

SENATE MINUTES

DECEMBER 10, 1996

The regular meeting of Senate was held on Tuesday, December 10, 1996, at 4:00 p.m. in Room E5004.

30. PRESENT

The President, The Chancellor, Dr. J. Tuinman, Dr. K. Bindon, Dean W. Blake, Dean I. Bowmer, Mr. G. Collins, Mr. R. Ellis, Professor M. Lamb, Dean A. Law, Dean W. Ludlow, Dean T. Murphy, Mr. L. O'Reilly, Dr. J. Pennell, Dean T. Piper, Dr. W. Redden, Acting Dean C. Sharpe, Acting Dean D. Whalen, Dr. M. Volk, Dr. S. Abhyankar, Dr. A. Aboulazm, Dr. R. Adamec, Dr. J. Bear, Professor L. Bennett, Mr. E. Brown, Dr. G. Burford, Professor A. Chadwick, Dr. S. Chandra, Dr. G. Clark, Dr. W. Davidson, Dr. J. Evans, Dr. G. Gunther, Dr. M. Haddara, Professor K. Hestekin, Dr. O. Janzen, Dr. G. Kealey, Dr. A. Kozma, Dr. W. Locke, Dr. R. Lucas, Dr. I. Mazurkewich, Dr. M. Mulligan, Dr. D. McKay, Capt. W. Norman, Dr. R. Payne, Dr. N. Rich, Dr. V. Richardson, Dr. G. Sabin, Dr. S. Saha, Dr. D. Treslan, Dr. D. Tulett, Dr. C. Turner, Dr. K. Vidyasankar, Professor Y. Walton, Dr. H. Williams, Dr. S. Wolinetz, Mr. D. Baker, Mr. K. Clarke, Mr. S. Ennis, Mr. M. Harvey, Ms. D. Johnston, Mr. R. Mendoza, Mr. B. Penney.

A number of observers were also in attendance.

31. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Dr. V. Maxwell, Dr. M. Paul, Dr. R. Rivkin, Dean R. Seshadri, Professor D. Walsh, Dr. C. Wood, Mr. S. Musseau.

32. MINUTES

Dr. Vidyasankar suggested that the Minutes of the meeting held on November 12, 1996 are not a true reflection of the proceedings of that part of the meeting dealing with the Proposed New Honours Programme in Computer Science.

It was moved by Dr. Vidyasankar and seconded by Dr. Davidson that the Minutes of the regular meeting held on November 12, 1996 be amended by striking the following phrase from the last paragraph

"outlined in the Senate minutes of October 8, 1996, as well as those". The last paragraph would then read as follows:

It was agreed that the Faculty of Science and the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science should continue discussions with regard to concerns raised by the Canadian Council of Professional Engineers and the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Newfoundland, with a view to achieving a solution which is satisfactory to both faculties."

When put to a vote, the motion was DEFEATED.

The Minutes of the regular meeting held on November 12, 1996 were then approved.

Dr. Locke asked if it would be appropriate at this point to discuss, under Business Arising from the Minutes, what he considered to be an unwise precedent which was set at the November 12, 1996 meeting of Senate when Senate agreed to ask the Board of Regents to defer consideration of the above-noted item until its January 9, 1997 meeting, or whether he should bring the matter up under Other Business.

The Chair ruled that, time permitting, the matter could be raised under Other Business.

33. Report of the Committee on Honorary Degrees and Ceremonial

33.1 Nominations for the Award of an Honorary Degree

The names of four candidates recommended by the Committee on Honorary Degrees and Ceremonial were presented to the Senate for awarding of doctoral degrees honoris causa. The President, Dr. Locke, Ms. Johnston and Dr. Clarke each made a brief statement about one candidate. Members were given the opportunity to discuss the merits of the candidates before voting. Upon voting by a show of hands, each candidate was approved by at least a two-thirds majority vote.

33.2 Academic Dress Colour – Master of Applied Science

A memorandum dated October 2, 1996 was received from Victoria Collins recommending that Sunburst, a bright orange–yellow colour, be adopted for the hood of the Master of Applied Science degree.

It was moved by Mr. Collins, seconded by Dr. Sharpe and carried that the colour Sunburst be adopted for the hood of the Master of Applied Science degree.

34 REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF SENATE

It was agreed by separate motion where necessary, that the report of the Executive Committee be approved as follows:

Report of the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies

34.1 Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science

Page 306–336, 1996–97 Calendar, replace "Naval Architectural Engineering" where ever they occur with the following:

"Ocean and Naval Architectural Engineering".

In this regard, Dr. Sabin and Dr. Haddara responded to comments and questions from Dr. Aboulazm regarding the number of times the programme title has changed in recent years, whether the changes have been approved by the accrediting bodies and the amount of naval architecture content in the programme.

Delete course numbers, titles and descriptions for Engineering 3102, 5132, and 5141.

Page 326, following the heading Term 5 Courses delete the note and replace with the following:

"Note: All students take an approved Complementary Studies elective in Term 5. The elective is chosen from a list provided by the Office of the Associate Dean."

Page 327, following the heading Term 6 Courses delete the words "the final" in the note and replace with "a".

Amend course description for Engineering 6101 to read as follows:

"This course deals with the issues of the impact of technology on society from an economic, environmental and sociological point of view. Public safety as an engineering responsibility will also be covered. Students will be expected to participate in group discussions, write a number of essays and give oral presentations."

Dean Murphy commented on the uneasiness which he felt about the lack of balance between liberal studies versus professional studies in this and other professional programmes.

34.2 Department of Mathematics and Statistics

New Course – Following the heading Applied Mathematics Courses:

2120. Introduction to Mathematical Programming (F)(W). This course serves as an introduction to the use of computers in mathematics. Algorithm design, structured programming and symbolic computing are the main subject areas treated. The structured programming, using a high-level computer language such as C, includes floating point arithmetic, data types, loops, conditional branching, functions, formatted I/O and modularity. The programming in a symbolic environment uses a package like Maple or Mathematica. All programming focuses on problems related to mathematics.

Prerequisite: M1000 or M1081.

NOTE: First priority for enrolment in this course is given to students who are Applied or Pure Mathematics majors. Other students wishing to register should direct inquiries to the head of department.

At the request of Mr. Robert Mendoza, it was agreed to ask the Head of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics to comment on the appropriateness of the prerequisites for this course. Mr. Mendoza questioned why a course in Computer Science is not also listed as a prerequisite.

Page 209, 1996–97 Calendar amend prerequisite of course 2130 to read as follows:

"Prerequisite: M 1001 and (AM 2120 or CS 2710 or CS 2602 or permission of the Head of Department)."

Page 207, following the heading Major in Applied Mathematics (B.Sc. only) amend clause b) to read as follows:

"A computing course early in your program is required. AM 2120 is highly recommended."

Following the heading Honours in Applied Mathematics (B.Sc. only) amend clause b) to read as follows:

"A computing course early in your program is required. AM2120 is highly recommended."

Following the heading Major in Pure Mathematics amend clause c) to read as follows:

"A computing course early in your program is required. AM 2120 is highly recommended."

Following the heading Honours in Pure Mathematics amend clause e) to read as follows:

"A computing course early in your program is required. AM 2120 is highly recommended."

Page 188, following the heading Pure Mathematics/Statistics Joint Honours amend clause b) to read as follows:

"A computing course early in your program is required. AM 2120 is highly recommended."

34.3 Department of Earth Sciences

Page 204, 1996–97 Calendar, amend prerequisite of Earth Science 3179 to read as follows:

"Mathematics 2000, Physics 2055."

34.4 Faculty of Education

Page 238, 1996–97 Calendar, following the course description for Education 3480 delete note and replace with the following:

"NOTE: Credit may be obtained for only one of Education 3480, Education 3801 or Education 4480."

Page 239, following the course description for Education 3801 delete note and replace with the following:

"NOTE: Credit may be obtained for only one of Education 3480, Education 3801 or Education 4480."

Page 241, following the course description for Education 4480 add the following note:

"NOTE: Credit may be obtained for only one of Education 3480, Education 3801 or Education 4480."

Page 231, following the heading Regulations for the Degree of Bachelor of Special Education sub-heading, Admission Requirements delete clause 3)b) and replace with the following:

"3)b) (i) hold a degree in Primary or Elementary Education from Memorial University or some other recognized university or hold another Education degree deemed appropriate by the Faculty of Education.

(ii) AND, have credit for Education 3220 or 3230."

34.5 Faculty of Business Administration

Page 340–342, 1996–97 Calendar, following the heading Regulations for the General Degree of Bachelor of Commerce (Co-operative) sub-heading, Admission replace clause 4)e) with the following:

"4)e) Nine additional credit hours in non-Business courses, at least six of which must be in courses chosen from the Faculty of Arts and/or Science."

Following the heading The Curriculum delete Clause 3)f) and replace with the following:

"3)f) Twenty-one credit hours in non-Business courses, at least fifteen of which must be in courses chosen from the Faculties of Arts and/or Science."

Following the heading Academic Course Programme, List A delete "Six credit hours in Arts and/or Science electives" and replace with the following:

"Six credit hours in non-Business electives**."

Following the heading Academic Course Programme delete second sentence of List B and replace with the following:

"Fifteen credit hours in non-Business electives**."

Insert the following before "Regulations for the Honours Degree of Bachelor of Commerce (Co-operative)":

"**Of the twenty-one credit hours in non-Business electives required, at least fifteen must be chosen from the Faculties of Arts and/or Science."

Page 352, across from the Term One (Fall) block and the Term Two (Winter) block, delete "Six credit hours in Arts and/or Science electives" and replace with the following:

"Six credit hours in non-Business electives²".

Delete the end note 2 at the bottom of the chart and replace with the following:

"2 Of the fifty-one credit hours in elective courses required in the programme, thirty must be chosen from Business courses and twenty-one must be non-Business courses. Of the twenty-one credit hours in non-Business electives, at least fifteen must be chosen from the Faculties of Arts and/or Science."

34.6 School of Social Work

Page 361, 1996–97 Calendar, following the heading B. Bachelor of Social Work as a Second Degree sub-heading, Admission/Re-admission delete clause 7 and replace with the following:

"7. The following courses, or their equivalents, must be completed with a grade of at least 65% by the end of Winter Semester in the year in which admission is sought."

Page 360, following the heading B. Bachelor of Social Work as a First Degree, subheading Admission/Re-admission insert new clause 8 as follows:

"8. An unsuccessful applicant has the right to appeal against the decision of the Admissions Committee not to offer him/her a place, if it is felt by the applicant that the decision was reached on the grounds other than those specified in paragraphs 1–5 above. The appeal should be made in writing within fourteen days of the notification of the decision and should be directed to the Director of the School of Social Work. The letter should state clearly and fully the grounds of the appeal. If the Director, in consultation with the Registrar, judges the grounds to be sufficient, the formal appeals mechanism will be initiated.

Page 361, following the heading B. Bachelor of Social Work as a Second Degree, subheading Admission/Re-admission insert new clause 8 as follows:

"8. An unsuccessful applicant has the right to appeal against the decision of the Admissions Committee not to offer him/her a place, if it is felt by the applicant that the decision was reached on the grounds other than those specified in paragraphs 1–4 above. The appeal should be made in writing within fourteen days of the notification of the decision and should be directed to the Director of the School of Social Work. The letter should state clearly and fully the grounds of the appeal. If the Director, in consultation with the Registrar, judges the grounds to be sufficient, the formal appeals mechanism will be initiated."

At 4:45 p.m. the Chair proposed, and it was agreed, that the regular meeting be extended beyond 5:00 p.m. in order to conclude the agenda business.

35. Report of the Senate Committee on Academic Planning

A memorandum dated October 4, 1996, was received from the Chair, Senate Committee on Academic Planning, together with the report of the Ad Hoc Subcommittee, "Views of Faculty, Students, and Deans, Directors and Department Heads Concerning the Effects of Faculty Downsizing".

It was moved by Dr. Tuinman, seconded by Dr. Aboulazm and carried that Senate receive the report of the Ad Hoc Subcommittee.

It was then moved by Dr. Aboulazm, and seconded by Dr. Adamec "that Senate accept the final recommendation of the report that the University's faculty complement at least be stabilized and that further studies be undertaken before any further attrition is permitted to occur".

At the request of the Chairman, the Secretary gave his opinion that the motion as worded was outside the scope of the duties and powers of Senate as outlined in the University Act and in particular contravened Section 58 of the Act which reads as follows:

"58. Nothing in this Act shall be construed to give to the senate power to take an action that imposes financial obligation or liability on the university, or fix or remit fees or charges payable to the university."

The Secretary suggested that the limited past practice of Senate when dealing with motions of this nature would have been to insert the phrase "urge the Board of Regents and the Administration to" between "Senate" and "accept". The mover and seconder agreed to accept this as a friendly amendment so the motion reads as follows:

"that Senate urge the Board of Regents and the Administration to accept the final recommendation of the report that the University's faculty complement at least be stabilized and that further studies be undertaken before any further attrition is permitted to occur."

A lengthy discussion ensued on a variety of issues related to the motion including but not limited to the following:

– which Office or authority will conduct further studies?

- does stabilize mean no change in the total faculty complement or no change in the faculty complement of each academic unit? What are the implications for growth and renewal in certain areas?

- As of what time is the faculty complement to be stabilized - eg. pre ERIP or post ERIP?

- the motion deals with only one component of the many fluid and complex academic and financial issues facing the University.

Following a call for the question, a vote was taken and as a result the motion was DEFEATED

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

36. Letter dated October 17, 1996 from the Minister of Education to the President

A letter dated October 17, 1996 was received from the Minister of Education to the President, authorizing the University to incur an operating deficit in 1996-97 of \$2.7 million and \$1.4 million in the 1997-98 fiscal year was received for information.

37. Memorandum dated November 15, 1996, from the Board of Regents regarding Senate Minutes item 11.3 "Proposed New Honours Programme in Computer Science

The Board of Regents at its meeting held on Thursday, November 14, 1996 approved the minutes of the meeting of Senate held on October 8, 1996, with the exception of item 11.3 "Proposed New Honours Programme in Computer Science". The Board agreed to examine this item further at its meeting of January 9, 1997.

38. Memorandum dated November 15, 1996 from the Board of Regents regarding amendments to the membership of the Academic Council of Sir Wilfred Grenfell College.

A memorandum dated November 15, 1996 was received from Eleanor Bennett, Secretary of the Board of Regents informing that the Board of Regents at its meeting held on Thursday, November

14, 1996, granted approval to the amendments to the membership of the Academic Council of Sir Wilfred Grenfell College.

39. Memorandum dated November 15, 1996 from the Board of Regents regarding amendments to the School of Nursing Constitution.

A memorandum dated November 15, 1996 was received from Eleanor Bennett, Secretary of the Board of Regents advising that the Board of Regents at its meeting held on Thursday, November 14, 1996, granted approval to the amendments to the Constitution of the Academic Council of the School of Nursing.

40. Memorandum dated November 15, 1996 from the Board of Regents regarding University autonomy.

A memorandum dated November 15, 1996 was received from Eleanor Bennett, Secretary of the Board of Regents informing that the Board of Regents at its meeting held on Thursday, November 14, 1996, endorsed the following resolution of Senate which was passed at its meeting of November 12, 1996:

"That Senate express its support to the President in his efforts to ensure that the autonomy of the University and its fundamental right of academic freedom not be abridged through legislation or actions of the Government, in particular by treating the University as an agency of Government."

41. OTHER BUSINESS

Dr. Locke questioned the wisdom of the decision of Senate made at its November 12, 1996 meeting when it requested the Board of Regents to defer consideration of the Proposed New Honours Programme in Computer Science until its January 9, 1997 meeting. Dr. Locke stated that in his opinion, this was an unprecedented action in that Senate acceded to pressure from outside agencies, i.e. the Canadian Council of Professional Engineers and the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Newfoundland, on an academic matter for non-academic reasons.

The President stated that, given the intervention from the CCPE and APEGN, it was felt to be prudent to take this action. He advised

Senate that an outside legal opinion has now been obtained which indicates that in the event of a court case, the University may lose. He asked the Secretary to distribute a copy of the opinion to Senators.

Dr. Tuinman advised Senate that, with the concurrence of the Dean of Engineering and Applied Science and the Dean of Science, he has established a consultative committee, the mandate of which is to examine the future of software engineering at this University. This Committee is Chaired by Dr. Alice Collins, Faculty of Education, with representation from the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science, the Department of Computer Science, and the Faculty of Business Administration.

Mr. Ennis noted that no student representatives have been appointed to the Consultative Committee. He expressed the view that Computer Science students and Engineering students should be represented on the Committee. Dr. Tuinman advised Mr. Ennis to write to Dr. Alice Collins in this regard.

A number of speakers gave their views on various aspects of the above and other issues related to this topic.

42. Special Meeting of Senate

In view of the lateness of the hour it was decided that the presentation by the Vice-President (Academic) entitled "Rethinking Distance Education" be postponed.

43. Report of the AAU Telelearning Committee titled Atlantic Association of Universities Open Learning Accrediting Service: ACU-OLAS

A copy of a memorandum from the Chair of the Association of Atlantic Universities to Executive Heads of the Association was circulated to Senate for information. The memorandum referred to the following motion which was passed at a meeting of the Association held on September 25, 1996:

"THAT the Association of Atlantic Universities (AAU), or a consortium of AAU members, agree to seek to establish a degree under the authority and control of the AAU, or a consortium of AAU

members, and as outlined in the report of the AAU Telelearning Committee titled Atlantic Canada Universities' Open Learning Accrediting Service: ACU-OLAS, dated September 26, 1996.

Following a lengthy discussion, this document was received for information.

44. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.