

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND

BOARD OF REGENTS

The regular meeting of the Board of Regents was held on Thursday, February 2, 2006 in the Board Room of the University, Room A-2029, at 2:30 p.m.

PRESENT:

Mr. Lorne Wheeler, Chair
Dr. Georgina Hedges, Vice-Chair
Dr. John Crosbie, Chancellor
Dr. Axel Meisen, President and Vice-Chancellor
Dr. Eddy Campbell, Vice-President (Academic)
Ms. Gail Aylward
Ms. Ruth Canning
Ms. Pat Coish-Snow (by telephone)
Mr. Steven Cranford
Ms. Sharon Duggan
Mr. Anas El-Aneed
Ms. Deanne Fleet
Mr. Earl Ludlow
Ms. Meghan Mitchell
Ms. Joan Pinsent
Mr. Dave Porter
Mr. Harvey Short
Ms. Eleanor Swanson
Ms. Eleanor Bennett, Secretary

APOLOGIES: Ms. Mary Broderick, Dr. Wynanne Downer, Ms. Dorothy George, Ms. Ann Marie Hann, Dr. Brendan Lewis, Mr. Douglas Moores, Ms. Darlene Russell, Mr. Stephen Winsor.

PRESENT BY INVITATION: Mr. Kent Decker, Vice-President (Administration and Finance).

1. MINUTES

The Minutes of the special meeting of the Board of Regents held on December 7, 2005 and those of the regular meeting held on December 8, 2005, copies of which were circulated prior to the meeting, were approved by the Board.

2. CHAIR'S REPORT

1. Welcome to new Student Regents

Mr. Wheeler welcomed to the meeting Ms. Mitchell and Mr. El-Aneed who were attending their first meeting since being recommended to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council for appointment to the Board. Official notification had not as yet been received from Government concerning their appointments. Mr. Winsor was unable to attend this meeting.

3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

1. Activity Report

The President reported on the following activities in which he was involved since the last Board meeting:

Dec. 12th Dr. Meisen and Mr. Wheeler met with Minister of Education Joan Burke regarding an update on Memorial University.

Dec. 15th Dr. Meisen met with Minister of Finance Loyola Sullivan regarding Pre-Budget Consultations.

Jan. 17th He met with Minister of Human Resources, Labour and Employment Paul Shelley and Ms. Nellie Burke regarding updates pertaining to Human Resources activity, especially immigration and in Memorial University's role in increasing immigration to the Province.

Jan. 25th He and Mr. Wheeler met with Department of Education officials, Mr. Bruce Hollett, Ms. Rachelle Cochrane and Mr. Al Gosse, regarding collaboration between Memorial University and the College of the North Atlantic.

Jan. 26th Dr. Meisen presented his annual address to the St. John's Rotary Club.

Jan. 30th He met with Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture and Minister Responsible for Aboriginal Affairs Tom Rideout regarding aboriginal issues and fisheries collaboration.

Jan. 31st Dr. Meisen and members of the University Administration met with the Mayor, Councillors and senior staff of the City of St. John's regarding shared concerns.

Mr. Crosbie joined the meeting at 3:10 p.m.

4. APPOINTMENT - DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI AFFAIRS & DEVELOPMENT

The Board received and reviewed background information pertaining to a recommendation for the appointment of the Director of Alumni Affairs and Development, which included a report of the search committee.

After discussion, the following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves the appointment of Dr. Penelope A. Blackwood as Director of Alumni Affairs and Development, effective April 1, 2006.

5. WANDA YOUNG CASE

Dr. Meisen reported that on January 27, 2006, the Supreme Court of Canada had supported the appeal brought by Wanda Young against the University and Dr. Leslie Bella and Dr. William Rowe, two professors in the School of Social Work.

Dr. Meisen advised the Board that he will be writing a letter of apology to Ms. Young accepting the Supreme Court's decision and advising that the University will be guided by the implications of this decision.

Dr. Meisen told the Board that the University will examine and review this case, and make recommendations to the Board as to how we should proceed in future.

After discussion, the following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents, authorizes the University Administration to analyze the background of the Wanda Young case and, following a review, make recommendations regarding its implications.

6. DR. RANJIT CHANDRA

Ms. Fleet declared a conflict of interest and absented herself from the meeting during the discussion of this item.

Dr. Meisen provided background information regarding a CBC-TV three-part series (aired January 30th to Feb 1st) which raised questions about the research conducted of Dr. Ranjit Chandra, a former member of the Faculty of Medicine. The program claimed that the University took little or no action with respect to allegations of research fraud brought against Dr. Chandra.

Dr. Meisen advised that the University will be developing a communications strategy to brief groups within and outside the University community on this matter.

Dr. Meisen also advised that the University will conduct a thorough review of the investigations that were conducted, the effectiveness of the actions arising from the investigations and any other related issues.

Ms. Fleet rejoined the meeting at this point.

7. APPOINTMENT TO MURC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board received and reviewed background information pertaining to the appointment of Dr. Mary Bluehardt, Director of Human Kinetics and Recreation to the Board of Directors of MURC.

After discussion, the following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves the appointment of Dr. Mary Bluehardt to the Board of Directors of the Memorial University of Newfoundland Recreation Complex, for the term effective February 2, 2006 and for the duration of your appointment as Director of Human Kinetics and Recreation.

8. APPOINTMENT TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF CANADIAN CENTRE FOR MARINE COMMUNICATIONS (CCMC)

The Board received and reviewed background information notifying that the President had appointed Mr. Glenn Blackwood, the new Executive Director of the Marine Institute, as Vice-Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Canadian Centre for Marine Communications (CCMC), for a term commencing immediately and expiring on August 31, 2010, to coincide with the period of Mr. Blackwood's appointment as Executive Director of the Marine Institute. Mr. Blackwood replaces Mr. Leslie O'Reilly, former Executive Director of the Marine Institute, whose term expired on December 31, 2005.

9. FINANCE COMMITTEE MATTERS

Due to the cancellation of the Finance Committee meeting, the following items of a financial nature were presented directly to the Board for its consideration:

1. Division of Varsity Athletics

The Board received and reviewed background information pertaining to a recommendation for the establishment of a Division of Varsity Athletics and the establishment of a permanent position of a Director.

The Board received an Executive Summary of the report "Now is the

Time" at its meeting on December 8, 2005.

The Board was advised that this report was discussed by Dr. Campbell at an internal university forum on December 16, 2005 and a public forum on January 16, 2006. Feedback was invited and a framework for Varsity Athletics at Memorial was developed, which incorporates a revamped mission statement as well as those recommendations from "Now is the Time" for which there was widespread support. A budget for the Division has been set aside in the Vice-President (Academic)'s budget.

After discussion, the following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves the establishment of the Division of Varsity Athletics at Memorial University of Newfoundland.

Further, the Board approved the establishment of a permanent position of Director of Varsity Athletics in the Division of Varsity Athletics.

**2. Department of Career Development and Experiential Learning-
Establishment of Position**

The Board received and reviewed background information pertaining to a recommendation for the establishment of five permanent positions in the Department of Career Development and Experiential Learning (CDEL) which reports to the Dean of Student Affairs and Services.

After discussion, the following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves the establishment of the following five permanent positions in the Department of Career Development and Experiential Learning:

1. One Graduate Placement/Career Advisor
2. One Financial and Administrative Specialist
3. Two Employer Relations Officers
4. One Career Technical/IT Specialist

3. Division of Co-Operative Education

The Board received and reviewed background information pertaining to the establishment of a Division of Co-operative Education with the establishment of the permanent position of Academic Director.

After discussion, the following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves the establishment of an academic division for administering all Co-operative Education programs at the University.

Further, the Board approved the creation of the permanent academic position of Director of Co-operative Education, reporting to an Associate Vice-President (Academic).

Ms. Coish-Snow left the meeting (by conference) at 5:20 p.m.

4. Increase in Academic Dress Fee

The Board received and reviewed background information pertaining to a recommendation for an increase in the fee charged to students and renters for gowns/hoods.

The Board was advised that the Division of Marketing and Communications (M&C) is proposing to purchase collapsible, one-time use, souvenir academic caps for student use at future convocations to replace the existing stock of felt mortarboards. Students would keep the cap as a memento of their graduation; the interior of the cap, designed to accept class autographs, would bear the name of the University. To fund the purchase of these caps, M&C is proposing to increase the rental fee from \$20 to \$30.

After discussion, the following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves an increase from \$20 to \$30 in the fee charged to students and other renters for the rental of gowns/hoods and purchase of souvenir caps.

5. Financial Issues of MUNSU

The Board received and reviewed background information pertaining to the financial issues of the Memorial University of Newfoundland Students' Union (MUNSU). The Board was advised that ongoing work with MUNSU concerning its debts was concentrated on two areas: the Daycare facility and MUNSU operated commercial properties in the Smallwood Centre.

MUNSU agreed with the mechanics of the proposed direction but did not agree that the Daycare operation should remain with them. They believe it is in the best interests of the University community to transfer the

Daycare to the University. MUNSU's position is consistent with the direction originally approved by the Board.

The Administration has worked with MUNSU to outline an arrangement that would provide an economically viable solution by increasing the space to be transferred to the University, and they believe this has been accomplished to the extent possible.

The Board was advised that negotiations are nearing completion and the Administration believes a final Agreement might be reached in the next few weeks. A transfer date coincident with the University's fiscal year end would be the goal.

After discussion, the following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents authorizes the Separately Incorporated Entities (SIE) Committee of the Board to finalize an Agreement with Memorial University Students' Union (MUNSU) based on agreed principles and further provide the Board of Regents with business and management plans for the Daycare facility and the commercial properties.

10. APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE MATTERS

Due to the cancellation of the Appointments Committee meeting, the following items were presented directly to the Board for its consideration:

1. Report of the Appointments Committee

A Report of Appointments was presented by Dr. Campbell, for the consideration of the Board, along with an addendum, and approved by the Board.

The Board passed a resolution with respect to the appointment of the Director of Human Resources:

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approved the appointment of Ms. Lisa J. Hollett as the Director of Human Resources, effective mid-February.

Dr. Meisen left the meeting at 5:45 p.m.

11. LABOUR RELATIONS MATTERS

Due to the cancellation of the Labour Relations Committee meeting, the following item was brought directly to the Board for its consideration:

Support Staff and Non-Bargaining Unit Staff

After discussion, the following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approves the following recommendations regarding Collective Bargaining wage increases with the six (6) support staff bargaining units and the Non-Bargaining Unit staff:

1. The NAPE Local 7405 Collective Agreement to be signed as negotiated or reopened to increase the April 1, 2006 salary increase from 2% to 3% in exchange for a reduction in the sick leave accumulation from 24 days to 12 days per year for new hires.
2. Attempt to conclude Collective Agreements with CUPE Local 1615, NAPE Locals 7801, 7803, 7804 and 7850 with wage increases of 0% effective April 1, 2004; 0% effective April 1, 2005; 2% effective April 1, 2006; and 3% effective April 1, 2007.
3. Implement wage increases for Non-Bargaining Unit Staff of 0% effective April 1, 2004; 0% effective April 1, 2005; 2% effective April 1, 2006; and 3% effective April 1, 2007. (The April 1, 2006 salary increase to become 3% if subsequently increased for unionized staff.)
4. Continue to pursue with the Provincial Government that the University should offer 3% effective April 1, 2006 instead of 2% in exchange for a University specific approach to reducing sick leave costs.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.