



Board of Regents
MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND
BOARD OF REGENTS

The regular meeting of the Board of Regents was held on Thursday, March 11, 1999 in the Board Room of the University at 2:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

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

APOLOGIES: Mr. Stephen Power, Mr. Robert Stack 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 January 14, 1999 and the minutes of the special meeting held on February 26, 1999, copies of which were circulated, were accepted by the Board.

2. MAY BOARD MEETING

The Board was advised that the regular May meeting of the Board would be held on Thursday, May 6, 1999 in St. John's.

3. MEETINGS OF COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD

1. FINANCE COMMITTEE

A draft of the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on March 11, 1999, copies of which were circulated at the meeting, was presented by the Vice-Chair of the Committee, Mr. Bonnell, and accepted by the Board. The following resolutions were passed:

ITEM A - FINAL BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR FY 1998-99

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves the final estimates for the fiscal year 1998-99 as presented.

ITEM B - ESTABLISHMENT OF A DISCIPLINE OF GENETICS

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves the establishment of a Discipline of Genetics in the Faculty of Medicine, effective March 15, 1999. The Discipline will operate under the same guidelines as other disciplines with responsibility for their own faculty, budgets, teaching contributions (both undergraduate and postgraduate), research endeavours and patient care. The establishment of the Discipline of Genetics has been approved by the Faculty Council of Medicine.

ITEM C - HEALTH PLAN RENEWAL

The Board was advised that the projected cost associated with the implementation of the following renewals with respect to the Health plan renewal would create an additional annual cost to the University of \$347,640, \$64,985 for the employee population, and \$20,087 for the retiree population.

The following resolution was passed on the recommendation of the Employee Benefits Committee.

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves the renewal of the Health Plan (at its existing benefit level), effective April 1, 1999, at a 19.13% rate increase (inclusive of 8.2% deficit recovery to amortize the accumulated deficit balance of \$436,011 over a two-year period).

ITEM D - CHANGE IN UNDERWRITING - GROUP BENEFIT PLANS

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves a recommendation that, effective at the beginning of the current accounting period (August 1, 1998 for the Health and Dental plans and October 1, 1998 for the Basic Life and Long Term Disability plans), each group benefit plan be underwritten and accounted for separately and that any surplus accumulation in one account not be reflected to offset a deficit balance in another account.

ITEM E - MEAL PLAN RATES FOR 1999-2000 - ST. JOHN'S

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves a fee increase of \$18 per semester for the 10, 14, and 19 meal plans, at Paton College, effective the Fall Semester, 1999.

ITEM F - CSU FEE INCREASE - SIR WILFRED GRENFELL COLLEGE

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves a \$2.00 per semester increase in the Student Union Fees at Sir Wilfred Grenfell College, effective September 1, 1999.

ITEM G - DELETION OF POSITION

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves the deletion of the following position in the Labrador Institute:

INS-004 - Intermediate Secretary

ITEMS PRESENTED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE FOR INFORMATION ONLY:

- (A) Preliminary Budget Information 1999-2000 and 2000-2001.
- (B) 1996-1997 Voluntary Early Retirement Incentive Program (VERIP).
- (C) Faculty of Medicine Budget - Fiscal Year 1999-2000.
- (D) Scholarship Report for 1997-1998.

2. APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

A report of the Appointments Committee meeting held on March 11, 1999, copies of which were circulated prior to the meeting, was presented by the Chair of the Committee, Mr. Roche, and accepted by the Board.

3. CAMPUS PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the Campus Planning and Development Committee meeting held on March 11, 1999, 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 resolutions were passed:

ITEM A - PROPOSAL FOR NEW RESIDENCE - SIR WILFRED GRENFELL COLLEGE

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents acknowledges the desirability of providing increased residence accommodation at Sir Wilfred Grenfell College and directs the administration to provide analysis and recommendations as to the best means to do so, with due regard to the rest of the University as a whole.

ITEM B - FIELD HOUSE BLEACHERS

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents grants approval in principle to the Memorial University Basketball Booster Club to commence the process of fundraising for the bleachers for the Field House, and that this fundraising be conducted in conjunction with the Opportunity Fund.

ITEMS PRESENTED BY CAMPUS PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE FOR INFORMATION

- (A) Sir Wilfred Grenfell College Master Plan 2000
- (B) Update on the St. John's Campus Master Plan
- (C) Submission and Presentation on Land Use Plan and Grounds Management Plan for the University.

4. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS COMMITTEE

Reports of the Employee Benefits Committee meeting held on January 29, 1999 and February 24, 1999, copies of which were circulated prior to the meeting, were presented by the Chair of the Committee, Ms. O'Neill, and accepted by the Board. The Employee Benefits recommendation to renew the health plan was dealt with under the Finance Committee items.

ITEM A - DENTAL PLAN RENEWAL

The following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED:

That the Board approves the renewal of the Dental Plan (at its existing benefit level), effective April 1, 1999, at the existing rate.

5. PENSIONS COMMITTEE

A report of the Pensions Committee meeting held on March 2, 1999, copies of which were circulated prior to the meeting, was presented by the Chair of the Committee, Mr. Durant, and accepted by the Board. The following resolutions were passed:

ITEM A - NEWFOUNDLAND PENSION BENEFITS ACT, 1997

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves a recommendation that the rate of interest to be applied to employee contributions to the Memorial University Pension Plan, on a prospective basis, be set at the annual net fund rate of return of the Memorial University Pension Fund and calculated with reference to the Newfoundland *Pension Benefits Act, 1997*, and accompanying regulations.

ITEM B - PENSION SERVICES - MARKET STUDY

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves a recommendation that a market study, through a Request for Proposals, be conducted in respect of actuarial and pension consulting services, and, independently, for custodial services for the Memorial University Pension Plan.

A report of the Performance Review Sub-committee meeting held on March 2, 1999 was circulated for information.

4. SENATE

The Minutes of the regular meetings of Senate held on November 10, 1998, January 12, 1999, and February 9, 1999 and the special meeting held on February 26, 1999, copies of which were circulated prior to the meeting, were presented by the President, and accepted by the Board.

5. PROCEDURES FOR DISMISSAL OR OTHER DISCIPLINARY MEASURES WITH RESPECT TO ACADEMIC ADMINISTRATORS

The Board reviewed a Report prepared by the President on Procedures for Dismissal or Other Disciplinary Measures with Respect to Academic Administrators, dated November 2, 1998, copies of which were circulated prior to the meeting. After discussion of this report, the recommendations contained therein were accepted by the Board.

6. DISCIPLINE NAME CHANGE

Circulated prior to the meeting were copies of a recommendation from the Dean of Engineering and Applied Science to change the name of the Discipline of "Electrical Engineering" to "Electrical and Computer Engineering." This item was deferred to Senate for its recommendation and eventual return to the Board for consideration.

7. SOFTWARE ENGINEERING

The Chair and the President updated the Board on the continuing dispute between the University and the Canadian Council of Professional Engineers (CCPE) regarding the use of the word "engineering" in a software engineering program in the Department of Computer Science.

The Board was informed that CCPE, in a totally unrelated issue, had given notice that they would be suspending the accreditation process within Memorial's Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science. This action was taken at the request of the

Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Newfoundland (APEGN). The Chair reported that APEGN had linked this move to the software engineering dispute, which is currently before the federal court and is expected to be heard this fall. The Board was informed that lawyers representing the University have begun court proceedings to force APEGN to reinstate its consent to allow for the continuation of the process of accreditation for the University's engineering programs. The President advised that AUCC has condemned the move by APEGN and fully supports the University's legal efforts. It is expected that the court action will be concluded and a decision rendered within a week.

8. COLLECTIVE BARGAINING PLANS

Copies of a memo to the Board from the Vice-President (Academic) outlining the issues to be addressed in the collective bargaining process with MUNFA, were circulated and reviewed. The Chair advised that the Board, through its Labour Relations Committee, would be apprised of developments throughout negotiations.

9. CANADA GAME PARK/AQUARENA UPDATE

The Board was provided with background information relating to the City's intention to withdraw its operating subsidy to the Aquarena. The President advised that the University may have to rethink its long term financial commitment to the facility in view of the current physical education facilities available at the moment, and given the fact that the University will soon be calling for tenders to build a new Field House. The Board will be provided with progress reports at future meetings.

10. APPOINTMENT TO PIPPY PARK COMMISSION

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

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves the reappointment of Mr. Gary Bradshaw, Director of Facilities Management, as the University's representative on the Pippy Park Commission, for a further three-year term, effective May 1, 1999.

11. APPOINTMENT TO HARLOW

The President advised the Board that Mrs. Karen Cracknell will be replacing Mrs. Betty Bethell as Secretary/Administrator of the Harlow Campus, being the candidate selected by the Trustees in a competition for the position.

12. HONOURARY DEGREE RECIPIENTS

The President announced the names of the honorary degree recipients for the upcoming Spring Convocations in St. John's and Corner Brook.

13. CONDO LENCES

The Chair, on behalf of the Board, expressed condolences to Mr. Dilny on the recent death of his mother.

14. INFOR MATIONAL ITEMS

(a) "University Eligibility and Participation by School District and Achievement Levels" prepared by the Centre for Institutional Analysis and Planning, February 1999.

(b) "Selected Indicators from the Academic Unit Profile 1997-98" prepared by the Centre for Institutional Analysis and Planning, January 1999.

(c) University of the North Atlantic Capsule Summary

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.