



Board of Regents

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND

BOARD OF REGENTS

The regular meeting of the Board of Regents was held on Thursday, 6 December 2001 in the Board Room of the University at 2:30 p.m.

PRESENT:

Edward Roberts, Chair
John Crosbie, Chancellor
Dr. Axel Meisen, President and Vice-Chancellor
Dr. Evan Simpson, Vice President (Academic) and Pro Vice-Chancellor
Alick Andrews
Gail Aylward
Hayward Blake
Lisa Browne
Calvin Butt
Sam Chaulk
Brett Dawe
Chris Decker
Sharon Duggan
Dorothy George
Dr. Georgina Hedges
Ed Kelly
Nancy Kelly
Dr. Brendan Lewis
Brendan Paddick
Joan Pinsent
Darlene Russell
Harvey Short
Kathryn Small
Lorelei Stanley-Newton
Eleanor Bennett, Secretary

APOLOGIES: Peter Barnes, Fred Durant, Larry Peckford and Susan Wood.

PRESENT BY INVITATION: 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 18 October 2001 and the electronic meeting held on 7 November 2001, copies of which were circulated prior to the meeting, were approved by the Board.

2. CHAIR'S REMARKS

The Board, at its 18 October 2001 meeting, accepted the resignation of Fred Durant as Chair of the Pensions Committee. The Chair advised that Mr. Decker has accepted appointment as Chair of this Committee and thanked him for his willingness to do so.

3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

1. Credit Card Solicitation

Following up on the concerns expressed at an earlier meeting by a Regent of an aggressive credit card solicitation on behalf of the University, the President advised that this campaign had been performed by an external agency. The practice of aggressive solicitation was stopped and action has been taken to prevent a repeat.

2. Appointments to University Boards

The Board received and reviewed a memorandum from the President concerning appointments to University Boards (including those of Separately Incorporated Entities), which addressed in particular the practice of recommending a single slate of new appointees. He proposed a change to the procedure to ensure a wide range of candidates by:

(a) calling publicly, through notices in the *Gazette* and/or the *MUSE* (as appropriate), for nominations and applications to serve on Boards when vacancies are imminent; and

(b) requiring current Boards to suggest at least two candidates for each position.

The Board concurred with this proposal.

3. Harlow Board Appointment

The President advised that Mr. Ian Stewart has agreed to accept the appointment to the Harlow Campus Board of Trustees.

4. *Maclean's* Article on University Rankings

The Board reviewed the Canadian University Rankings outlined in a recent edition of *Maclean's* magazine. The President pointed out that Memorial scored fifth out of eleven in the overall ranking for Comprehensive universities, which is up from sixth last year. Memorial scored very well in the library holdings category and also in the sub-category, "Leaders of Tomorrow". He noted that these rankings play an important role for students who are looking at various Universities to attend.

5. Alumni Event in Ottawa

The President thanked Mr. Andrews for his assistance and support in the organization of a \$100 per plate dinner held in Ottawa recently and attended by 180 Alumni and friends in the area. He was pleased that the event was so successful.

6. Galbraith Lecture

The President advised the Board that Dr. Lloyd Axworthy had given the first John Kenneth Galbraith Lecture at Memorial in November. Dr. Axworthy's topic was "The Human Security Agenda: Prescriptions for Canada in an Age of Globalization", in which he provided his personal account of recent events in Pakistan and Afghanistan. The event has been videotaped and will be presented to Dr. Galbraith at a future date. The Chair reminded the Board how the Lectureship had come to be funded by Dr. Galbraith.

4. POSSIBLE NAME CHANGE FOR THE UNIVERSITY

The Board received and reviewed a note from the Chair, along with a letter from the Minister of Youth Services and Post-Secondary Education and the Chair's reply, concerning the name change of the Province from "Newfoundland" to "Newfoundland and Labrador" and the implications of this for the University. The Government has requested the Board to offer advice with respect to a possible change of its official name. In this regard, it was agreed to establish an Ad Hoc Committee and mandate it to consult with all elements of the University community, as well as the community at large, and then offer the Board their advice.

After discussion, the following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED THAT an Ad Hoc Committee be appointed to advise whether the name of the University should be changed, as a consequence of the change of the official name of the Province from "Newfoundland" to "Newfoundland and Labrador" (which has been brought about by an amendment to the Constitution; and to suggest alternative names, should that advice be affirmative;

AND THAT the Committee consist of 13 members; comprising, specifically, four students (one nominated by the President of the Memorial University of Newfoundland Students' Union; one by the President of the Graduate Students' Union; one by the President of the Marine Institute Students' Union and one by the President of the Sir Wilfred Grenfell College Students' Union); a member of the University's faculty nominated by the President in consultation with the Chair of the Board; a member of the faculty nominated by the Memorial University of Newfoundland Faculty Association; a member of the staff nominated jointly by the other Unions certified to represent employees of the University; an alumnus or alumnae nominated by the President of the Memorial University of Newfoundland Alumni Association; the President; and 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;

AND THAT the Committee be requested to seek suggestions as to whether the name should be changed, and if so to what, from all members of the University community and from the public at large, including in particular the Royal Canadian Legion;

AND THAT the Committee be required to submit their report by 15 March 2002, so that the Board may consider it at their meeting to be held on 28 March 2002.

Mr. Dawe joined the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

5. FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Board received and reviewed draft minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 6 December 2001, which were presented by Dr. Hedges, Vice-Chair of the Committee, and approved by the Board. The following resolutions were passed with respect to items requiring specific Board approval.

ITEM A - GRENFELL COLLEGE STUDENT APARTMENT FEES

The Board received and reviewed documentation pertaining to a proposed fee schedule for the new student apartments at Sir Wilfred Grenfell College. After discussion, the following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED

That the Board of Regents approves the fee schedule for the new student apartments at Sir Wilfred Grenfell College as follows:

1. Effective January 2002, a fee of \$1,082 per student for the new, four-bedroom apartments for the Winter 2002 Semester only.
2. Effective January 2002, a monthly rent of \$500 for existing family apartments.
3. Effective September 2002, a fee for \$1,201 per student per semester fee for the new, four-bedroom apartment complex.

ITEM B - MARKET DIFFERENTIALS FOR I.T. STAFF

The Board received and reviewed documentation pertaining to market differential adjustments for employees in Information Technology positions. After discussion, the following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves the proposed 2001 Maximum Salaries for IT staff, effective 1 July 2001 as presented.

ITEM C - STUDENT MEDIA LEVY

The Board received and reviewed documentation pertaining to MUNSU's request to initiate a \$4 student media levy to be charged to all undergraduate students each semester in order to fund the two official student media services: the *MUSE* and CHMR-FM. After discussion, the following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves the initiation of a \$4 student media levy to be charged to all undergraduate students (full and part-time) each semester, on behalf of MUNSU, commencing with registration for the 2002 winter semester.

6. BUDGET DISCUSSION

The President reported that there was no final decision from Government of the amount of its grant for the current fiscal year, and that accordingly the University was operating and spending in accordance with the budget submitted in April 2001. He reminded the Board that the relevant Ministers were aware that the University was doing so, and had agreed with this course of action, during several meetings between them and the Chair of Board, the Chair of the Finance Committee and himself. A relatively small, but important, gap remained between the present indicated amount of the Government grant and the University's requirements. He said that it was urgent to resolve this matter and he expected that this would be done shortly.

The Board received and reviewed the University's budget submission to Government for the fiscal years ended 2003, 2004 and 2005. The President pointed out the implications on the budget of the tuition reduction implemented by the Government and of the potential additional revenue if the University were to increase its tuition fee. The Chair noted that the relevant Ministers are fully apprised of the University's situation in this respect, too.

7. APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE REPORT

The Board received and reviewed the Appointments Committee Report of its meeting held on 6 December 2001, which was presented by Ms. Aylward, Chair of the Committee, and approved by the Board.

8. CAMPUS PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

The Board received and reviewed the minutes of the Campus Planning and Development Committee meeting held on 6 December 2001, which were presented by Mr. Kelly, Chair of the Committee, and approved by the Board. There were no items requiring specific Board approval.

9. LABOUR RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

The Chair provided an oral report of the Labour Relations Committee meeting held on 6 December 2001. The Board received and reviewed correspondence concerning negotiations with MUNFA. He advised that both sides have agreed to limit the number of Articles open for negotiation to six. After discussion the following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents authorizes the bargaining team to continue negotiations with MUNFA along the framework outlined in the above noted correspondence.

The Board received and reviewed background information with respect to tentative agreements reached with NAPE Locals 7801, 7803 and 7804. The Board's attention was drawn to the "Field House Letter" which outlines details of the agreement reached regarding job security for staff of the Field House. Mr. Thistle noted that the salary increases agreed to are in full compliance with the Government template. After discussion, the following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents ratifies the tentative Collective Agreements between Memorial University of Newfoundland and NAPE Locals 7801 (on behalf of Maintenance Personnel), 7803 (on behalf of Campus Enforcement and Patrol Personnel), and 7804 (on behalf of Custodial Personnel) and authorizes the appropriate officials of the University to sign these agreements on its behalf.

10. AD HOC PENSIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

The Chair provided an oral report of the Ad Hoc Pensions Committee meeting held on 6 December 2001. He advised that a draft position paper had been prepared and circulated to all constituent groups seeking their input. He reported that he had received correspondence from both MUNFA and CUPE who advised that they would not be making a presentation to the Committee. MUNFA advised of their continued desire to establish a separate pension plan for academic employees and of a forthcoming feasibility study of such an arrangement. CUPE advised that they are currently in the process of negotiating a new collective agreement and are raising the issue of Joint Trusteeship of the Pension Plan in this forum. The Committee has also heard from the Pensioners who have stated that they want indexing of the Pension Plan. The Chair reported that they have agreed to meet with the MUN Pensioners' Association in early January.

11. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS COMMITTEE REPORT

The Board received and reviewed background information pertaining to the ongoing study of the longer-term implications of the University's group benefits program costs. The report was presented by Ms. Duggan, Chair of the Committee, and accepted by the Board.

12. SENATE MATTERS

The Board received and reviewed minutes of the special and regular meetings of Senate held on 13 November 2001 and 9 October 2001. Approval was given to the following items requiring Board approval under Section 56(h) (courses of study) and 56(s) (making or altering a rule or regulation) of the Act:

9 OCTOBER 2001 MEETING:

Item 17 - Report of the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies

17.2 School of Continuing Education (Division of Lifelong Learning) -
Changes to the Diploma in Information Technology Programme

17.3 Proposal to Offer Bridging Programme at the St. John's Campus in
2001-2002

Item 18 - Report of the Academic Council of the School of Graduate Studies

18.1 Department of Computer Science - Revisions to Computer Science Regulations

18.2 Department of Earth Sciences - New Graduate Course

18.3 Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science - Revisions to Environmental Engineering and Applied Science Regulations

18.4 Faculty of Medicine - Deletion of Toxicology Programme

Item 18.5 - Revisions to the Constitution of the Academic Council - School of Graduate Studies

The following resolution was passed with respect to a recommendation from Senate for specific approval of this item:

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves an amendment to Clause 2.c of the Constitution of the Academic Council of the School of Graduate Studies, which will permit representation from the Constituency of Music.

Item 20 - Report of the Committee on Course Evaluations

Dr. Simpson drew the Board's attention to this item and circulated a report pertaining to the matter of the Core Evaluation Questionnaire at Memorial University, which was prepared for the Board's review and information.

13 NOVEMBER 2001 MEETING:

Item 32 - Report of the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies

32.1 Advanced Placement International Language (APIEL) Examination

32.2 School of Nursing - Calendar Changes

Item 33 - Report of the Academic Council of the School of Graduate Studies

33.1 School of Nursing - Calendar Changes

33.2 Faculty of Medicine - Calendar Changes

33.3 Request for Approval of New General Regulation D) 6. Governing the School of Graduate Studies

13. APPOINTMENTS TO MARINE INSTITUTE ADVISORY BOARD

The Board received and reviewed background information pertaining to renewal of appointments to the Marine Institute Advisory Committee for a further term of two years. The President reminded the Board of his previous comments regarding appointments to University Boards. After discussion the following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED:

The Board of Regents renews the appointment of the following members of the Marine Institute Advisory Committee for a further term of two years, effective from the date the previous appointment terminated.

- Joseph Price, Department of Fisheries and Oceans
- Gregory Lever, Terra Nova Project
- Kirk Jones, Canadian Steamship Lines
- Alastair O'Rielly, Fisheries Association of Newfoundland and Labrador

ADJOURNMENT

The Chair reminded the Board that the next regular meeting is scheduled for 31 January 2002 and will be held in Corner Brook. The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.