

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND

BOARD OF REGENTS

The regular meeting of the Board of Regents was held on Thursday, September 12, 1996, at 4:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the University.

PRESENT:

Ms. Janet Gardiner, Chair
Ms. Jeannie French, Vice-Chair
The Honourable John C. Crosbie, Chancellor
Dr. Arthur May, President and Vice-Chancellor
Dr. Jaap Tuinman, Vice-President (Academic) and Pro Vice-Chancellor
Mr. Alick Andrews
Mr. Jerry Bishop
Dr. Ches Blackwood
Mr. Aubrey Bonnell
Ms. Trudi Brake
Mr. Bill Dilny
Mr. Fred Durant
Ms. Mary Ennis
Mr. Peter Fenwick
Ms. Barbara Lewis
Dr. Robert MacLeod
Mr. Robert Mendoza
Mr. George Neal
Ms. Frankie O'Neill
Mr. David Power
Mr. Stephen Power
Mr. Alexander Roche
Mr. Robert Stack
Ms. Grace Stapleton
Ms. Betty Williams
Ms. Amy Wyse
Ms. Eleanor Bennett, Secretary

APOLOGIES: Ms. Gudrid Hutchings and Mr. Mel Woodward.

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

1. WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS

The Chair extended a warm welcome to the six new members who were attending their first meeting of the Board of Regents. The following were elected by the MUN Alumni Association for a three-year period, effective September 1, 1996: Mr. Alick Andrews, Ottawa; Mr. Stephen Power, Toronto; Ms. Trudi Brake, Mr. Bill Dilny, Mr. Fred Durant, and Mr. Robert Stack, St. John's.

2. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Regents held on Thursday, June 13, 1996, copies of which were circulated prior to the meeting, were accepted by the Board.

3. REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Reports of the Executive Committee meetings held on July 17, 1996 and August 21, 1996, copies of which were circulated prior to the meeting, were accepted by the Board. The following decisions were taken:

1. To ratify the Maintenance Personnel Collective Agreement.
2. To proceed with the action recommended in the external legal opinion received from Mr. A.G. Lilly, should the University be challenged in court on the matter of the five faculty members seeking to transfer pensionable service from the Teachers' Pension Plan to the MUN Pension Plan.
3. To approve the three-year fiscal plan for the Faculty of Medicine. (Copies to be forwarded to the Finance Committee for information).
4. To award the University food contract to Nova Services for a five-year period commencing May 1, 1996 and ending April 30, 2001.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

1. NOMINEES TO THE CROWN FOUNDATION

The Chair requested members to consider two nominees for the Board of Trustees of the Memorial University Foundation and requested that they submit the names to the Secretary.

2. COMPLAINTS BY DR. PANJABI

The President provided the Board with background information on this matter and advised that this continues to be an ongoing issue even though a reasonable settlement, in his opinion, was suggested in consultation with the Human Rights Commission. He agreed to keep the Board updated on this issue.

3. UNIVERSITY BUDGET

The Board was advised that the Minister of Education had been written requesting permission to carry a deficit in the first year of the three-year budget horizon. The President advised the Board that the University has not as yet received an official response to this formal request.

4. STRAWBERRY HILL

Several questions were raised concerning the development of Strawberry Hill and the proposed construction of chalets. Mr. Thistle agreed to provide a written report to the Board at its next meeting.

5. MEETINGS OF COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD

1. FINANCE COMMITTEE

The meeting of the Finance Committee scheduled for Thursday, September 12, 1996 was cancelled.

2. APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

A report of the Appointments Committee meeting held on Thursday, September 12, 1996, copies of which were circulated prior to the meeting, was presented by the Chair of the Committee, Ms. Grace Stapleton, and accepted by the Board.

3. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS COMMITTEE

A Summary of Business transacted at the Employee Benefits Committee meeting held on Wednesday, September 11, 1996, copies of which were circulated at the meeting, was presented by the Chair of the Committee, Ms. Grace Stapleton, and accepted by the Board.

The following recommendation with respect to the Group Insurance Trust Fund Account was presented to the Board:

The Employee Benefits Committee recommends to the Board of Regents that the decision of the Board of Regents of June 1993, to introduce a cost-sharing of group insurance premiums by retirees (retired prior to 1993) and the University, be rescinded.

The Board did not accept this recommendation from the Employee Benefits Committee.

4. PENSIONS COMMITTEE

A Summary of Business transacted at the Pensions Committee meeting held on Thursday, September 12, 1996, copies of which were circulated at the meeting, was presented by the Chair of the Committee, Ms. Frankie O'Neill, and accepted by the Board.

The following recommendations from the Pensions Committee were referred to the Finance Committee for consideration:

1. That The Memorial University Pensions Act be amended to remove the 35-year maximum accrual of pensionable service and enable employees who have already attained maximum service to rejoin the Memorial University Pension Plan on a prospective basis.

2. That The Memorial University Pension Act be amended to enable employees to elect early retirement, with a reduced pension (calculated at one-half of one percent for each month from date of retirement to age 55), upon reaching age 50 with a minimum of 30 years' pensionable service.

6. CHAIR'S BUSINESS

1. NEXT BOARD MEETING

The Chair advised that the next scheduled meeting of the Board will be held on Thursday, November 14, 1996.

7. PRESIDENT'S BUSINESS

1. MACLEAN'S RANKINGS

The President provided copies of an article to be published in the next issue of the MUN Gazette concerning Memorial's participation in the annual MacLean's magazine poll of Canadian universities. He advised that for the first time in four years Memorial will be participating in the poll, noting that although composite rankings were statistical nonsense, the publishing of detailed data made our participation worthwhile.

2. LABOUR RELATIONS UPDATE

Circulated for information were copies of a report from the Division of Labour Relations outlining updates related to grievances and arbitrations involving members of MUNFA. The President advised that these reports will be circulated to the Board for information on a monthly basis.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

1. JOINT LIAISON COMMITTEE

Ms. Jeannie French provided the Board with a brief report of a meeting of the Joint Liaison Committee of the Health Care Corporation and the Faculty of Medicine. She requested the Board's advice as to what issues of policy, if any, they would like to see addressed at future meetings of this committee.

2. NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CANADIAN FEDERATION OF WOMEN

Ms. Grace Stapleton informed the Board that she had attended the National Conference of Canadian Federation of Women held at Memorial this past summer, and advised that the participants had expressed a tremendous amount of praise for the University.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.