

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND
SENATE

The regular meeting of Senate was held on December 16, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. in Room E5004, Education Building.

44. PRESENT

The Acting President, Dr. C. Loomis, Dr. R. Gosine, Dr. H. Pike, Ms. R. Cochrane, Dr. M. Abrahams, Dr. S. Birnie-Lefcovitch, Mr. G. Blackwood, Dr. M. Bluehardt, Ms. L. Busby, Mr. G. Collins, Dean D. Dibbon, Dr. N. Golfman, Dr. T. Gordon, Dean G. Gorman, Ms. K. Kennedy, Dr. J. Quaioco, Dean J. Rourke, Dean R. Tremblay, Dean L. Walker, Dr. R. Adamec, Dr. S. Abhyankar, Dr. J. Connor, Ms. B. Conran, Mr. C. Couturier, Dr. M. Daneshtalab, Dr. D. Foster, Dr. S. Ghazala, Dr. G. George, Mr. D. Haynes, Dr. M. Hinchey, Dr. S. Kenney, Dr. R. McGowan, Dr. D. McKay, Dr. W. Okshevsky, Dr. A. Rose, Dr. C. Sharpe, Dr. P. Trnka, Professor D. Walsh, Dr. P. Wilson, Mr. C. Campbell, Mr. T. Collins, Mr. J. Fleming, Mr. C. Little, Mr. R. Marshall, Ms. M. Penney.

Dr. Campbell welcomed two newly elected Senators: Dr. Andrea Rose, Faculty of Education, and Dr. Michael Hinchey, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science.

45. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Mr. C. Clarke, Dr. A. Fiech, Ms. L. Goddard, Dr. D. Kimberley, Professor V. Kuester, Dr. J. Leibel, Dr. K. Mearow, Professor G. Riser, Professor W. Schipper, Mr. K. Abouchehade, Mr. K. Chowdhury, Mr. T. Randell.

46. MINUTES

The Minutes of the regular and special meetings held on November 18, 2008 were taken as read and confirmed.

47. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Dr. Campbell requested that Remarks from the Chair be added as agenda item 7 and that the memorandum emailed to members today from the Chair of the Board of Regents regarding the Report of the ad hoc Committee of the Board of Regents to recommend amendments to the Memorial University Act to Secure Autonomy for Memorial University of Newfoundland be discussed under the re-numbered agenda item 8, Any Other Business. It was then moved by Dr. Adamec, seconded by Dr. Gordon and carried that the revised agenda be approved.

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:

CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Professor Walsh, seconded by Dr. Golfman, and carried that the consent agenda, comprising the items listed in 48 and 49 below, be approved as follows:

48. REPORT OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

48.1 Sir Wilfred Grenfell College

Page 429, 2008-2009 Calendar, under the heading 11.21 Physics, add the following new course:

“2553 Introduction to Analog and Digital Electronics covers the basics of the analog and digital electronics; direct current circuits, capacitors and inductors, alternating currents, test equipment and measurement, transducers, diodes and transistors, introduction to operational amplifiers, digital basics, digital circuitry and digital analog I/O. This course is a combined lecture/laboratory course with two three-hour sessions scheduled per week.

Prerequisites: PHYS 1021 or 1051 and MATH 1000 or equivalent”.

48.2 Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science

Page 221, 2008-2009 Calendar, under the heading 8.7 Academic Term 7 Courses, following the entry for 7102, add the following prerequisite:

“PR: ENGI 003W”

Page 217, 2008-2009 Calendar, under the heading 8.2 Engineering One Courses, following the entry for 1010 Engineering Statics, add the following text:

“PR: Level III Physics or Physics 1020 or equivalent
CO: Mathematics 1000”

48.3 Department of History

Page 124, 2008-2009 Calendar, under the heading 7.17.3 Course Descriptions, following the entry for History 4670-4690, insert the following new course:

“4695 The Middle Ages on Film will look at a variety of films set in the Middle Ages. We will address questions such as how directors approach historical subject matter generally and the Middle Ages in particular; what subjects they choose, and how and why these change. This is a course not about film criticism, but about medievalism.”

Three credit hours per week consisting of viewing and discussion.

PR: None, but at least one course in Medieval History or Medieval Studies is strongly recommended.”

48.4 Law and Society Minor Program

Page 127, 2008-2009 Calendar, under the heading 7.18.2 Course Descriptions, following the entry for 3200 Women and the Law in Newfoundland History, insert the following new courses:

Law and Society Minor Program (cont'd)

“3300 Understanding Human Rights introduces students to the theory and practice of human rights. Course topics include: history; philosophy; and international and Canadian structures and provisions. The course includes an examination of selected areas of human rights, i.e. labour, women’s and children’s rights, and explores current and future applications of human rights.”

“3400 Organized Crime in Canada: National and Global Perspectives examines the origins, expansion, and changing character of organized crime in Canada from the early twentieth century to the present. Laws relating to criminal activity, law enforcement and available tools to combat organized crime are assessed according to the inherent problems of investigation, evidence, and litigation.”

49. REPORT OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL OF THE SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES

49.1 Faculty of Medicine

It was moved by Dr. Golfman, seconded by Dean Rourke and carried to grant approval for MED 6130 to be offered outside the normal time frame for courses to commence October 15, 2008 and end April 30, 2009.

REGULAR AGENDA

50. REPORT OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL OF THE SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES

50.1 General Regulations

It was moved by Dr. Golfman, seconded by Dean Tremblay and carried to insert on page 457, 2008-2009 Calendar, the following new section immediately preceding 1 General Information and Regulations Governing All Graduate Students:

“The attention of all members of the university community is drawn to the section of the Calendar titled The Memorial University of Newfoundland Code, which articulates the University’s commitment to maintaining the highest standards of academic integrity.”

51. CHANGE OF NAME - POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

It was moved by Dean Rourke, seconded by Dr. McKay and carried to amend page 277, 2008-2009 Calendar, 6.5 Licensure in Newfoundland and Labrador to read as follows:

“6.5 Licensure in Newfoundland and Labrador

All trainees must be eligible for and obtain an educational license from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Newfoundland (CPSNL). Advice will be provided by the Postgraduate Medical Education Office.”

52. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR - QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM SENATORS

- On November 19, 2008, Dr. Campbell spoke with a potential donor regarding the possibility of establishing a new Chair.
- Dr. Campbell noted that the Board of Regents has a new Chair and a number of new members.
- On November 19, 2008, Dr. Campbell attended the CUPE collective agreement signing.
- Dr. Campbell attended meetings of the Council and Committees of NSERC.
- Dr. Campbell received a Report containing recommendations on International Undergraduate tuition fees.
- On November 21 and 22, 2008, Dr. Campbell attended a Mathematics of Information Technology and Complex Systems (MITACS) Board meeting in Toronto.
- On November 23, 2008, Dr. Campbell attended the Atlantic Gateway Business Summit hosted by the Honourable Peter MacKay, Minister of National Defence and Minister of the Atlantic Gateway in Stellerton, NS.
- On November 24, 2008, Dr. Campbell hosted a dinner for the Dialogue on Advancing Global Sustainability (DAGS) Lecture with Dr. Mark Jaccard as guest speaker and attended the DAGS lecture.
- On November 25, 2008, Dr. Campbell attended a breakfast meeting of the Advisory Board for Career Development and Coop Education.
- On November 25, 2008, Dr. Campbell hosted the President's Awards Ceremony for faculty and staff awards.
- On November 26, 2008, Dr. Campbell travelled to Ottawa and attended an NSERC Reception and Dinner.
- On November 30, 2008, Dr. Campbell travelled to Calgary to host a thank you dinner with Calgary affinity event organizers and members of the honorary board.
- On December 3, 2008, Dr. Campbell travelled to Corner Brook to meet with the college administration and to attend the SWGC Academic Council meeting.
- December 4-8, 2008, Dr. Campbell travelled to Ottawa to attend the NSERC Steacie Committee Membership meeting and to attend the Canadian Math Society Conference.
- On December 9, 2008, Dr. Campbell hosted a visit with a tour and dinner for Sir Terry Matthews.
- Dr. Campbell noted that the official launch of the Memorial University Regional Inventory (MURI) will occur early in the new year.

Remarks from the Chair - Questions/comments from Senators (cont'd)

- On December 11, 2008, Dr. Campbell attended the Board of Regents meeting and attended the University Wide Holiday reception.
- On December 12, 2008, Dr. Campbell attended a dinner of the Chancellor's Feast Auction from the September golf scholarship tournament.
- Dr. Campbell advised of the University Wide Christmas gathering for all faculty, staff, and retirees on Thursday, December 18th from 4:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Breezeway Bar and of the Annual Christmas Eve Sing-A-Long on December 24th at 10:00 a.m. in the Reid Theatre, Arts and Administration Building.

53. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

53.1 The Executive Committee of Senate approved the following appeal:

ECS 2008-09: #4 - Appeal against the decision of the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies to deny the student's request for permission to register for seven courses during the Fall Semester 2008.

53.2 Date of next Senate Meeting

The Executive Committee of Senate agreed to postpone the December 9, 2008, meeting to December 16.

54. REPORT OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS TO RECOMMEND AMENDMENTS TO THE MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY ACT TO SECURE AUTONOMY FOR MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND

Dr. Campbell referred to a memorandum dated December 16, 2008, from Robert Simmonds, Chair, Board of Regents, regarding the Report of the ad hoc Committee of the Board of Regents to recommend amendments to the Memorial University Act to Secure Autonomy for Memorial University of Newfoundland. The memorandum reads as follows:

"As you are aware, at a meeting held on October 1, 2008 the Executive Committee of the Board of Regents, in consultation with Senate and with the consent of the Board of Regents, approved the membership and mandate of the ad hoc Committee of the Board of Regents to recommend amendments to the Memorial University Act to Secure Autonomy for Memorial University of Newfoundland. The mandate of the ad hoc Committee is as follows:

"Mandate

- draft for the consideration of the Board of Regents, in consultation with the Senate, amendments to the Memorial University Act to secure and preserve autonomy for the University and to bring clarity to the role of government in the appointment of the President.*
- present a report to the Board of Regents on December 11, 2008."*

This is to advise that at a meeting held on December 11, 2008, the Board of Regents passed the following resolution:

Report of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Board of Regents to Recommend Amendments to the Memorial University Act to Secure Autonomy for Memorial University of Newfoundland (cont'd)

RESOLVED:

That in view of the very recent changes to the composition of the Board of Regents with a new Chair and four new members appointed on November 21, 2008 and four new members appointed today and in view of the complicated and intricate nature of this topic, that the Board of Regents defer receipt of the report of the ad hoc Committee until its February 5, 2009 meeting of the Board of Regents following which the Board requests that Senate consultation on the report occur at the February 10, 2009 meeting of Senate.

I understand and appreciate the fact that Senate agreed to postpone its meeting scheduled for December 9, 2008 to December 16, 2008 in order to provide for the Senate consultation required under the mandate of the ad hoc Committee. On behalf of the Board, I apologize for any inconvenience adoption of the resolution above may cause to members of Senate. However, I also would like to emphasize that the decision of the Board to delay consideration of the report until February 5, 2009 is based on the desire first of all to understand the complex nature of this topic and secondly to obtain the best possible resolution to this sensitive and critical issue.

To that end, I trust that Senate will understand the Board's reasons for this delay and will find itself in a position on February 10, 2009 to consult with the Board on the recommendations contained in the report.

I look forward to the consultation process with Senate in order to achieve that end."

Many Senators expressed their disappointment and frustration with this delay noting that timely consideration of the ad hoc Committee's report is critical to inform the debate on the autonomy of the University. Other Senators, while noting that members of the Board (particularly new members) need time to become acquainted with the issues, questioned the wisdom of delaying consideration of the report until February 5. Those Senators suggested that the Board should give serious consideration to holding a special meeting on this topic early in the new year. Dr. Campbell assured Senators that he would convey their sentiments to the Chair of the Board of Regents.

55. ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Campbell wished Senators a happy holiday and thanks for all their hard work during the Fall Semester noting that he will see everyone in the new year.

The meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

SECRETARY