calendar an appropriate disclaimer indicating that this program specialization not lead to status as "Professional Engineer", a term defined by various Provincial Acts and of potential legal consequence for the University.

The Board further granted approval to a recommendation that this be provisional for the academic years 1997-98 and 1998-99. The Board agreed to instruct the Vice-President (Academic) to prepare for consideration by Senate, its appropriate committees and the Board of Regents prior to December 1997, a university-wide academic plan for the provision of adequate programming in computer software engineering and related specializations. The Board will review progress in this area with considerations of resource efficiencies uppermost.

The President agreed to write the Canadian Council of Professional Engineers to advise that if the engineering community in Canada continued to have difficulty in this area, they might consider raising

the matter with the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada.

3. SENATE MINUTES

The Minutes of the regular meetings of Senate held on November 12, 1996 and December 10, 1996, copies of which were circulated prior to the meeting, were presented by the President and endorsed by the Board.

4. OTHER BUSINESS

1. LABOUR RELATIONS UPDATE

Circulated for information were copies of a report from the Director of Faculty Relations updating recent arbitration hearings and grievances, providing statistics, and advising of recent human rights complaints.

2. MUN BOTANICAL GARDEN

The Chair provided a brief report on the financial status of the MUN Botanical Garden, Inc. The President also noted that there was currently a nation-wide search for a replacement for Dr. Peter Scott, Director of the Garden.

3. MARCH MEETING OF THE BOARD

The Chair advised that the next scheduled meeting of the Board would be held on Friday, March 7, 1997. (NOTE: Following the Board meeting it was decided that Thursday, March 20, 1997 was a much more acceptable date).

5. MEETINGS OF COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD

1. APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

A Report of the Appointments Committee meeting held on January 9, 1997, copies of which were circulated at the meeting, was presented by the Chair of the Committee, Ms. Grace Stapleton, and accepted by the Board.

2. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS COMMITTEE

A Summary of Business transacted at the Employee Benefits Committee meeting held on January 8, 1997, 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, however, Ms. Stapleton brought the Board's attention to the matter of group insurance renewals for the 1997-98 policy year and the matter of process. She also reported that the matter raised by the Pensioners Association with respect to the Trust Fund Account would be dealt with at an upcoming meeting between the Pensioners Association and the administration.

After a discussion it was decided to refer the report to the administration for review, analysis and recommendations for Board action.

3. PENSIONS COMMITTEE

A Summary of Business transacted at the Pensions Committee meeting held on January 9, 1997, copies of which were circulated at the meeting, was presented by the Chair of the Committee, Ms. Frankie O'Neill, and accepted by the Board. There were no items requiring specific approval of the Board, but Ms. O'Neill advised the Board of what had transpired when the issue of Supplemental Retirement Income Plan had arisen at the meeting. She advised the Board that since this matter had been the subject of a grievance launched by MUNFA against the University, it was inappropriate to engage in any discussion of this item.

Ms. O'Neill sought the advice of the Board with respect to the appropriateness of discussion of this item at the Pensions Committee and the Board fully supported her in her actions.

The matter of process and the Board's desire to create a more workable committee structure with respect to the Pensions and the Employee Benefits Committees was reviewed. After a lengthy discussion it was decided to refer the matter to the Executive Committee of the Board after which a recommendation would be made to the Board at its next meeting.

It was also the Board's desire to ensure that during the upcoming rounds of negotiations with the various staff unions, the issue of membership and mandate of both these committees be included in the bargaining process.

The following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents supports the Chair of the Pensions Committee in her actions with respect to the matter of Supplemental Retirement Income Plan; that the matter of committee restructuring be referred to the Executive Committee of the Board for a solution; and to ensure that this matter be included in the next round of collective bargaining with each union.

4. CAMPUS PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the Campus Planning and Development Committee meeting held on December 17, 1996, copies of which were circulated prior to the meeting, were presented by Ms. Betty Williams, and accepted by the Board. The following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents grants approval to the budget, cash flow and time frame for tender call and construction for the University Centre and Field House as presented at the Campus Planning and Development Committee meeting.

At this point, the Chair welcomed to the meeting, Mr. Aidan Kiernan and Mr. Gary Bradshaw, Associate Director and Director of Facilities Management, respectively.

Mr. Kiernan provided the Board with a slide presentation of the three projects to be completed under the Capital Campaign Fund. These are the construction of a new University Centre, expansion to the Arts and Science Building for student facilities at Sir Wilfred Grenfell College, and the construction of a Physical Education Field House.

Following a short question and answer period, the Chair thanked Mr. Kiernan and Mr. Bradshaw for their informative presentation and they both left the meeting.

5. FINANCE COMMITTEE

A draft of the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on January 9, 1997, copies of which were circulated prior to the meeting, was presented by Ms. Jeannie French. On the recommendation of the Finance Committee the following resolutions were passed:

ITEM A – TUITION FEES FOR THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC

A recommendation from the Finance Committee that approval for a special tuition fee equal to \$590.00 be implemented for courses in second principal applied study (Music 141A, 141B, 241A, 241B, 341A, 341B, 441A, and 441B), effective September 1, 1997, was deferred for further consideration and clarification.

ITEM B – REVISED FEE SCHEDULE FOR MASTER'S PROGRAMME

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents grants approval to a new graduate fee structure, effective September 1, 1997, for newly admitted students to the Master's Programmes as follows:

- (a) basic minimum fee for full time Master's degree students of \$3,750.00, subject to annual increases as approved by the Board, payable in three equal instalments; and
- (b) fourth and all subsequent semesters, students would be assessed a semester fee which would be \$412.00 based on the current rate.

ITEM C – REVISED BUDGET ESTIMATES 1996–97

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents grants approval to the Revised Budget Estimates of Revenues and Expenditures for the Fiscal Year 1996–97 with an estimated deficit of \$2,413,000 based on Revenues of

\$141,038,000, and Expenditures of \$144,451,000, with the deficit to be recovered over the next two years.

ITEM D – CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PROJECTS

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents grants approval to proceed with the design and construction of the University Centre and the Physical Education Field House at a maximum capital cost of \$24 million to be funded through the University Opportunity Fund.

6. FACULTY OF MEDICINE – DRAFT PROGRAM REVIEW

Circulated for information prior to the meeting were copies of a draft program review of the Faculty of Medicine. Some concern was expressed with respect to a reference in the report that the University has no commitment to the province's health issues and does not consider health care as part of its mission or mandate. Dr. Tuinman agreed to bring this matter to the immediate attention of the Dean of Medicine for correction in the final version of the report.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.