

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND

BOARD OF REGENTS

The regular meeting of the Board of Regents was held on Wednesday, November 10, 1993 in the Board Room of the University at 7:30 p.m.

PRESENT:

Ms. Janet Gardiner, Chair
Ms. Jeannie French, Vice-Chair
Dr. Arthur May, President
Dr. Jaap Tuinman, Vice-President (Academic)
Dr. Ches Blackwood
Ms. Laurie Combdon
Ms. Mary Ennis
Mr. Chris Facey
Mr. Ray Goulding
Ms. Barbara Lewis
Mr. George Neal
Ms. Frankie O'Flaherty
Mr. Alexander Roche
Mr. Raymond Rose
Ms. Grace Stapleton
Mr. Brian Taite
Ms. Betty Williams
Mr. Tom Woodford
Ms. Maureen Woodrow
Ms. Eleanor Bennett, Secretary

APOLOGIES: Mr. Gerry Bishop, Mr. Aubrey Bonnell, Mr. Sean Hanrahan, Mr. Earle McCurdy, Ms. Elizabeth Reynolds, Ms. Heather Tulk, and Mr. Mel Woodward.

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

1. NEW APPOINTMENT TO THE BOARD

The Chair extended a warm welcome to Mr. Alexander Roche, who was attending his first meeting of the Board of Regents. Mr. Roche

was appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council for a three-year term, effective October 15, 1993.

2. CONGRATULATIONS

The Chair offered congratulations to Ms. Betty Williams on the good showing in the recent Municipal elections and to Mr. Sean Hanrahan who had been elected as a Councillor in Ward I.

3. RESIGNATION OF DR. GERRY WARREN

The Chair tabled a letter from Dr. Gerry Warren in which he offered his resignation as a member of the Board of Regents. The Board requested the Secretary to write a letter of appreciation to Dr. Warren for his contribution during the past several years.

4. MINUTES

The Minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Regents held on Thursday, October 14, 1993, were accepted by the Board.

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

1. "LAUNCH FORTH..."

The President agreed to provide the Board with a briefing session on the strategic plan for the University at some future date.

6. MEETINGS OF COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD

1. FINANCE

The Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on Wednesday, November 10, 1993, copies of which were circulated prior to the meeting, were presented by the Chair of the Finance Committee, Dr. Ches Blackwood, and accepted by the Board. The following resolutions were passed with respect to the items which required specific approval of the Board:

ITEM A – ESTABLISHMENT OF SCHOLARSHIPS

RESOLVED:

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

1. The Matthew J. Foster Alumni Scholarship – Endowed scholarship valued at not less than \$1,000.00 annually.
2. The Karen Keirstead Mills Memorial Scholarship in Music – Endowed scholarship valued at not less than \$1,000.00 annually.

ITEM B – TUITION REFUND POLICY

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents grants approval to the revised Tuition Refund Policy, effective January 1, 1994, as follows:

1. Eliminate the existing tuition refund policy covering medical withdrawals and the Fees Appeal Committee.
2. Implement an automatic refund based on the following schedule:
 - a) In the first 11 days of classes (last day to add courses) – 100% refund
 - b) more than 11 class days and less than 16 class days – 50% refund
 - c) more than 17 class days and less than 21 class days – 25% refund
 - d) 22 class days – 0% refund

This schedule encourages students to drop within the period that other students can pick up their available spaces, without revenue loss to the University.

In addition, the Council of the Students' Union will be encouraged to investigate the possibility of providing insurance coverage for tuition to students who are required to withdraw.

ITEM C – ESTABLISHMENT OF POSITION

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents grants approval to the establishment of the position of Research Information Officer within the Department of University Relations, with the understanding that the day-to-day supervision of this position would come from the Director of the Office of Research.

2. APPOINTMENTS

The Minutes of the Appointments Committee meeting held on Wednesday, November 10, 1993, 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

A Summary of Business Transacted at the meeting of the Pensions Committee held on Wednesday, November 10, 1993, copies of which were circulated prior to the meeting, was presented by Mr. Chris Facey, and accepted by the Board. There were no items requiring Board approval.

4. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

A Summary of Business Transacted at the meeting of the Employee Benefits Committee held on Tuesday, November 9, 1993, copies of which were circulated prior to the meeting, was presented by the Chair of the Committee, Ms. Barbara Lewis. The following resolution was passed with respect to the item which required specific Board approval:

GROUP INSURANCE RENEWALS FOR 1994 POLICY YEAR – NEED FOR COST CONTAINMENT

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents grants approval that the following proposal from the Employee Benefits Committee be referred to the Finance Committee for further study:

That the following cost containment initiatives be approved for the Long Term Disability, Health, and Dental Insurance Plans to

enable their renewal for the 1994 policy year with no increase in premiums:

Long Term Disability

1. Increase the qualifying period for Long Term Disability benefits from 60 calendar days paid sick leave to 120 calendar days paid sick leave (34.1% premium reduction).

2. Reduce the Long Term Disability benefit level from 72% to 66% (including pension contribution) of basic salary subject to a maximum monthly benefit of \$4,500.00 (2.31% premium reduction).

3. Apply secondary Canada Pension Plan disability benefits (dependents' allowances) as an offset to Long Term Disability Plan benefits (4% premium reduction).

Health

1. Eliminate coverage for over-the-counter prescription drugs with the exception of life sustaining drugs (6% premium reduction).

2. Increase co-payment by the employee from 20% to 25% except for hospitalization (5% premium reduction).

3. Apply \$25.00 deductible annually (per employee or family) to prescription drug coverage (4% premium reduction).

Dental

1. Increase period for recall services from every 5 months to every 12 months except for dependent children under age 19 (5% premium reduction).

2. Increase co-payment by the employee from 20% to 25% for all dental benefits (6% premium reduction).

All other provisions for the Long Term Disability, Health, and Dental Insurance Plans are to remain unchanged and the current proportion of premiums paid by the University and employees remain the same.

The intent of these proposed changes is to limit the impact on both the University and its employees while stabilizing premiums and maintaining the maximum coverage possible.

7. CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS

1. TERMS OF REFERENCE – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Chair tabled a draft of the Terms of Reference of the Executive Committee of the Board of Regents and the following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents grants approval to the following Terms of Reference of the Executive Committee of the Board of Regents:

A. COMPOSITION

1. The Chair of the Board of Regents (to be Chair).
2. The Vice-Chair of the Board of Regents.
3. The Chair of the Finance Committee.
4. The Chair of the Appointments Committee.
5. The President.

B. QUORUM

The quorum for the Committee shall be three (3) members.

C. OBJECTIVE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

To serve as an Executive Committee with such power and authority to act for the Board on any matter within the jurisdiction of the Board pursuant to Memorial University Act, Chapter M-7, R.S.N. 1990, where decisions are required to be made and action taken between regularly scheduled meetings of the Board of Regents or where the Board has otherwise delegated specific responsibilities to the Executive Committee.

D. REPORTING

The Executive Committee shall submit reports to the Board of Regents of any action or decisions taken on behalf of the Board. Such reports shall be for the information of the Board.

2. SUMMARY OF MARINE INSTITUTE ACTIVITIES

Mr. Alexander Roche, who is also the Chair of the Advisory Board of the Marine Institute, provided the Board with a summary of activities of the Marine Institute as it relates to the integration with Memorial. He advised that the administrative aspects of the union are going very well and the academic merger will eventually be completed. He noted that some of the challenges facing the Institute at the present time are the utilization of the immense facilities available at the Institute and the development of the new Centre for Engineering Technology. In closing, Mr. Roche thanked the President for his invaluable assistance in helping to make the amalgamation a smooth transition.

The Chair thanked Mr. Roche for his report.

3. APPOINTMENT TO THE CANCER FOUNDATION JOINT LIAISON COMMITTEE

The Chair noted that a vacancy existed on the Cancer Foundation Joint Liaison Committee with the termination of Mr. Robert Wellon. Ms. Grace Stapleton agreed to be the Board's representative on this Committee.

4. APPOINTMENTS TO PENSIONS COMMITTEE

The Chair advised the Board that two appointments had been made to the Pensions Committee who are from outside the University community and have experience in the investment and/or pension administration field. The two new members are:

- (a) Mr. Ray Smallwood from Wood Gundy Inc.
- (b) Mr. Kevin Dunphy from Dunphy, Molloy & Associates Ltd.

8. PRESIDENT'S BUSINESS

1. MACLEAN'S RANKINGS

A statement from the President with respect to the 1993 ranking of Canadian Universities by Maclean's magazine was circulated for information. He questioned the validity and reliability

of the rankings given the fact that Memorial specifically requested to be excluded from the survey and did not provide any current data for the ranking this year. The President advised that the University had taken out an advertisement in the magazine stating the University's view of the ranking exercise and its reasons for non-participation. Also circulated was a brochure entitled "Facts and Figures 1992-93", a short summary of statistical data which provides information similar to that requested by the magazine.

2. ACTIVE GRIEVANCES – MUNFA

Circulated for information was an updated listing of active MUNFA grievances and arbitration cases.

3. FRECKER INSTITUTE

Dr. Tuinman advised the Board that the Frecker Institute in St. Pierre would be closed for the Winter Semester 1994 to undertake a thorough review of the french immersion study program. He noted that this period would allow for an examination of the curriculum and a closer look at the future direction of the Institute. Once the review is completed and recommendations are implemented it should lead to a more improved program of study for the Institute.

9. SENATE MINUTES

The Minutes of the Senate meeting held on Tuesday, October 12, 1993, 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 11 – REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
NO. 11.1 AND 11.12

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.