

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND
SENATE

The special meeting of Senate was held on April 22, 2014 at 4:00 p.m. in the Lecture Theatre in the Physical Education Building, Room 2001.

70. PRESENT

Dr. D. Wardlaw (Acting Chair), Dr. R. Marceau, Mr. G. Blackwood, Dr. M. Abrahams, Dr. K. Anderson, Ms. L. Busby, Dr. C. Dillon, Mr. B. Gardiner, Dr. A. Gaudine, Dr. N. Golfman, Dr. G. Naterer, Mr. R. Nolan (for Ms. S. Singleton), Dr. L. Phillips, Dr. C. Reynolds, Dr. R. Tabrizchi (for Dr. J. Rourke), Dr. E. Waterman, Dr. W. Zerbe, Dr. F. Basset, Dr. S. Carr, Dr. J. Connor, Mr. C. Couturier, Dr. J. Doré, Dr. G. George, Dr. S. Kocabiyik, Dr. S. LeFort, Dr. S. Mulay, Dr. M. Mulligan, Dr. W. Okshevsky, Dr. J. Parsons, Mr. B. Riggs, Dr. C. Sharpe, Dr. K. Simonsen, Dr. D. Tulett, Professor D. Walsh, Dr. P. Wilson, Mr. J. Donnelly, Mr. A. Al-Habashneh, Ms. K. Drisdelle, Ms. A. Holloway, Mr. S. Kennedy (for Ms. E. Philpott), Ms. K. Maxwell, Mr. R. Murphy (for Ms. C. Simms), Ms. C. Noel, Ms. A. Wilson.

Dr. Wardlaw noted that he was chairing the meeting for The President and that Mr. Rob Nolan was attending on behalf of Ms. Sheila Singleton.

Dr. Wardlaw welcomed Dr. Carla Dillon, who was appointed Interim Dean of the School of Pharmacy effective April 1, 2014, until May 31, 2014.

Attending by Invitation

Ms. Ann Browne, Associate Vice-President (Facilities) and Mr. Kent Decker, Vice-President (Administration and Finance), regarding item 3. Discussion of the Infrastructure Plan.

71. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from The President, Ms. S. Cleyle, Dr. D. Hardy Cox, Dr. S. Abhyankar, Dr. A. Fisher, Dr. D. Foster, Dr. D. Gustafson, Dr. D. Kelly, Dr. D. McKay, Professor G. Riser, Dr. A. Rose, Dr. W. Schipper, Dr. M. Wernerheim.

72. Enrolment Plan 2020

Dr. Wardlaw stated that Version 3.1 of the Enrolment Plan 2020 was distributed to Senators by email and was available on D2L.

Dr. Wardlaw noted that the Planning and Budget Committee reviewed the most recent version (version 3.0) of the Enrolment Plan 2020: Enrolment Targets and Objectives for the seven-year period 2014-15 to 2020-21 as its April 14, 2014, meeting and unanimously supported a motion that endorsed Enrolment Plan 2020 in principle and approved submission to Senate of a revision of version 3.0 informed by the feedback from the Planning and Budget Committee and also by feedback from the university community. Feedback from a university-wide consultation took place from April 1 to 14, 2014.

Dr. Wardlaw noted that the most important change was in the quality area.

Enrolment Plan 2020 (cont'd)

The most recent version of the Enrolment Plan was presented for endorsement by Senate.

Dr. Wardlaw then gave Senate an update of the changes made to the document.

A discussion then ensued with questions and comments from the floor covering such topics as:

- all feedback may not be in the document
- whether the plan should refer to Memorial as a “mid-size, comprehensive university”, as we are Medical Doctoral
- the 4-5% increase in projected enrolment for graduate students seems high
- legally, what does endorsement mean
- is there a plan to grow 5% in Faculties

Dr. Wardlaw pointed out that this plan is going forward to the Board of Regents on May 8 for approval.

It was moved by Dr. Phillips, seconded by Dr. Golfman, and carried to accept the Enrolment Plan 2020.

73. Strategic Research Intensity Plan

Since the Strategic Research Plan was last at Senate it has undergone extensive revisions, which resulted from six weeks of consultations between the period of March 3 and April 14. Dr. Marceau brought the Plan back to Senate today in order to review those revisions and answer any questions that Senate may have. First, Dr. Marceau expressed his gratitude for the 53 individual consultative submissions, and before he highlighted the changes that had been made to the Plan he noted that generally there was overwhelming support for the ideas that comprise the backbone of the Plan. Changes resulting from the consultations were reviewed, after which Dr. Marceau opened the floor up for questions.

It was mentioned that an increase of 100% in scholarly dissemination, as described in recommendation 11 of the Plan, is a rather lofty goal and is also contingent on acquiring resources. Dr. Marceau agreed but expressed his belief that it is important to have big ideals and an overarching goal to strive for. Further to that, he noted that the President has expressed his willingness to support and invest in this Plan.

When asked if there is a contingency plan in place should we not reach the 100% increase, Dr. Marceau resoundingly assured Senate that “we will” reach these goals. He reminded Senators that the numbers suggest that this goal is attainable within the next 4 years, but the Plan allows for 7 years.

Overall, there was a general congratulatory expression from Senators for the efficient and thorough work of Dr. Marceau to prepare such an extensive and timely strategic plan.

Strategic Research Intensity Plan (cont'd)

Dr. Marceau went on to highlight the fact that this plan has the support of the province and the President, and now it is time for the support of the University community. He said that we are on the threshold of change; we are looking at an opportunity for a huge rebuild, and it is time we support ourselves.

Dr. Marceau informed Senate that this Plan is going forward to the Board of Regents on May 8 for approval.

It was moved by Mr. Couturier, seconded by Dr. Wilson, and carried to accept the Strategic Research Intensity Plan.

74. Discussion of Infrastructure Plan

Dr. Wardlaw invited Ms. Ann Browne to present on the University's Infrastructure Plan, which came to Senate for information only.

Ms. Browne remarked that a university's infrastructure affects many aspects of the university culture, including retention / recruitment of both students and faculty, and, therefore, should complement enrolment and research plans. She also noted in particular that this is the first document of its type that has ever been produced for the University and that it needs to be a "living document" that is capable of change, based on environment and need. She went on to outline a few reasons for the document's development:

- There is currently a significant infrastructure deficit, with approximately 270 million dollars in deferred maintenance. Consequently, there are:
 - increasing inabilities to deliver quality programs
 - service interruptions / closures / and safety concerns
 - restrictions to research activities
 - and increasing expenses to maintenance and operation.

Following that, Ms. Browne discussed the procedural and consultative considerations which gave rise to the current document. Finally, she gave an overview of the next steps and highlighted the Plan's endorsement process.

Senators expressed their gratitude for all of the "on-the-ground" work and the pro-active approach that Ms. Browne has taken in delivering this document to the University.

Ms. Browne thanked Senate for its co-operation and consultation regarding the Infrastructure Plan and informed Senate of the intention to revise the current document over the next week.

Dr. Wardlaw thanked Ms. Browne for her presentation and noted that Kent Decker was also in attendance and was heavily involved in the development of the Plan.

A copy of Ms. Browne's PowerPoint presentation is attached to the original of these minutes.

75. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

SECRETARY