SENATE MINUTES

JUNE 9, 1998

A special meeting was held on Tuesday, June 9, 1998, at 4:00 p.m. in Room E5004.

92. PRESENT

The President, Professor A. Fowler, Mr. G. Collins, Acting Dean W. Davidson, Professor J. Dempster, Ms. M. Chalker (for Mr. R. Ellis), Dr. C. Higgs, Mr. W. Green, Dean G. Kealey, Dr. C. Orchard, Dean W. Ludlow, Dean T. Murphy, Mr. L. O'Reilly, Dr. M. Volk, Ms. D. Whalen (for Professor H. Weir), Dr. S. Abhyankar, Dr. A. Aboulazm, Dr. R. Adamec, Dr. G. Bassler, Dr. J. Bear, Dr. G. Clark, Professor M. Coyne, Dr. D. Craig, Dr. J. Evans, Dr. S. Ghazala, Professor K. Hestekin, Professor V. Kuester, Dr. R. Lucas, Dr. I. Mazurkewich, Dr. M. Mulligan, Dr. D. McKay, Dr. M. Paul, Dr. N. Rich, Dr. S. Saha, Dr. D. Treslan, Dr. R. Venkatesan, Dr. K. Vidyasankar, Professor D. Walsh, Dr. S. Wolinetz, Ms. N. Peckford, Mr. S. Kar, Ms. T. O'Reilly, Mr. J. Parsons, Ms. L. Patey.

Dr. May welcomed Dr. Carole Orchard, newly appointed Director of the School of Nursing, and invited guests, Dr. Ron Sparkes, President of the College of the North Atlantic; Ms. Pamela Walsh, Assistant Deputy Minister, Post-Secondary Education; and Ms. Marilyn Luscombe, District Administrator, College of the North Atlantic, Corner Brook Campus.

A number of observers were also in attendance.

93. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Dr. J. Crosbie, Dean W. Blake, Dean T. Piper and Dr. D. Tulett.

94. Enrollment Trends and Recruitment/University Budget

Dr. May introduced Mr. Kevin Clarke, Director, Centre for Institutional Analysis and Planning, Mr. Joe Byrne, Director, Student Recruitment and Promotion, and Mr. Wayne Thistle, Q.C., VicePresident (Administration and Finance) and Legal Counsel, who had been invited to make presentations to Senate. The topic of Mr. Clarke's and Mr. Byrne's presentation was "Enrollment Trends and Recruitment" and Mr. Thistle's topic was "the University Budget". Copies of the overheads used in the presentations are appended to these Minutes.

The following documents were circulated to Senators as background information to the presentations: 1) Focus on the Student, Occasional Paper Series, Volume 3, Number Two – Regional and Yearly Differences in University Eligibility and Participation; 2) Customizing a degree – British Columbia offers a range of accessible choices – Macleans, April 20, 1998; and 3) Postsecondary Indicators '98.

Following each of the presentations, Senate engaged in a wide ranging discussion on the impact of declining enrollment and declining government grants.

It was generally agreed that the consultation and planning processes need to be strengthened and need to include all sectors of the University and the external community if we are to succeed in reversing the trends noted in the presentations. As agreed at the special meeting of Senate held on March 10, 1998, Senators should charge themselves to meet and consult with their constituencies on future directions and priorities of Memorial University and report back to the Senate the results of their consultations. The next step in the process will be the holding of a University Assembly on June 23, 1998.

95. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.