

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND

BOARD OF REGENTS

The regular meeting of the Board of Regents was held on Thursday, March 12, 1998 at 2:40 p.m. in the Board Room of the University.

PRESENT:

Mr. Edward Roberts, Chairman  
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  
Ms. Sharon Duggan  
Mr. Fred Durant  
Mr. Peter Fenwick  
Dr. Georgina Hedges  
Ms. Nancy Kelly  
Dr. Brendan Lewis  
Ms. Frankie O'Neill  
Mr. Brendan Paddick  
Ms. Joan Pinsent  
Mr. David Power  
Mr. Stephen Power  
Mr. Harvey Short  
Mr. Robert Stack  
Mr. Mel Woodward  
Ms. Amy Wyse  
Ms. Eleanor Bennett, Secretary

APOLOGIES: Mr. John Crosbie, Chancellor, Ms. Jeannie French, Mr. William Dilny, and Mr. Alexander Roche.

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

1. MINUTE S

The Minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Regents held on January 15, 1998, copies of which were circulated, were accepted by the Board.

## 2. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

### 1. APPOINTMENT TO BOARD

The Chairman reminded the Board that the Minister of Education had agreed that there would be increased student representation on the Board of Regents. An opportunity to do so had presented itself and in this regard the Chairman circulated a copy of a memorandum from the Dean of Student Affairs and Services recommending that Ms. Lorelei Stanley be appointed to fill the vacancy left when Mr. George Neal's term concluded effective January 6, 1998. After discussion the following resolution was passed:

#### RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves the appointment of Ms. Lorelei Stanley as a member of the Board of Regents, for a three-year term, effective immediately, subject to the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor in Council.

### 2. RESIGNATION OF DR. JAAP TUINMAN

The Chairman informed the Board that Dr. Tuinman had tendered his resignation as Vice-President (Academic) and Pro Vice-Chancellor, effective June 15, 1998, and had accepted a position as President of the Open Learning Agency in British Columbia. The Chairman and members of the Board offered congratulations on his new appointment and wished him well in his new position. Dr. May advised the Board that he had already begun the search process and anticipated filling the vacancy by mid June or as quickly as possible thereafter.

### 3. SEARCH COMMITTEE FOR PRESIDENT

The Chairman informed the Board that Dr. May had given notice of his intention to retire on August 31, 1999, which is the end of his

current term. The Chairman acknowledged the immense contribution made by Dr. May to the University during his nine-year term as President. He advised that the Memorial University Act, at Section 51, provides that "there shall be a President of the University who shall be appointed by the Board in consultation with the Senate and with the approval of the Lieutenant Governor-in-Council". He then outlined the steps that would be taken in the process to search for a new President and stressed the need for the utmost confidentiality during this process. After consideration of the issues presented, the following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approve the appointment of the Presidential Search Committee, with the following Terms of Reference:

- (a) To seek nominations of, or applications from suitable candidates for the position of President of Memorial University of Newfoundland by whatever means the Committee consider appropriate.
- (b) To conduct interviews with candidates, where the Committee deem it desirable and appropriate to conduct such interviews.
- (c) To recommend a person to the Board of Regents for appointment as President of the University and to do so as expeditiously as possible.

AND that the membership of the Committee shall consist of: the Chair of the Board, who shall chair the Committee; three other Board members, to be chosen by the Chair; four members of the faculty, chosen by the Senate; two students, chosen by the Chair after consultation with the President of the CSU and the GSU; an academic administrator, chosen by them from among themselves; a non-academic administrator, chosen by them from among themselves; and two members of the public-at-large, chosen by the Chair;

AND that the Secretary of the Board be the Secretary of the Committee.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chair of the Board present the names of the members of the Committee for ratification at the

next meeting of the Board, and that he submit a proposed budget for consideration and approval by the Board at that time.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chair of the Board be authorized to announce at the earliest convenient moment, in consultation with the President, the creation of the Committee and the scope of its work.

Members were asked to let the Secretary know of their willingness to serve as a Board member of the Search Committee and to offer suggestions for representatives from the public-at-large.

#### 4. POSITION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

The Chairman advised that Ms. French, who was unable to attend the meeting, had requested him to give notice of her intention to step down as Vice-Chair of the Board. Being Chair of the Finance Committee and Vice-Chair of the Board meant she would occupy two places on the Executive Committee, so offered her resignation as Vice-Chair of the Board.

Following a vote by secret ballot Mr. Bonnell was elected to the position. The Chairman welcomed him to his new role and joined with the Board members in expressing congratulations.

#### 3. MEETINGS OF COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD

##### 1. FINANCE COMMITTEE

In the absence of the Chair of the Finance Committee, the Vice-Chair of the Committee, Mr. Bonnell, presented a draft of the Minutes of the meeting held on March 12, 1998, copies of which were circulated at the meeting. The following resolutions were passed with respect to the items contained therein which required specific approval of the Board:

##### ITEM A – ACCOUNTING TREATMENT

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves to continue its current practice of recording vacation and severance entitlements and residence and

tuition fees on a cash basis. The Finance Committee recognized that the University will continue to have a qualified audit opinion as a result of this position.

#### ITEM B – EXTENSION OF APPOINTMENT – KPMG

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves the extension of the term of the Auditors, KPMG Chartered Accountants, for one year expiring in 1999, subject to a satisfactory negotiation of fees by the Comptroller.

#### ITEM C – RENEWAL OF GROUP INSURANCE PLANS

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves of the extension of the current group insurance plans (at their existing benefit levels) on a month-to-month basis, effective April 1, 1998, with the following rate action, pending the results of the I.S.I. market survey:

- Basic Life insurance plan at a 30% rate increase;
- Dependent Life insurance plan at the existing premium rate;
- Optional Life insurance plan at a 13% rate increase;
- Long Term Disability insurance plan at the existing premium rate;
- Health plan at a 21.9% rate increase (inclusive of 5.2% deficit recovery);
- Dental plan at a 3.3% rate increase (inclusive of 5.2% deficit recovery).

#### ITEM D – COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN MUN AND NAPE (MAINTENANCE) AND (CUSTODIAL)

The President expressed concerns with an item in the Collective Agreement that pertained to the number of vacation days during the Christmas shutdown. After clarification of the language the following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves the ratification of the tentative Collective Agreement between MUN and NAPE Local 7801 (representing Maintenance personnel) and NAPE Local 7804 (representing Custodial Workers), subject to confirmation that the additional day be taken as overtime or vacation pay to achieve a Christmas shutdown.

#### ITEM E – INVESTMENT POLICY

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves the new Statement of Investment Policies for the University which establishes goals and objectives, guidelines for an asset mix, eligible investments, restrictions on investments, conflict of interest guidelines and guidelines for policy review.

#### ITEM F – CSU – SWGC LOAN

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents authorizes the Investment Committee to approve a loan in the amount of \$250,000 for the Council of the Students' Union at Sir Wilfred Grenfell College through the Pooled Investment Fund at market rates with an amortization period of up to fifteen years.

#### ITEM G – CSU FEES – SWGC

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves a fee increase for the Council of the Students' Union at Sir Wilfred Grenfell College from \$24 to \$51 per semester, effective the Fall Semester 1998.

## 2. APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

A Report of the Appointments Committee meeting held on March 12, 1998, copies of which were circulated prior to the meeting, was presented by the Vice-Chair of the Committee, Ms. Aylward, and accepted by the Board.

### 3. CAMPUS PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Chairman of the Board declared a conflict and left the meeting during the discussion of this item. The Minutes of the Campus Planning and Development Committee meeting held on March 12, 1998, copies of which were circulated at the meeting, were presented by the Chair of the Committee, Mr. Short, and accepted by the Board. The following resolution was passed with respect to the Parkland Concept:

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves the acceptance of the Parkland Concept. The Campus Planning and Development Committee agrees to bring to the Board any Memorandum of Agreement that may be drafted for its approval.

The Chair rejoined the meeting.

### 4. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS COMMITTEE

A Summary of Business transacted at the Employee Benefits Committee meeting held on February 27, 1998, copies of which were circulated prior to the meeting, was presented by the Chair of the Committee, Ms. O'Neill, and accepted by the Board. There were no items requiring specific approval of the Board.

### 4.SENATE MEETINGS

The Minutes of the regular meetings of Senate held on January 13, 1998 and February 10, 1998, copies of which were circulated prior to the meeting, were presented by the President and accepted by the Board.

### 5. AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL OF THE SCHOOL OF CONTINUING EDUCATION

On the recommendation of Senate, the following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves the amendments to the Constitution of the Academic Council of the School of Continuing Education.

## 6. CORRESPONDENCE FROM FACULTY COUNCIL OF SCIENCE

Circulated prior to the meeting for information was correspondence from the Faculty Council of Science advising of two motions that were passed at their meeting on February 19, 1998 with respect to the membership of the search committee for Vice-President (Academic). The President advised that he received a copy of the letter and had responded fully to it. The Secretary was asked to acknowledge receipt of the letter.

## 7. ART GALLERY

Circulated for information prior to the meeting was a copy of a letter to Mr. Vince Withers, Chairman of the Civic Centre Corporation, from the President and a copy of a clipping from the Evening Telegram announcing that the Art Gallery of Newfoundland and Labrador would be housed in the new civic centre. In his letter, Dr. May reminded Mr. Withers of the University's position with respect to the Art Gallery moving to a newly erected civic centre. He advised the Board that he would be following this issue very closely and would provide further information at a future meeting.

## 8. OPPORTUNITY FUND

The President provided the Board with an update on the status of the Opportunity Fund. He advised that as of February of this year, \$21.3 million had been committed in private sector pledges. A goal of \$15 million had been set for scholarships and fellowships, \$6.2 million of which has been pledged so far. A goal of \$10 million for teaching and research initiatives had been set and \$4.3 million had been designated to date in private sector pledges. The target for the construction of the University Centre and Field House in St. John's and Student Centre Annex in Corner Brook had been set at \$25 million, to date, \$4.4 million has been pledged. The President advised that the sources of funds have come from student groups in the amount of \$3.2 million, \$1.2 million from faculty and staff, \$2.8 million from alumni, \$2.1 million from foundations and groups, and \$11 million from the corporate sector. He advised that



it was anticipated that the Opportunity Fund would be concluded by the end of June this year.

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

#### 9. MAY BOARD MEETING AND CONVOCATION – CORNER BROOK

Circulated were copies of a schedule of events for the Board meeting and Convocation to be held in Corner Brook, May 6 to 8, 1998.

#### 10. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

(a) Copy of letter from Chairman to Minister of Education analyzing the University's budgetary situation and the consequences involved in foregoing scheduled tuition increases, and the Minister's response.

(b) Copy of memo from the Dean of Student Affairs and Services concerning increase in entrance scholarship offerings.

(c) Copy of summary of grievance activity by MUNFA over the past three years.

#### 11. SOFTWARE ENGINEERING

The President updated the Board on the latest development with the litigation between MUN and CCPE. He advised that at an AUCC Board meeting held last week a firm commitment was made to fund one half the cost of the litigation expenses. He advised that Discoveries have been completed and an out-of-court settlement might be suggested by CCPE. He would report further on this matter at the next meeting.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

#### MEETING RECONVENED

The Board of Regents reconvened its meeting at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, March 13, 1998, in the Board Room of the University.

The same members were present with the exception of Mr. Sandy Roche. Ms. Sharon Duggan was unable to attend the meeting.

Mr. Fenwick left the meeting for an hour at 10:00 a.m.

## 12. BUDGET ISSUES

Circulated prior to the meeting were copies of substantive background material pertaining to the budget issues. Section I dealt with the Projected Financial Position of the University at March 31, 1998. Section II outlined the expenditures of the University. Section III provided an overview of the budget position for the fiscal year 1998-99. Section IV outlined the medium term outlook of the budget situation and Section V described the policy issues.

The President, Dr. Tuinman and Mr. Thistle provided detailed presentations supplying further background information on the budget issues and suggested measures that might be taken in order to realize a balanced budget for the fiscal year 1998-99. It was pointed out that the University is now entering the third year of a three-year budget plan, and while we may balance the budget for the 1998-99 fiscal year, major structural changes would need to be considered for subsequent budgets, unless revenues increase.

The Chair suggested that a special Board committee be established to address the medium term financial projections, to develop the options, and to give some thought to the consultation process. The Chairman asked members to ponder and consider the issues that were presented and discussed with a view to revisiting them again at the Board meeting in May.

### RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves the preliminary budget estimates for fiscal year 1998-99 based on estimated revenues of \$138,793,000 and the proposed transfers of FRET and carryover funds, expenditure reduction and cost recoveries to achieve a balanced budget at an expenditure level of \$142,755,000.

The budget for the Medical School would be dealt with at the May meeting of the Board.

### 13. OTHER BUSINESS

#### HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENTS

The President advised the Board of the names of the honorary degree recipients for the Sir Wilfred Grenfell College Convocation and those to be awarded at the Spring Convocation in St. John's.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.