



Board of Regents

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND

BOARD OF REGENTS

The regular meeting of the Board of Regents was held on Wednesday, 3 May 2000 in the Board Room of the University at 2:30 p.m.

PRESENT:

Mr. Edward Roberts, Chair
Mr. Aubrey Bonnell, Vice-Chair
Dr. Axel Meisen, President and Vice-Chancellor
Dr. Evan Simpson, Vice President (Academic) and Pro Vice-Chancellor
Mr. Alick Andrews
Ms. Gail Aylward
Mr. Hayward Blake
Mr. Robert Brown
Ms. Lisa Browne
Mr. Calvin Butt
Mr. Chris Decker
Mr. Fred Durant
Mr. Peter Fenwick
Dr. Georgina Hedges
Mr. Ed Kelly
Dr. Brendan Lewis
Ms. Frankie O'Neill
Mr. Larry Peckford
Ms. Joan Pinsent
Mr. David Power
Mr. Harvey Short
Ms. Lorelei Stanley
Ms. Susan Wood
Ms. Eleanor Bennett, Secretary

APOLOGIES: Mr. John Crosbie, Chancellor, Mr. Peter Barnes, Ms. Sharon Duggan, Ms. Nancy Kelly, and Mr. Brendan Paddick.

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 9 March 2000, copies of which were circulated prior to the meeting, were approved by the Board.

2. CHAIR'S REPORT

1. NAUBCS Conference

The Chair reported on the National Association of University Board Chairs and Secretaries Conference held in St. John's from 28 to 30 April and hosted by Memorial. He acknowledged the members of the organizing committee and requested the Secretary to write a letter of thanks to each of them for their invaluable contribution in making the conference the success it was.

2. Spring Convocations

The Chair advised of the various sessions of convocation which will be held in Corner Brook on 5 May and in St. John's on 24, 25 and 26 May. He requested that as many Regents as possible be present at as many sessions as possible.

3. House of Assembly Resolution re Auditor General and University

The Chair reported that a resolution was passed in the House of Assembly on 11 April 2000 regarding access to the University's books by the Auditor General and commented on the debate that ensued by members of the House of Assembly on the issue. The resolution required no action by the University.

4. June Meeting of the Board

The Chair requested a change in the date of the June meeting of the Board from Thursday, 8 June, to Friday, 9 June, to coincide with activities related to the conclusion of the Opportunity Fund Campaign. This was agreed.

5. Special Board Meeting in August

The Chair advised of a special meeting of the Board of Regents scheduled for 11 and 12 August 2000 to be held in Terra Nova. The principal purpose of this special meeting will be to discuss pension issues.

6. F.W. Russell Correspondence

Circulated prior to the meeting was a copy of the Chair's reply to Mr. F. W. Russell dated 27 March 2000 concerning the wording of the commemorative plaque.

7. Tuition Freeze Extension

The Chair referred the Board to an exchange of correspondence to and from the Minister of Education dated 10 March 2000 and 23 March 2000, respectively, concerning the Board's approval of a tuition freeze for the 2001-02 academic year.

8. University Centre Naming Committee

The Chair advised of the appointments to the University Centre Naming Committee as follows:

Two students nominated by the President of the Memorial University of Newfoundland Students' Union: Keith Dunne and Adam Dutton.

One student nominated by the President of the Graduate Students' Union: Darren Newton.

One student nominated by the President of the Marine Institute Students' Union: Trevor Button.

A member of the University's faculty nominated by the President in consultation with the Chair of the Board: Dr. Wayne Ludlow.

Four Regents (with one of them being designated as the Chair) nominated by the Chair of the Board (after consideration of any names suggested by his colleagues): Aubrey Bonnell (Chair), Lisa Browne, Harvey Short and Susan Wood.

9. Separately Incorporated Entities Committee

The Chair informed the Board that Mr. Decker, Ms. Duggan, Mr. Durant and Ms. O'Neill were appointed to the Separately Incorporated Entities Committee. The appointment of the 5th member will be made shortly.

3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

1. APEGN Update

The President advised that the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Newfoundland (APEGN) had given notice that it intended to discontinue its appeal with regard to the accreditation of Software Engineering. He noted that the special CCPE/AUCC panel appointed to provide advice on the use of the term "software engineering" has been meeting and a report is expected before the Fall.

2. Alumni Visits and Forum

The President reported on his visits with alumni in Halifax and Toronto and advised of a proposed meeting with alumni in London, England.

He also advised of an Alumni forum held in St. John's on 28 and 29 April to find ways of appealing more broadly to alumni. A summary of the findings will be circulated for the information of the Board at the June meeting.

3. Entrepreneurship Event

The President advised of the launch of the Chair in Youth Focused Technological Entrepreneurship on 29 April. He noted that Dr. Bob Richards has been appointed as the first Chair and Federal Minister John Manley was present for the launch.

4. Ben Heppner Concert

The President reported on the success of the Ben Heppner concert held on 3 April 2000 and advised that the net proceeds of the concert were donated to the School of Music. The University will match the contribution from Mr. Heppner from the Opportunity Fund.

5. School of Music Anniversary

The President advised that as part of the 25th anniversary of the School of Music there were several functions, including a performance by alumni, during the week of 3 April. He noted that the university contributed \$50,000 to the School to enhance its collection and facilitate the establishment of a graduate program.

6. Millennium Chairs

The President informed the Board that Memorial had been allocated 22 Millennium chairs with 4 being available in the first year (2000-2001).

4. MEETINGS OF COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD

1. FINANCE COMMITTEE

Ms. Stanley declared a conflict of interest and absented herself during the discussion of the Finance Committee items.

A draft of the Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 3 May 2000, copies of which were circulated at the meeting, was presented by Mr. Fenwick, Chair of the Committee, and accepted by the Board. The following resolutions were passed:

ITEM A - FIELD HOUSE CONSTRUCTION

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves a recommendation to proceed with the construction of the Field House with a revised structural steel system and accepts the lowest tendered bid, for a revised total project cost of \$13 million. The specific sources of funding in excess of the original Opportunity Fund commitment of \$3.4 million to be identified at a later date.

ITEM B - STIPEND FOR DIRECTOR OF MEDCAREERS

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves the establishment of a stipend for the position of Director of MedCareers in the Faculty of Medicine.

ITEM C - ST. JOHN'S MEAL PLAN RATES FOR 2000-2001

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves a fee increase of \$30 per semester for the 10, 14 and 19 meal plans for Paton College, effective Fall Semester 2000, as follows:

	<u>1999-2000</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Recommended 2000-2001</u>
10 Meal	\$1,146	\$30 (2.6%)	\$1,176
Plan	\$1,241	\$30 (2.4%)	\$1,271
14 Meal	\$1,296	\$30 (2.3%)	\$1,326
Plan			
19 Meal			
Plan			

**ITEM D - HOURLY RATES - STUDENT PROCTORS AND
CONFERENCE CLERKS**

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves the following rate increases effective 1 April 2000:

A. From \$5.50 to \$6 per hour to maintain the historical differential between the University's base student rate and the provincial minimum wage.

B. Adjust the current variable student supervisory rate to \$8 per hour to be consistent with current rates for Laboratory Demonstrators, Markers, Terminal Assistants and Writing Centre Tutors.

C. Adjust the current semester rate for Student Proctors from \$800 to \$1,000; the increase will be accommodated within present budgetary allocation.

D. Adjust the hourly rates for regular current Student Conference Clerks from \$5.50 to \$6.50 per hour, and that of Senior Clerks from \$6 to \$7.50 per hour. Increased costs will be funded from conference revenues.

**ITEM E - GRENFELL COLLEGE RESIDENCE FEE - BACHELOR
UNIT**

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves a per-semester rate of \$1,100 for newly established bachelor units in residence at Sir Wilfred Grenfell College. The rate of \$1,100 is all inclusive and represents a charge of \$125 above the suggested standard single room rate.

ITEM F - GRENFELL COLLEGE RESIDENCE FEE - SINGLE ROOMS

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves a fee increase of \$41 per semester (4.4%) for a single residence room at Sir Wilfred Grenfell College, to contribute to the

cost of Internet access. This will increase the residence fee from \$934 to \$975 per semester.

Ms. Stanley rejoined the meeting.

2. APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

A Report of the Appointments Committee meeting held on 3 May 2000, and an Addendum, copies of which were circulated, was presented by Ms. Aylward, Chair of the Committee, and accepted by the Board.

3. CAMPUS PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the Special meeting of the Campus Planning and Development Committee held on 4 April 2000, copies of which were circulated prior to the meeting, were presented by Mr. Short, Chair of the Committee, and accepted by the Board. The following items were presented for information:

(a) Field House Construction Cost

(b) Johnson Family Foundation - Visitor's Walk, Clock Assembly, Rotunda
The Minutes of the Campus Planning and Development Committee meeting held 3 May 2000, copies of which were circulated at the meeting, were presented by Mr. Short, Chair of the Committee. The following resolutions were passed:

Item 1 - MUN Visitor's Walk

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves the MUN Visitor's Walk, as presented.

Item 2 - Rotunda Display

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves the Rotunda Display in the Memorial Tower, as presented.

Item 3 - Field House

This item was dealt with and a resolution passed under the Finance Committee minutes.

Item 4 - Norris Point Project

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents reconfirms its contractual arrangements with Contemporary Architecture & Design for the Norris Point project.

An update of the following projects was presented for information:

(a) Grenfell College Residence Complex

(b) Exhibition Centre Update

4. PENSIONS COMMITTEE

A Report of the Pensions Committee meeting held on 11 January 2000, copies of which were circulated prior to the meeting, was presented by Mr. Durant, Chair of the Committee, and accepted by the Board. The Board noted the

request that the actuary for the Memorial University Pension Plan conduct an analysis of the financial and other implications of establishing a separate pension plan for MUNFA members. The Chair of the Committee had observed at the meeting that it is beyond the mandate of the committee to seek pension plan liability analyses by constituent group. After discussion the Board agreed that the actuary not be requested to perform pension plan liability analysis by constituent group in the actuarial valuation at December 31, 1999.

A Report of the Pensions Committee meeting held on 17 April 2000, copies of which were circulated prior to the meeting, was presented by Mr. Durant, Chair of the Committee, and accepted by the Board. The Committee's recommendation to the Board with respect to Lincluden Management Limited read, "2. That the Board of Regents authorize the University Pensions Committee to decide between incumbent firms, Sceptre Investment Counsel and TAL Institutional Management, to receive the holdings of Lincluden (relative to the Memorial University Pension Fund portfolio) for investment - on an interim basis (estimated at six to nine months) - pending completion of an investment strategy review of the Memorial University Pension Plan".

A discussion ensued regarding the Board's final fiduciary responsibility regarding the Pension Fund and agreed that it should not yield authority to the Pensions Committee. Concern was expressed regarding the overweighting of fund investment with one fund manager and thus the following resolution was passed:

LINCLUDEN MANAGEMENT LIMITED

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves the following measures to enhance the potential investment performance of the Memorial University Pension Fund:

1. That the services of Lincluden Management Limited, as investment counsel for the Memorial University Pension Fund, be terminated at the earliest opportunity.
2. That the fund currently managed by Lincluden be transferred to TAL Institutional Management, one of the incumbent firms, at the earliest opportunity. The transfer of funds to be on an interim basis pending completion of an investment strategy review of the Memorial University Pension Fund.

ACTUARIAL VALUATION - MUN PENSION PLAN

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents accepts the recommendation of the University Pensions Committee that the funding and solvency valuations of the Memorial University Pension Plan - at December 31, 1999 - which reveal an actuarial surplus of \$40.634 million and \$50.109 million, respectively, be accepted.

5. AD HOC COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL PROSPECTS

Copies of a report of the meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on Financial Prospects were circulated at the meeting and presented by Mr. Fenwick, Chair of the Committee. Mr. Fenwick elaborated on the key issues that were addressed pertaining to Spring Semester, Differential Fees, and Course and Unit costing.

5. SENATE

The Minutes of the regular meeting of Senate held on Tuesday, 14 March 2000, copies of which were circulated prior to the meeting, were received by the Board.

6. DISCIPLINE NAME CHANGE

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

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves a change of the discipline name of "Electrical Engineering" to "Electrical and Computer Engineering".

7. AMENDMENTS TO MARINE INSTITUTION CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

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

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves the amendments to the Marine Institute Academic Council Constitution and By-Laws.

8. RECRUITMENT PLAN

Circulated prior to the meeting were copies of the Recruitment Plan for 2000-2005. The Board was asked to review the report for subsequent discussion at the June meeting.

9. FACULTY OF ARTS PUBLICATIONS

Circulated prior to the meeting were copies of background information pertaining to the establishment of an entity within the Faculty of Arts known as Faculty of Arts Publications. After discussion, the following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves the establishment of an entity within the Faculty of Arts to be known as Faculty of Arts Publications.

10. TRAFFIC AND PARKING REGULATIONS 1999-2000

Circulated prior to the meeting were copies of background information pertaining to changes to the Traffic and Parking Regulations for 1999-2000. After discussion, the following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves amendments to the 1999-2000 Traffic Control and Parking Regulations, as presented.

11. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- (a) Correspondence re tuition freeze
- (b) Correspondence re honorary degree to Prime Minister
- (c) Correspondence re FPI Annual Report
- (d) Correspondence re APEGN
- (e) Spring Convocation Schedule

12. OTHER BUSINESS

1. Text Books

In answer to a query regarding the problem of the high cost of and frequent changes to text books, Dr. Simpson agreed to explore the magnitude of this issue and report back to the Board at a subsequent meeting.

2. New Brunswick Students

The Board was advised that through an arrangement with the provincial government up to 10 seats in the Medical School will be designated to students from New Brunswick. These places were formerly offered to students from the United States

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.