

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND

BOARD OF REGENTS

The regular meeting of the Board of Regents was held on Thursday, June 11, 1998 at 2:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the University.

PRESENT:

Mr. Aubrey Bonnell, Vice-Chair
Mr. John Crosbie, Chancellor
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. William Dilny
Ms. Sharon Duggan
Mr. Fred Durant
Ms. Jeannie French
Mr. Peter Fenwick
Dr. Georgina Hedges
Dr. Brendan Lewis
Ms. Frankie O'Neill
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: Mr. Edward Roberts, Chair of the Board, Ms. Nancy Kelly, Mr. Brendan Paddick, Ms. Lorelei Stanley, and Mr. Mel Woodward.

ABSENCE OF THE CHAIR

In the absence of the Chair of the Board, Mr. Roberts, the Vice-Chair of the Board, Mr. Bonnell, acted as Chair.

PRESENT BY INVITATION: Mr. Wayne Thistle, Vice-President (Administration and Finance) and Legal Counsel and Dr. Jack Strawbridge, Acting Vice-President (Academic).

The Chair extended a warm welcome to Dr. Jack Strawbridge who would be attending future Board meetings as Acting Vice-President (Academic) until a new Vice-President (Academic) is appointed.

1. PRESENTATION OF THE PARKLAND CONCEPT

The Chair welcomed to the meeting Dr. Paul Johnson, Mr. Neil Dawe and Ms. Heddy Peddle from the Johnson Foundation/Grand Concourse. Mr. Dawe provided the Board with a detailed presentation of the Parkland Concept which is a major initiative of the Grand Concourse and Johnson Foundation that will unify into one "area", the very large and attractive lands, waterbodies and important buildings and institutions, stretching from Kent's Pond to the west of the Health Sciences Centre. He described its overall objective, the parkland partners, its features and activities and advised of the implications for the university.

After a brief question and answer period the Chair thanked Mr. Dawe for his very thorough and informative presentation and thanked Dr. Johnson for his invaluable contribution to this concept. The Board passed the following resolution:

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents endorses the Parkland Concept as presented.

Dr. Johnson, Mr. Dawe and Ms. Peddle left the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

2. MINUTES

The Minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Regents held on May 7, 1998, copies of which were circulated, were accepted by the Board, as amended.

3. LAST MEETING FOR DR. TUINMAN

The Chair noted that Dr. Tuinman was attending his last Board meeting and thanked him for his substantial contribution to the University during his tenure as Vice-President (Academic). He joined with the members of the Board in wishing him well in his new position as President of the Open Learning Agency in Burnaby.

4. LAST MEETING FOR MS. WYSE

The Chair noted that as Ms. Wyse's term will conclude at the end of July and that she was attending her last Board meeting. The Chair thanked her for her contribution to the Board during her term and wished her well in her future endeavours.

5. BUSINESS ARISING

1. UPDATE ON SOFTWARE ENGINEERING

Item 4653 refers. Dr. May provided the Board with an update on the Software Engineering matter advising that pre-trial discoveries are scheduled within the next couple of months and the trial is expected to take place in St. John's in early 1999.

2. MEDICAL SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

Minute 2654, Item 2671 refers. Mr. Stack declared a conflict with this item and absented himself from the discussion.

Dr. May agreed to provide background information on this matter and address the Board's questions and concerns at the September Board meeting.

6. MEETINGS OF COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD

1. APPOINTMENTS

A Report of the Appointments Committee meeting held on June 11, 1998, copies of which were circulated, was presented by the Chair of the Committee, Mr. Roche, and accepted by the Board.

2. PENSIONS

A Report of the Pensions Committee meeting held on May 26, 1998, copies of which were circulated, was presented by the Chair of the

Committee, Mr. Durant, and accepted by the Board. There were no items requiring specific Board approval.

Dr. May advised the Board that he had received correspondence from the President of the Pensioners' Association requesting increased representation on the committee. He advised that he would bring this matter to the Board's attention at the September meeting.

Mr. Durant left the meeting at 4:45 p.m.

3. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

A Report of the Employee Benefits Committee meeting held on June 10, 1998, copies of which were circulated at the meeting, was presented by the Chair of the Committee, Ms. O'Neill, and accepted by the Board. There were no items requiring specific Board approval.

7. FINANCE COMMITTEE ITEMS

There was no meeting of the Finance committee. The following items were presented to the Board for its approval:

1. INCREASE IN C.S.U. FEES

Mr. Thistle presented a recommendation from the Council of the Students' Union for an increase in the CSU fee for health insurance for the St. John's campus of \$10. The following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED:

The Board of Regents grants approval to an increase in the St. John's Council of the Students' Union Health Insurance Fee from \$71 to \$81 for each applicable semester, commencing Fall Semester 1998.

2. INCREASE IN ADMINISTRATIVE FEE – DISTANCE EDUCATION COURSES

Dr. Tuinman presented a recommendation that a flat administrative fee of \$12 per credit hour be applied to each distance education course, effective Fall, 1998. For students with an out-of-country address, this fee be doubled to \$24 per credit hour. The following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED:

The Board of Regents grants approval to a recommendation that a flat administrative fee of \$12 per credit hour be applied to each Distance Education course, effective Fall Semester 1998, to cover the cost of course materials (excluding textbooks), rental of video and audio tapes, and management of web courses. For students with an out of country address, this fee will be doubled to \$24 per credit hour, due to the increased cost of providing service in foreign countries.

3. TITLE OF SOUTHSIDE ROAD PROPERTY

Mr. Thistle presented a recommendation to acquire title to property on the southside of St. John's harbour. The property is managed by the Marine Institute and the Offshore Development Fund has provided \$3,105,000 to develop the infrastructure. The following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED:

That pursuant to Section 37 of the Memorial University Act the Board of Regents approves the acquisition of the title to the Southside property by Memorial University, for a nominal fee of one dollar, subject to the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council.

8. AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Chair welcomed the Comptroller, Ms. Trudy Pound-Curtis, to the meeting. She provided the Board with a detailed background analysis of the Audited Financial Statements for the University and for the Pension Plan. A question and answer period followed and after the Chair thanked her for her clear and concise report she left the meeting. The following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents accepts the Audited Financial Statements for Memorial University of Newfoundland for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1998, as presented, with the proviso that minor changes may be made to the notes.

That the Board of Regents agrees that the University's Audited Financial Statements be distributed in a press release to the media in the area.

That the Board of Regents accepts the Audited Financial Statements for Memorial University of Newfoundland Pension Plan for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1998, as presented.

Mr. Crosbie left the meeting at 5:45 p.m.

9. LETTERS OF THANKS

Circulated for information were copies of letter of thanks to the Board from the four individuals who had been awarded the title of Professor Emeritus: David Freeman, Alan MacPherson, Joyce MacPherson and Penny Allderdice.

10. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Circulated for information was a copy of a memo from the Faculty Council of Science advising of motions passed at their April 23, 1998 meeting.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

FACULTY OF SCIENCE LAYOFFS

Dr. May advised that a copy of the press release on this matter had been sent to members of the Board of Regents for their information and that he had nothing further to report.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.