

# MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND

## BOARD OF REGENTS

The regular meeting of the Board of Regents was held on Thursday, November 12, 1998 at 2:30 p.m. in the Board Room of the University.

### PRESENT:

Mr. Edward Roberts, Chair  
Mr. Aubrey Bonnell, Vice-Chair  
Dr. Arthur May, President and Vice-Chancellor  
Dr. Jack Strawbridge, Acting Vice-President (Academic)  
Mr. Alick Andrews  
Ms. Gail Aylward  
Mr. Cyril Bonia  
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. Stephen Power  
Mr. Alexander Roche  
Mr. Harvey Short  
Ms. Lorelei Stanley  
Ms. Eleanor Bennett, Secretary

APOLOGIES: Mr. John Crosbie, Chancellor, Mr. William Dilny, Mr. Robert Stack, and Mr. Mel Woodward.

PRESENT BY INVITATION: Mr. Wayne Thistle, Vice-President (Administration and Finance) and Legal Counsel, and Dr. Evan Simpson, Vice-President (Academic) (Designate).

### 1. MINUTES

The Minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Regents held on September 10, 1998, copies of which were circulated, were accepted by the Board.

## 2. CHAIR'S REPORT

### 1. CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENT OF MR. ROBERT BROWN

The Chair advised the Board that he had received a copy of a letter from the Minister of Education to Mr. Brown officially notifying him of his appointment to the Board, effective November 5, 1998, for a two-year term. Mr. Brown was unable to attend this Board meeting.

### 2. CORRESPONDENCE TO THE PREMIER FROM THE C.S.U.

The Chair spoke to a letter which had been addressed to the Premier from the Vice-President of the Council of the Students' Union. Copies of the letter had been sent to the Board Chair, the President, all members of the Board of Regents, and all members of the Cabinet. In the letter, the CSU requested that Cabinet not make the appointment of the student representative to the Board of Regents until the CSU had been informed of the rationale for rejecting their candidate for the appointment.

The Chair advised that the proper process had been followed in accordance with s.23(d)(ii) of the Memorial University Act. The recommendation for the appointment of Mr. Brown as the student representative to the Board came jointly from the CSU and the Dean of Student Affairs and Services. The Board then recommended the appointment of Mr. Brown to the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council.

### 3. PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH UPDATE

The Chair reported that the latest meeting of the Presidential Search Committee had been held on November 10th and reported on the progress being made. There are two more meetings scheduled before the end of the year after which the committee should come to a short list of candidates. It is anticipated that candidate interviews would be scheduled by the end of January, 1999.

### 4. MEETING WITH GOVERNMENT RE UNIVERSITY BUDGET

The Chair and the President reported on a meeting held with the Premier and the Ministers of Finance and Education concerning the University's budget situation. Circulated at the meeting were copies of a memo to the Board Chair from the President on this issue. The President reported that after the meeting he felt the Government had a better understanding of the University's financial position and of their willingness to assist the University in its efforts to move forward.

#### 5. AD HOC COMMITTEE ON UNIVERSITY PROSPECTS

The Chair of the committee, Ms. French, provided the Board with an update on the activities of this committee. She advised the Board that two meetings had been held thus far and they were reviewing the University's financial history of revenues and expenditures over the last three years. She reported that the committee is focusing on ways and means to increase revenues and reduce expenditures. The committee is looking at measures other Universities have had to take to deal with their financial predicaments. She advised of the major budgetary challenges facing the University and the limitations under which it will have to operate. She further noted that it is imperative to engage the academic community in their deliberations and considerations. A further report would be provided at the January meeting with a final report being submitted to the Board at the March meeting.

#### 6. MEDICAL SCHOOL ENROLMENT

Circulated at the meeting were copies of a memo to the President from the Dean of Medicine, dated November 10, 1998, in reply to Mr. Fenwick's request for further information concerning enrolment of Newfoundland students to the Medical School. Also circulated were copies of a memo to the Chair of the Board from the President, dated November 12, 1998, addressing this issue and the matter of Board procedure.

After reviewing the correspondence it was agreed to await further information on this matter from the Department of Health.

#### 7. JANUARY BOARD MEETING

After discussion it was agreed that the January 14, 1999 meeting of the Board of Regents would be held in Corner Brook.

### 3. MEETINGS OF COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD

#### 1. FINANCE COMMITTEE

A Draft of the Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on November 12, 1998, copies of which were circulated at the meeting, were presented by the Chair of the Committee, Ms. French, and accepted by the Board. The following resolutions were passed with respect to the items which required specific approval of the Board:

#### ITEM A – POOLED INVESTMENT FUND

This recommendation from the Finance Committee for approval to convert from a cost basis to a market value basis for accounting for investments in the Pooled Investment Fund, retroactive to April 1, 1997, was deferred for further clarification.

#### ITEM B – TUITION FEES GRADUATE STUDIES

##### RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves a recommendation to maintain the current continuance fees charged to graduate students but to change the policy to charge the fees until final submission of the thesis to the School of Graduate Studies.

#### ITEM C – DELETION OF POSITIONS

##### RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves the following deletion of positions:

Department of Biochemistry  
BCH-012 Science Technician II  
BCH-013 Intermediate Clerk  
Stenographer

Department of Biology  
BOL-011 Science Technician III  
BOL-013 Science Technician I  
BOL-037 Photographer I

Department of Chemistry  
CHM-020 Draftsman

Department of Earth Sciences  
EAS-025 Research Assistant II

Office of the Dean of Science  
SCF-010 Laboratory Instructor

Department of Facilities Management  
UWA-010 Purchasing Coordinator

Faculty of Medicine  
MED-132 Intermediate Secretary

#### ITEM D – GROUP BENEFIT PLANS

#### RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves a recommendation that the current carriers continue to be retained to underwrite the existing group benefit plans with implementation of the following rate action, effective October 1, 1998:

- \* Basic Life insurance plan at an 11.1% rate decrease;
- \* Dependent Life insurance plan at the existing premium rate;
- \* Optional Life insurance plan at a 15.4% rate decrease;
- \* Basic and Optional Accidental Death and Dismemberment plan at a 35% and 23.3% rate decrease for the employee only and family plans, respectively;
- \* Long Term Disability insurance plan at a 17.9% rate decrease;
- \* Health plan at the existing rate; and

\* Dental plan at the existing rate.

The Board was informed that the Health and Dental Plans have accumulated a deficit balance estimated to be \$338,430 at 31 July, 1998. Approval was given to a recommendation of the Finance Committee, that the Employee Benefits Committee be requested to review and recommend a plan to eliminate the employee portion of the deficit in the Health and Dental plans by March 31, 1999.

## 2. APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

A Report of the Appointments Committee meeting held on November 12, 1998, copies of which were circulated prior to the meeting, were presented by the Chair of the Committee, Mr. Roche, and accepted by the Board.

## 3. CAMPUS PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

A draft of the Minutes of the Campus Planning and Development Committee meeting held on November 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 resolutions were passed with respect to the items which required specific approval of the Board.

### 1. Project Status Report

This item was presented for information only.

### 2. Naming Opportunities Policy

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves a recommendation from the Campus Planning and Development Committee for the Naming Opportunity Policy.

### 3. Ocean Sciences Centre Aquarium Project

This item was presented for information only.

#### 4. Labrador Institute

##### RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents endorses a recommendation from the Campus Planning and Development Committee that Memorial University encourage the concept of a proposed conference and educational facility for Happy Valley–Goose Bay.

#### 5. Johnson Family Foundation – Proposal for Children's Park

This item was presented for information only.

#### 6. Sir Wilfred Grenfell College – Residence Facility

After discussion of this item, the Board agreed to request the Campus Planning and Development and the Finance Committees to develop an assessment of the University's capital needs (including Sir Wilfred Grenfell College) and report back to the Board. Mr. Thistle agreed to provide a report to the Board at the March meeting.

#### 7. Property transfer of the Marine Institute to the University

This item was presented for information only.

#### 4. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS COMMITTEE

A Report of the Employee Benefits Committee meeting held on September 14, 1998, copies of which were circulated prior to the meeting, were presented by the Chair of the Committee, Ms. O'Neill. The recommendation of the Employee Benefits Committee with respect to the Group Benefit Plans was referred to the Finance Committee. The approval for this item is included with the Finance Committee items.

Ms. O'Neill provided a verbal report of the Employee Benefits Committee meeting held on November 9, 1998.

#### 5. PENSIONS COMMITTEE

A Report of the Pensions Committee meeting held on October 27, 1998, 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 resolution was passed with respect to the Memorial University Pension Fund Investment Policy

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves a recommendation from the Pensions Committee that the Memorial University Pension Fund Investment Policy be amended by adding the following paragraph to Section 6(b) Constraints by Asset Class, as follows:

Pooled Funds

The portfolio may invest in pooled funds that hold the aforementioned eligible investments. Other previously non-specified investment strategies and instruments are permissible as long as the respective pooled fund investment policy is attached to and forms part of this document.

The following pooled fund investment policies would become part of the Memorial University Pension Fund Investment Policy:

General Statement of Investment Policy for the T.A.L. Pooled Funds

T.A.L. Investment Policy Concerning the Use of Derivatives

T.A.L. Pooled Fixed Income Fund

T.A.L. Pooled Canadian Bond Overlay Fund

T.A.L. Pooled International Equity Fund No. 2

Mr. Thistle agreed to get a formal opinion on this matter to ensure that it complies with the MUN Pension Act and Policy.

#### 4. SENATE MEETINGS

The Minutes of the Senate meetings held on September 8, 1998 and October 13, 1998, copies of which were circulated prior to the meeting, were presented by the President, and accepted by the Board.



## 5. CHANGE OF NAME – SCHOOL OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND ATHLETICS

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

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves a recommendation from Senate to change the name of the School of Physical Education and Athletics to the School of Physical Education, Recreation and Athletics.

## 6. PROFESSOR EMERITUS

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

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves a recommendation from Senate that the following retired members of the faculty be awarded the title of Professor Emeritus:

Dr. Morley Hodder, Faculty of Arts  
Dr. Henry Longerich, Faculty of Science  
Dr. William Machin, Faculty of Science  
Dr. Wilfred Martin, Faculty of Education  
Dr. Satti Paddi Reddy, Faculty of Science  
Dr. Michael Rochester, Faculty of Science  
Dr. Donald Steele, Faculty of Science

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

Copies of a report to the Board on Procedures for Dismissal or Other Disciplinary Measures with respect to Academic Administrators, prepared by the President, were circulated prior to the meeting. It was decided to defer the discussion of this report to a future meeting.

## 8. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Copies of the following items were circulated prior to the meeting for information:

(a) Report on the current status of the Atlantic-area consortium of universities to develop credit-banking and granting of degrees.

(b) Booklet prepared by the International Centre entitled "Memorial Reaching Out to the World"

(c) Profile of Students Wait-Listed for Courses in Fall, 1997, brochure prepared by Department of Institutional Analysis.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.