

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND  
SENATE

A special meeting of Senate was held on April 19, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. in the Lecture Theatre in the Physical Education Building, Room 2001.

60. PRESENT

The President, Dr. N. Golfman, Dr. R. Marceau, Mr. G. Blackwood, Dr. H. Carnahan, Ms. B. Simmons (for Ms. S. Cleyle), Mr. B. Gardiner, Dr. A. Gaudine, Dr. C. Marra, Dr. G. Naterer, Dr. L. Phillips, Ms. S. Singleton, Dr. S. Abhyankar, Ms. L. Alcock, Dr. S. Carr, Dr. J. Connor, Dr. A. Fiech, Dr. D. Ford, Dr. G. George, Dr. J. Lokash, Dr. A. Loucks-Atkinson, Dr. D. McKay, Dr. J. McLean, Ms. C. Molloy, Dr. M. Mulligan, Dr. A.C. Onodenalore, Dr. K. Parsons, Dr. C. Purchase, Mr. K. Rideout, Dr. A. Rose, Dr. R. Russell, Mr. P. Ryan, Dr. W. Schipper, Dr. K. Simonsen, Dr. C. Thorpe, Professor D. Walsh, Ms. T. Nielsen, Mr. M. Allen, Ms. B. Byrnes, Mr. M. O'Keefe, Ms. L. Robertson.

61. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Dr. K. Anderson, Dr. C. Marra, Dr. M. Volk, Ms. L. White, Dr. I. Emke, Professor A. Fisher, Dr. M. Haghiri, Dr. D. Kelly, Dr. C. Schiller, Dr. C. Vardy, Mr. S. Sutherland, Ms. A. Kavanagh, Mr. D. Rumbolt.

62. PRESENTATION ON THE UNIVERSITY BUDGET

The President began his presentation by noting he had already presented, first to the student unions, and then to PBC, SAAG and the Board of Regents. He then informed Senators of the impact the recently released provincial budget could have on the University in respect to the 2016/17 Budget Framework that was approved by the Board of Regents in July 2015.

Though the University's reactive plan to the provincial budget has not been finalized, the President remarked on the areas of the 2016/17 Framework that will have to be adjusted as a result of the provincial budget and some of the preliminary ideas for dealing with future financial restrictions. He noted in particular:

- the need to address the "special payments" plan for pensions
- the infrastructure fund
  - deferred maintenance cuts
  - reduction to provincial payment for Core Science facility
- salary cuts through attrition
- grant in lieu vs. tuition increase

- government budget cuts which, after 4 years, will amount to \$24.9 M/yr going forward
- a final budget proposal will be presented to the Board of Regents at its next meeting on May 19, 2016

Following the presentation, Senators had the following questions:

- Has government changed its position on grant vs. student loan?
- Given that the provincial budget reflects a situation in which there has been not enough revenue and too much spending, are the current budget cuts just the beginning of even more serious cuts in the future?
- What is the impact of the loss of the special payment to pensions going forward?
  - There is definitely a loss as there is no accumulation on the 22 M that was not deposited. The special payment has been deferred again this year, but this is the last time that can happen. Negotiations are ongoing and an agreement must be reached this year.
- How much of a priority is the animal care facility? The worry is that the University will lose its accreditation if we don't get the new building.
  - There are several programs that are being looked at as a way to help fund this project, but currently the University is considering the federal government Strategic Infrastructure program which will match 50% funding on new infrastructure projects if applications are accepted and provincial permission to build is acquired.
- Will Senate hear from PBC again?
  - Though PBC have only just begun to meet regarding the budget, Senate will be kept informed of their plans. The Budget website will be updated tomorrow with this presentation.

63. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

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CHAIRMAN

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SECRETARY