

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND

BOARD OF REGENTS

The regular meeting of the Board of Regents was held on Thursday, 5 September 2002, at 2:30 p.m. in Grenfell Room A of the Glynmill Inn in Corner Brook.

PRESENT:

Edward Roberts, Chair
Dr. Georgina Hedges, Vice-Chair
John Crosbie, Chancellor
Dr. Axel Meisen, President and Vice-Chancellor
Dr. Evan Simpson, Vice President (Academic) and Pro Vice-Chancellor
Gail Aylward
Hayward Blake
Lisa Browne
Calvin Butt
Chris Decker
Dorothy George
Ed Kelly
Nancy Kelly
Dr. Brendan Lewis
Earl Ludlow
Joan Pinsent
Andrea Quinlan
Darlene Russell
Harvey Short
Kathryn Small
Susan Wood
Eleanor Bennett, Secretary

APOLOGIES: Leigh Borden, Samuel Chaulk, Sharon Duggan, and Lorelei Stanley-Newton.

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 24, 25 and 26 July 2002, copies of which were circulated prior to the meeting, were approved by the Board.

2. CHAIR'S REPORT

1. New Appointments to the Board

Mr. Roberts extended a warm welcome to Mr. Ludlow and Ms. Quinlan,

who were attending their first Board meeting. He congratulated them on being elected to the Board and wished them a successful and rewarding term of office. He also congratulated Mr. Blake, Ms. Browne and Mr. Butt on being re-elected as Regents. They, along with Ms. Leigh Borden, who was unable to attend the meeting, were elected by the MUN Alumni Association for a term of three years, with effect from 1 September 2002. It was noted that Mr. Larry Peckford had been unsuccessful in being re-elected and the Chair advised that the Board would recognize his contribution later that evening at the Chair's dinner.

2. Resignations from the Board

The Chair advised that he had received notification from Brendan Paddick of his resignation from the Board due to work commitments. He also advised that Brett Dawe had notified the Secretary of his resignation. Mr. Dawe had taken up employment in Northern Ontario and no longer qualified as a student representative. He noted that Mr. Dawe's resignation leaves vacant both student positions on the Board.

3. Restructuring of Board Committees

The Chair advised that some restructuring of the Board committees would be necessary due to the number of changes in the membership of the Board. He hoped to have this completed by the time of the October meeting.

3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

1. Activity Report

- ▶ The President advised that in August he and the Chair attended the Moravian Symposium to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the Moravian missionaries in Labrador. This event was organized by Dr. Hans Rollmann of the Department of Religious Studies.
- ▶ The President advised that he attended orientation sessions held at the St. John's campus. He noted that they were very well attended by students and their parents. One orientation session in St. John's took place at Alumni House and was an initiative of the Alumni Association. He acknowledged the support of Mr. Ludlow and Ms. Quinlan who had assisted in the organization of the event.

2. Student Applications and Registration

The Board received and reviewed copies of a status report of the Undergraduate course offerings, registrations and wait lists for the St. John's campus, Grenfell College and Distance Education, effective 5

September 2002. The President pointed out that overall the course registrations for the St. John's campus were up by 5.2% while the course registrations at Grenfell College were slightly down by 0.3%. Distance Education courses, which represented 10% of the total, were up by 6.9%. He noted that the numbers are preliminary at this point in time and that they are likely to fluctuate somewhat during the first couple of weeks of classes.

3. Harlow Re-Opening

The Board received and reviewed background information pertaining to the official re-opening of the Harlow Campus scheduled for 13 September 2002. The President advised that he, along with Mr. Roberts, Mr. Kelly, Mr. Short, Ms. Wood and The Honourable Sandra Kelly, the Minister of Youth Services and Post-Secondary Education, would attend the re-opening ceremonies.

4. Celebrate Memorial

The Board received and reviewed background information pertaining to "Celebrate Memorial". The President pointed out that this will be a series of celebratory events scheduled during the month of November to provide the University community with an opportunity to involve, engage and link students, employees, alumni, donors/funders and the community at large. The events are designed to create a sense of belonging to the Memorial community and to foster pride in the unique accomplishments of our people.

5. Extension of Appointment - CCFI Board members

The Board received and reviewed documentation pertaining to the above matter. By way of background, the President advised that the Canadian Centre for Fisheries Innovation (CCFI) was recently awarded \$6 million from the Atlantic Innovation Fund (AIF), which enabled the Centre to extend its mandate and to expand into the Maritimes. He suggested that it was desirable to extend the terms of the present Directors for a short time, to enable the Centre to continue to operate while it was being restructured. Representatives from the Maritimes will be added to the Board in the new year.

After discussion, the following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED:

That the terms of the present Board of Directors of the Canadian Centre for Fisheries Innovation (CCFI) be extended from 1 September 2002 to 30 April 2003.

4. AD HOC COMMITTEE ON PENSIONS

The Board received and reviewed the Final Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Pensions. The Chair informed his colleagues that the Report had been released to the University Pensions Committee at a meeting on 22 August 2002. On the same day, it was released to the University community at large, with a request for further input and comments on the Report and its recommendations by 30 September 2002. It is anticipated that the final recommendations of the Committee will be presented to the Board at its 17 October 2002 meeting. If approved, a request would be made to the Government to make the necessary amendments to the MUN Pensions Act. The Chair informed the Board of his meeting with the Honourable Joan-Marie Aylward, Minister of Finance, at which he apprised her of the recommendations contained in the Ad Hoc Pensions Committee Report and discussed the role of Government in implementing these recommendations.

5. FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

A draft of the Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 5 September 2002, copies of which were circulated at the meeting, was presented by Mr. Short, Chair of the Committee, and approved by the Board. The following resolutions were passed with respect to the items requiring specific approval of the Board:

Item A - Deletion of Position

The Board received and reviewed background information pertaining to this item. After discussion, the following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approve the deletion of the following permanent position:

Department of Financial and Administrative Services
FAS-084 - Stationery Stores Supervisor

Item B - Deletion of Position

The Board received and reviewed background information pertaining to this item. After discussion, the following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approve the deletion of the following permanent position:

Department of Technical Services
THS-068 - Stores Clerk III

Item C - Severance Pay Provisions - New Harlow Employees

The Board received and reviewed background information pertaining to this item. After discussion, the following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents rescind the application of the University's Severance Pay provisions for all new employees of the Harlow Campus Trust whose employment commenced after 1 August 2002.

Item D - Grenfell College Residence Project Financing

The Board received and reviewed background information pertaining to this item. After discussion, the following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approve the financing of the Sir Wilfred Grenfell College Residence Project as follows:

1. The University will borrow \$3,000,000 using 364 day floating rate bankers acceptances with a minimum annual principal repayment of \$300,000. Loan to be fully amortized over a maximum 10 year period. The principal and debt servicing to be fully funded by the Provincial Government.
2. The University will borrow up to a further \$4,500,000 on a five year fixed rate term with a maximum 20 year amortization period.

Item E - Harlow Campus Trust Redevelopment Project Financing

The Board received and reviewed background information pertaining to this item. After discussion, the following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Regents approve the financing of the Harlow Campus Trust Redevelopment Project, and authorize the borrowing of the Canadian equivalent of the £400,000 on a five year fixed interest term loan with an amortization not to exceed 10 years.

Expression of Thanks to Dr. Perry

During the discussion of the item regarding Harlow, the Chair acknowledged the contribution made by Dr. Alan Perry, Chair of the Harlow Campus Trust, to the redevelopment of the Harlow campus. The

Board agreed that a special certification of appreciation be drawn up and presented to Dr. Perry at the ceremonies to be held 13 September 2002.

Informational Items

The Board received and reviewed information on the following items:

Item 2792 - Performance of MUN Endowment Fund and Pension Fund

Item 2798 - Management Letter Follow-Up

6. STANDING COMMITTEE - SEPARATELY INCORPORATED ENTITIES

The Board received and reviewed background information recommending the establishment of a Standing Committee of the Board of Regents to be called the "Separately Incorporated Entities (SIE) Committee", as recommended in the Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on SIEs, which was approved by the Board at its meeting on 25 July 2002. The SIE standing committee will act as liaison between the Board of Regents and the individual SIEs, and will develop a procedure for future appointments to the SIE Boards.

The Chancellor raised some concerns with this recommendation. The Board's attention was drawn to a letter dated 23 August 2002 from Mr. Roberts to all Board Chairs of the SIEs (with the exception of C-CORE) enclosing the Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on SIEs, which advised them of the recommendation to establish a Standing Committee of the Board of Regents. The Chairs were told in the letter that the Terms of Reference of this committee would be dealt with at the 17 October 2002 Board meeting.

After discussion it was decided to defer consideration of this item to the 17 October 2002 Board meeting.

7. CAMPUS PLANNING MATTERS

The following items were presented by Mr. Kelly, Chair of the Campus Planning and Development Committee.

1. Environmental Audit Report

The Board received and reviewed an updated status report as of August 2002 pertaining to the Environmental Audit Report. The Board was advised that approximately 65% of the issues detailed in the November 2000 Environmental Audit update report has been completed. All remaining remediation work, required as a result of the audit, will be completed within two years.

2. Update on Progress of Capital Projects

The Board received background information pertaining to Capital Projects underway or recently completed, which was presented by Mr. Kelly, Chair of the Campus Planning and Development Committee. In particular, he updated the Board on the progress of the Sir Wilfred Grenfell College Arts and Science Building Exterior Brick Remediation and Harlow Campus Renovations Projects.

Mr. Crosbie left the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

8. APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

The Board received and reviewed a report of action taken by the Appointments Committee at a meeting held on 5 September 2002, along with an Addendum. Ms. Aylward, Chair of the Committee, presented the report, which was approved by the Board.

9. LABOUR RELATIONS MATTERS

1. CUPE Update

Mr. Thistle reported on the status of negotiations with CUPE Local 1615. He advised that negotiations for a new collective agreement commenced almost a year ago. An Interest Based Bargaining approach has been adopted which has enabled approximately 90% of the issues to be dealt with. One of the major issues yet to be resolved involves pensions, in particular, the issue of indexing and joint trusteeship. The University's salary offer is consistent with the Provincial Government template. Negotiations are continuing with the assistance of a Conciliator, however, CUPE has decided to seek a strike mandate in a general membership meeting scheduled for 5 September 2002. Mr. Thistle advised that the primary outstanding issues for CUPE are the pension issues of indexing and joint trusteeship. These matters will be addressed at the Board level through the recommendations contained in the Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Pensions, which will be considered at the 17 October 2002 meeting. The Board was advised that the University is fully prepared in the event of a strike and has a full strike contingency plan in place.

The Board approved this strategic approach and authorized the President to implement it.

2. MUNFA

The President provided an update on collective bargaining with MUNFA . He elaborated on some of the substantive issues that would be open for negotiations once bargaining commenced.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

The Board received and reviewed copies of correspondence as follows:

- (a) A letter dated 30 July 2002 to the Honourable Sandra Kelly from the Chair regarding the issue of Tuition Fees.
- (b) A letter dated 12 August 2002 to the Honourable Sandra Kelly from the President regarding the matter of Deferred Maintenance.
- (c) A letter dated 23 August 2002 to the Chairs of the Board of the Separately Incorporated Entities (with the exception of C-CORE) from the Chair of the Board regarding the Final Report of the Ad Hoc Committee and its recommendations.
- (d) A letter of thanks dated 5 August 2002 from Dr. Arthur May regarding the Board's appointment of him as President Emeritus.
- (e) A letter dated 13 August 2002 from the Chair to Regents regarding the selection of Regents for the visit to the Harlow reopening on 13 September 2002.
- (f) A letter of resignation dated 26 August 2002 from Brendan Paddick, along with a reply from the Chair.

11. APPOINTMENT OF MR. ROBERTS AS LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

Mr. Roberts informed the Board that earlier in the day the Prime Minister had telephoned him to ask him to accept appointment as Lieutenant Governor of Newfoundland and Labrador. Mr. Roberts did so. He told his colleagues that he would be resigning as Chair and as a member of the Board immediately before he took office as the Lieutenant Governor. The members of the Board congratulated Mr. Roberts on his appointment and extended to him and Mrs. Roberts very best wishes on the appointment.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.