

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND

BOARD OF REGENTS

The regular meeting of the Board of Regents was held on Thursday, March 10, 1994, in the Board Room of the University at 7:30 p.m.

PRESENT:

Ms. Janet Gardiner, Chair
Dr. Arthur May, President
Dr. Jaap Tuinman, Vice-President (Academic)
Mr. Gerry Bishop
Ms. Laurie Combdon
Ms. Mary Ennis
Mr. Chris Facey
Ms. Barbara Lewis
Mr. Earle McCurdy
Mr. George Neal
Ms. Frankie O'Neill
Ms. Elizabeth Reynolds
Mr. Alexander Roche
Mr. Raymond Rose
Ms. Grace Stapleton
Mr. Brian Taite
Ms. Heather Tulk
Ms. Betty Williams
Ms. Maureen Woodrow
Ms. Eleanor Bennett, Secretary

APOLOGIES: Dr. Ches Blackwood, Mr. Aubrey Bonnell, Ms. Jeannie French, Mr. Ray Goulding, Mr. Sean Hanrahan, Mr. Tom Woodford and Mr. Mel Woodward.

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

A. MINUTES

The Minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Regents held on Thursday, February 10, 1994, copies of which were circulated prior to the meeting, were accepted by the Board.

B. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

UPDATE ON THE ALTERNATE GROUP INSURANCE PROGRAM

Mr. Thistle informed the Board that the transfer of the Group Insurance Program to I.S.I. was going smoothly and the program would be in place effective April 1, 1994. He noted that he had received well wishes from the previous carriers who also thanked the University for their business in the past. He further advised that the new prescription drug cards were being issued and would be available to all employees prior to the transfer date.

C. MEETINGS OF COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD

1. FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on Thursday, March 10, 1994, copies of which were circulated prior to the meeting, were presented by Mr. George Neal and accepted by the Board. On the recommendation of the Finance Committee the following resolutions were passed with respect to the items which required specific approval of the Board:

ITEM 1 – ESTABLISHMENT OF SCHOLARSHIPS

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents grants approval to the establishment of the following scholarships:

1. The Walter Davis Award (Funded Award, valued at \$500.00 annually)
2. The Margaret D. McLean Scholarship (Graduate Scholarship valued at annual accrued interest)

ITEM 2 – DAVID HAWKINS LECTURESHIP IN HEALTH SCIENCES RESEARCH

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents grants approval to the establishment of an endowment fund to support the David Hawkins Lectureship in Health Sciences Research in accordance with the terms of reference which are outlined in an attachment to a memorandum to the President from the Vice-President (Research) dated February 28, 1994.

ITEM 3 – TRAFFIC AND PARKING REGULATIONS – 1994-95

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents grants approval to the amendments to the Regulations for the Control of Vehicular Traffic and Parking for 1994-95 as approved by the President's Advisory Committee on Traffic and Parking.

ITEM 4 – SMALLWOOD HERITAGE FOUNDATION

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents grants approval to the Deed of Trust between the Joseph R. Smallwood Heritage Foundation Inc. and Memorial University of Newfoundland. The amount to be endowed is \$350,000.00.

ITEM 5 – MEDICAL SCHOOL APPLICATION FEE

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents grants approval to an increase in the Medical School application fee to a minimum level of \$50.00 or the average of application fees for other similar University Medical Schools in Canada. The Vice-President (Academic) will report the exact amount of the increase at the next meeting of the Finance Committee.

ITEM 6 – TREASURY MANAGEMENT SERVICES

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents grants approval to the appointment of the Royal Bank of Canada as the official banker of the University,

effective as soon as practical up to June 30, 1994, for a five year period.

2. APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the Appointments Committee meeting held on Thursday, March 10, 1994, copies of which were circulated prior to the meeting, were presented by the Chair of the Committee, Ms. Grace Stapleton, and accepted by the Board.

3. PENSIONS COMMITTEE

A Summary of Business Transacted at the Pensions Committee meeting held on Thursday, March 10, 1994, copies of which were circulated prior to the meeting, was presented by the Vice-Chair of the Committee, Ms. Betty Williams, and accepted by the Board. There were no items requiring specific approval of the Board.

4. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS COMMITTEE

A Summary of Business Transacted at the Employee Benefits Committee meeting held on Thursday, March 10, 1994, copies of which were circulated prior to the meeting, was presented by the Chair of the Committee, Ms. Barbara Lewis, and accepted by the Board.

During discussion on the Group Travel Insurance Benefit it was pointed out that the resultant monthly health insurance rate, inclusive of the Group Travel benefit at a blended rate for employees and retirees, is less than the current health insurance rate with the existing carrier (to March 31, 1994). The annual cost of the Group Travel component would be \$75,790 of which the University would contribute approximately \$56,000. Overall the Alternate Group Insurance Plan through I.S.I. including the introduction of the Group Travel Insurance Benefit, will achieve annual savings of \$662,480 relative to renewal of the existing group insurance plans with the current underwriters and consultants.

On the recommendation of the Employee Benefits Committee, the following resolution was passed:

ITEM 1 – GROUP TRAVEL INSURANCE BENEFIT

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents grants approval that the Group Travel Insurance Benefit be introduced, effective April 1, 1994, for employees and retirees at a blended premium rate, with the proviso that it be explicitly communicated to retirees that the University reserves the right to modify or terminate this benefit at the sole discretion of the University.

D. APPOINTMENT OF DR. LESLIE HARRIS AS PRESIDENT EMERITUS

A letter with supporting documentation was tabled from the Secretary of Senate, copies of which were circulated prior to the meeting, which contained a recommendation that Dr. Leslie Harris be appointed President Emeritus. After discussion the following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents, on the recommendation of Senate, grants approval that Dr. Leslie Harris be awarded the honorary title of President Emeritus.

E. CHANGES IN COMPOSITION OF ADVISORY BOARD OF THE MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND MEDICAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION

A letter was tabled from the Dean of Medicine, copies of which were circulated prior to the meeting, recommending changes to the Composition of the Advisory Board of the MUN Medical Research Foundation. After discussion the following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents grants approval to the following changes in the composition of the Advisory Board of the Memorial University of Newfoundland Medical Research Foundation:

(a) The Vice Dean (Administration and Professional Affairs) to be an ex officio member. (This position was previously represented by the Associate Dean, Professional Affairs).

(b) The President, Medical Graduates' Society and the President, Medical Students' Society to be ex officio members of the Board rather than Dean's appointees.

F. CHANGE IN NAME AND AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION – SCHOOL OF GENERAL AND CONTINUING STUDIES

A letter was tabled from the Secretary of Senate, copies of which were circulated prior to the meeting, recommending a change in the name and amendments to the Constitution of the School of General and Continuing Studies. After discussion, the following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents, on the recommendation of Senate, grants approval that the name of the School of General and Continuing Studies be changed to the School of Continuing Education.

That the Board further approves the following amendments to the Constitution of the Council of the School:

(a) Function of the Council: Section 1(c) has been added: "To promote academic services and continuing education opportunities for students, staff and faculty".

(b) Membership of the Council: In Section 2(a), "The Dean of Student Affairs and Services or his/her delegate" has been added. The Registrar will designate a person from the new Academic Advising Centre as his delegate.

In 2(c) the wording has been changed to "Representatives selected by each department in the faculties of Arts and Science". This wording recognizes that since there is no General Studies, there are no General Studies coordinators.

G. SENATE

The Minutes of the regular meeting of Senate held on Tuesday, February 8, 1994, 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 35 – REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
ITEM 35.1 TO 35.32 AND 35.34

H. PRESIDENT'S BUSINESS

1. UPDATE ON AUDITOR GENERAL ISSUE

The President referred the Board to an exchange of correspondence that had transpired with the Auditor General since the last Board meeting. In a letter dated February 22, 1994 the Auditor General stated that the information provided to her was insufficient for her to make a report to the House of Assembly under Section 38(6) of the Act and in accordance with Section 38(5) of the Act she requested that the University provide her with the information previously requested in her letter of January 18, 1994.

In his reply, dated March 1, 1994, the President requested the Auditor General to provide information which would explain in what way the Peat Marwick Audit was deficient and having had no response other than that "the information, explanations and documents ... are insufficient", he concluded that she does not intend to make any such explanation.

He advised the Board that he had reiterated to her that the University will cooperate to the fullest in any review of the University's accounts that the Auditor General wishes to make consistent with her authority under the Auditor General Act and the University Act.

2. BUDGET PLANNING FOR 1994-95

The President provided the Board with a detailed presentation of the University's budget plan for 1994-95. He provided background information pertaining to faculty salaries across Canada, student enrolment, tuition fees in Atlantic Canada, and statistics with respect to employment and sick leave. He introduced some cost

cutting measures and revenue alternatives which the University would be considering over the next couple of months in an effort to continue with the budget planning process. One of the key elements being considered in an effort to increase revenue for 1994-95 is a tuition fee increase in the range of from five to ten percent. Following a lengthy discussion on these complex issues the Board was requested to consider a recommendation from the Finance Committee for budget planning based on tuition fee increases.

The following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents endorses budget planning for 1994-95 based on tuition fee increases between five and ten percent with the final recommendation of the actual increase to be presented for approval at a subsequent Board meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.