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SENATE MEETING MINUTES September 23, 2016

The 577th Meeting of the Senate of Saint Mary's University was held on Friday, September 23, 2016, at 2:30 PM, in the Secunda Marine Boardroom. Dr D. Naulls, Chairperson, presided.

PRESENT: Dr Summerby-Murray, Dr Enns, Dr Dixon, Dr Bradshaw, Dr MacDonald, Dr Singfield, Dr Naulls, Dr Campbell, Dr Conrad, Dr Grandy, Dr Grek-Martin, Dr. Henry, Dr Hlongwane, Dr McCallum, Dr Peckmann, Dr Rahaman, Dr Stinson, Dr Takseva, Dr VanderPlaat, Dr Warner, Ms DeYoung, Mr Michael, Mr Rahman, Ms Jones, Ms Deeksha Bhaskar, Mr Homood Alanazi, Dr Erickson (ANTH), Dr Hervieux (CLE), and Ms Bell, Secretary to the Office of Senate.

REGRETS: Dr Vessey, Dr Hall, Mr Tom Brophy, and Mr Rice,

Meeting commenced at 2:34 P.M.

For the benefit of the new members, self-introductions of all members were done.

16001 **ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON, VICE-CHAIRPERSON, SECRETARY AND PARLIAMENTARIAN**

.01 Moved by Dixon and seconded, 'that Dr. Naulls is re-elected as Chairperson for the 2016-2017 Senate year.'

- **Question:** Is it possible to incorporate the concept of a co-chair of Senate? The rationale for this would be to allow for other faculty members of the Senate to gain experience chairing the Senate meeting. **Answer:** There is nothing in the Senate Bylaws to restrict this.
- **Question:** Would this be in addition to a Vice-Chair person? **Answer:** Yes.
- **Question:** Would they alternate in terms of chairing the Senate Office? **Answer:** Yes.
- **Question:** What does the chair do? **Answer:** Chair Senate meetings. Acts as an ex-officio member of all of the Senate Committees. When things get derailed within a standing committee of the Senate, the chair is required to step in and resolve the situation. The Senate Chair approves and monitors the Senate Office budget, and oversees the work hours in terms of overtime. The Chair of Senate carries the Mace at Convocation unless there is good reason to have another do this task. There is no pay, no teaching load reduction for taking on this responsibility.
- **Question:** Does the Chair vote on matters before Senate? **Answer:** The Chair only votes to break a tie. Concern was expressed that this could have ramifications under a co-chair situation.

- Concern was expressed about the potential risk of having to have two people to respond on every item. This could increase the time to respond in time-constraint, emergency/crisis situation.
- **Question:** How long has Dr Naulls been chair of Senate? **Answer:** Since 1995.
- It was suggested that if Dr Naulls was elected Chair his intention was to involve the Vice-Chair more in the tasks of Senate, especially in terms of the Academic Discipline Committee work.
- A member advised that the idea of a co-chair or having more responsibilities delegated to a Vice-Chair was about succession planning or to establish a process of renewal. Whomever might step into the role of Vice-Chair should do so with the idea that they may step up into the role of Chair.
- The suggestion of a co-chair was withdrawn.

.02 Moved by Takseva and seconded, **‘that Dr. Peckmann is elected as Vice-Chairperson for the 2016-2017 Senate year.’**

.03 No Secretary was nominated or elected.

.04 Moved by Henry, and seconded, **‘that Dr Vanderplaat is re-elected as Parliamentarian for the 2016-2017 Senate year.’**

There being no further nominations, the above slate of executive officers was elected by acclamation.

16002 **REPORT OF THE AGENDA COMMITTEE**

The report of the Agenda Committee was accepted.

16003 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

Minutes of the meeting of May 13, 2016, were *circulated* as *Appendix A*.

Moved by Dixon, and seconded, **“that the minutes of the meeting of May 13, 2016 are approved as circulated.” Motion carried.**

16004 **FALL GRADUATION LIST**

- The listing of graduates was circulated to Deans with a copy for Senate.
- Convocation is next Friday and Saturday, September 30th and October 1, 2015 in the theatre auditorium. Graduate degrees in the Faculty of Graduate Studies will be awarded at 7 PM on Friday, undergraduate programs in the Sobey School of Business at 10:00 am Saturday, and undergraduate programs in the Faculties of Arts and Science at 2PM Saturday afternoon.
- Only 3 faculty members have confirmed their participation for the Processional and Platform Guests for Friday night and Saturday morning. We have 10 confirmed for Saturday.
- A total of 380 credentials will be presented to 361 graduates. Of these, 31 are graduating with distinction.
- There are three more potential graduates but there are outstanding grades as a result of LOPs. We will require the enabling motion to allow those to be added if those grades are received in time.

- There will be no honorary degree recipient or valedictory address on Friday Evening. Saturday morning – Dr Tim Moore will receive an honorary degree and Saturday afternoon _Ms Joey Adler will be awarded.

Moved by Dr. Dixon, and seconded, **“to confer degrees and distinctions on those represented on the list (circulated as Appendix T) at the Fall Convocation”.** Motion carried.

Moved by Dr. Dixon, and seconded, **“to enable the Registrar to add such graduates to this list as may be identified subsequent to this meeting.”** Motion carried unanimously.

16005

MEMBERSHIP ON SENATE COMMITTEES FOR 2015-2016

- .01 SECTION A – NOMINATED BY EXECUTIVE OF SENATE** circulated at the meeting as: Executive Memo - *Appendix B1*, Section A – *Appendix B2*, and Section B – *Appendix B3*

0101 APPEALS

- Dr Bidyut Tulukdar (ECON/Bus to 2019-08-31)
- Ms Blair Jones (*student rep appt'd by SA to Apr/17*)

.0102 ACADEMIC DISCIPLINE

- Dr Christine Panasian (FINA/Bus to 2019-08-31)
- Dr Dave Bourgeois (PSYC/Science to 2019-08-31)
- Mr Kazi Rahman (*student rep appt'd by SA to Apr/17*)
- Ms Blair Jones (*student rep appt'd by SA to Apr/17*)
- Ms Deeksha Bhaskar (*student rep appt'd by SA to Apr/17*)

.0103 ACADEMIC DISCIPLINE APPEAL BOARD

- Dr Karen Grandy (COMM/Business to 2019-08-31)
- Dr Bidyut Talukdar (ECON/Business to 2019-08-31)
- Dr Rosana Barbosa (HIST/Arts to 2019-08-31)
- Dr Adam Sarty (PHYS/Science to 2019-08-31)
- Dr Mark Fleming (PSYC/Science to 2019-08-31)
- Ms Blair Jones (*student rep appt'd by SA to Apr/17*)
- Mr Kazi Rahman (*student rep appt'd by SA to Apr/17*)

.0104 ACADEMIC PLANNING

- Dr Marc Barr (English/Arts to 2019-08-31)
- Dr Ethan Pancer (MKTG/Bus to 2019-08-31)
- Ms Blair Jones (*student rep appt'd by SA to Apr/17*)

.0105 ACADEMIC REGULATIONS

- Ms Blair Jones (*student rep in senior year, appt'd by SA to Apr.17*)

.0106 ANIMAL CARE (to be advised by the committee chair)

- Dr Linda Campbell (ENVS – 1 faculty from each Dept using animals)

- Mr Matt Logan (BIOL - 1 University Animal Care technician from each Dept using animals)
- Ms Caila Henderson (ENVS - 1 University Animal Care technician from each Dept using animals)
- Ms Michelle Boyden (1 Community Representative)
- Ms Amy Hein (*Student Representative – 1 graduate appt'd by SA to Apr/17*)
- Ms Kiera Chang (*1 undergraduate student rep appt'd by SA to Apr/17*)

.0107 CONTINUING EDUCATION

- **TBA** (*Part-time student nominated by Director to Apr/17*)
- **TBA** (*Part-time student – OPTAMUS rep nominated by Director – Apr/17*)
- Ms Blair Jones (*Full-time student appt'd by SA to April/17*)

0108 CURRICULUM

- Dr Hamdi Driss (FINA/Bus to 2019-08-31)
- Dr Roby Austin (ASTR/PHYS/Science to 2019-08-31)
- Ms Blair Jones (*student Senator elected by Senate to Apr/17*)

.0109 LIBRARY

- Dr Kai Ylioki (CHEM/Science to 2019-08-31)
- Mr Homood Alanazi (*Student rep appt'd by SA to Apr/17*)

.0110 LITERACY STRATEGY

- Dr Shelagh Crooks (PHIL/Arts to 2019-08-31)
- **TBA** (Bus to 2019-08-31)
- Ms Blair Jones (*Student rep appt'd by SA to Apr/17*)

.0111 RESEARCH ETHICS BOARD

- Mr Brendan Grue (*Up to 3 Graduate Student reps appt'd by SA to Apr/17*)
- Mr Keif Godbout-Kinney (*Up to 3 Graduate Student reps appt'd by SA to Apr/17*)
- Ms Iva Pauker (*Community 2016-17*)

.0112 STUDENT DISCIPLINE

- Ms Blair Jones (*Student rep appt'd by SA to Apr/17*)
- Mr Ben Gaunce (*Student rep appt'd by SA to Apr/17*)

.0113 STUDENT SUCCESS

- Ms Deeksha Bhaskar (*Student rep appt'd by SA to Apr/17*)
- Mr Homood Alanazi (*Student rep appt'd by SA to Apr/17*)

.0116 SUSTAINABILITY

- Dr Aldona Wiacek (ASTR/PHYS/Science to 2019-08-31)
- Dr Mathew Novak (GEOG/Arts to 2019-08-31)
- Mr Kazi Rahman (*student Senator elected by Senate to Apr/17*)
- Mr Ben Gaunce (*Student rep appt'd by SA to Apr/17*)
- **TBA** (Representative from the Sustainability Task Force)

Outstanding member nominations to be provided by the Committee Chairs and/or Deans.

Moved by DeYoung and seconded, “that the nominations for Section A of the Membership on Senate Committees 2016-2017, are approved as amended above.” Motion carried.

.02 SECTION B – NOMINATED BY SENATE FROM THE FLOOR OF SENATE
circulated as *Appendix C*.

.0201 AGENDA (3 members of Senate, one of whom shall chair)

- Dr Lyndan Warner (one member of Senate to 2019-08-31)
- Mr Bryan Rice (1 student senator appt'd by SA to Apr/17)

.0202 BYLAWS

- Dr Gugu Hlongwane (an elected member of Senate)
- Ms Blair Jones (Student Senator elected by Senate to April/17)
- Dr Madine Vanderplaats (Parliamentarian appointed annually by Senate)

.0203 ELECTIONS (5 elected members of Senate)

- Dr Eric Henry (elected member of Senate)
- Dr Myles McCallum (elected member of Senate)

.0204 EXECUTIVE

- Dr Karen Grandy (elected member of Senate)
- Dr Tatjana Takseva (elected member of Senate)
- Mr Kazi Rahman (SMUSA President) (Student Senator elected by Senate to Apr/17)

.0205 LEARNING AND TEACHING

- Ms Blair Jones (One full-time student rep – nominated by SA/Committee to Apr 17)
- TBA (One part-time student nominated by OPTAMUS/Committee to Apr 17)

.0206 SCHOLARSHIP

- Dr Evangelia Tastsoglou (SOCl/Arts) (a representative from the Faculty of Arts to 2019-08-31)
- Mr Bryan Rice (Student rep appt'd by Senate to April/17)

AD HOC COMMITTEES

.0207 Committee for Academic Plan Implementation

- Ms Blair Jones (Student Senator elected by Senate to April/17)

JOINT COMMITTEES

.0208 HONORARY DEGREES (2 members appointed by Senate)

- Dr Mark Raymond (a member of faculty appointed by Senate to 2019-08-31)
- Mr Kazi Rahman (student rep appt'd by SA to Apr/17)

PRESIDENTIAL COMMITTEES

- .0210 BUDGET (2 members of the faculty appointed annually by Senate)
- Dr Madine Vanderplaat (confirmed)
 - Dr Mohammad Rahaman (confirmed)

Moved by McCallum and seconded, **‘that the nominees for Section C of the Membership on Senate Committees 2016-2017, are approved as amended above.’ Motion carried.**

16006 **PROPOSED DATES FOR SENATE MEETINGS FOR 2016-2017**
Circulated as *Appendix C1 & C2*.

Moved by Rahaman, and seconded, **“that the proposed dates for Senate meetings of 2016-2017 are approved as circulated/ revised”.**
Motion carried.

16007 **RECOMMENDATION FOR PROFESSOR EMERITUS**
Documentation circulated as: Senate Executive Memo - *Appendix D1*;
Recommendation - *Appendix D2*.

Key Discussion items:

- Recommendation for Dr Larry Haiven, Department of Accounting
- The Dean, SSB advised that this faculty member has been instrumental in outreach and in the success of the Cooperative Management Education Programs. His work in industrial relations has been impactful both theoretically and in terms of policy and practice. He has a significant publication record and has been successful in getting research grants. His teaching record is exemplary.

Moved by Sommerby-Murray and seconded, **“that the Academic Senate approves the recommendation of Dr Larry Haiven for the award of Professor Emeritus. The recommendation will be forwarded to the Board of Governors for awarding.” Motion carried.**

16008 **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**
.01 Academic Planning

- .0101 The Human Resource Management (Certificate) Program one-year follow-up report, APC Memo - *Appendix E1* & Report - *Appendix E2*

Moved by Enns and seconded, **“that the Senate approves the one-year follow-up report of the Human Recourse Management Program as meeting the requirements of Section 5 of the Senate Policy on the Review of Undergraduate Programs at Saint Mary’s.” Motion carried.**

- .0102 The Geography Program one-year follow-up report, APC Memo - *Appendix F1* & Report - *F2*. (*Dr Grek-Martin*):

Key discussion points:

- The program had a successful retreat on June 29th and were able to clarify a number of questions related to program changes, course prerequisites, content overlap, instructor expectations etc., that were relevant to students (and faculty) in GEOG, BES and ENV5.

Moved by Enns and seconded, **“that the Senate approves the one-year follow-up report of the Geography program as meeting the requirements of**

Section 5 of the Senate Policy on the Review of Undergraduate Programs at Saint Mary's." Motion carried.

.0103 The Atlantic Canada Studies Program one-year follow-up report, APC Memo - *Appendix G1* & Report - *G2*.

Moved by Enns and seconded, **“that the Senate approves the one-year follow-up report of the Atlantic Canada Studies Program as meeting the requirements of Section 5 of the Senate Policy on the Review of Undergraduate Programs at Saint Mary's.” Motion carried.**

.0104 Anthropology Program Review documentation circulated as: *Appendix H* -APC Memo, *Appendix I* – Recommendation-Comparison summary, *Appendix J* - Self Study Report, *Appendix K* - Self Study appendices (1-10), *Appendix L* – Dean’s Response to Self Study, *Appendix M*- External Review Committee’s (ERC) Final Report, *Appendix N*, Department Response to ERC Report, *Appendix O* - Dean’s Response to ERC report. (Dr Paul Erickson, Chair)

Key discussion points:

- **Question:** What would happen if they did not respond by the deadline. **Answer:** APC would follow-up with the program.
- **Question:** There was a recommendation for cultural anthropology. Can you achieve this or is this a future goal for hiring? **Answer:** We have had the retreat and discussed this recommendation. We can address this in cultural anthropology and archeology. We have requested a minority hire and we will consider a first nation candidate in the search for the next new hire. We are looking at many options. Within our self-study, an initiative was identified that we already have in progress. Some of our research may be used by the broader community at large. For example, a database of aboriginal communities will be shared with the police network for their initiative to identify the remains of aboriginal women.
- **Question:** Can you confirm that the new hire will be an indigenous person? **Answer:** Not at this time. The Dalhousie model for a minority hire in addition to the other faculty complement is being considered, but we have not followed that model at this time.
- **Question:** Are we going to hear about the outcome from the retreat? **Answer:** It will be in the Action Plan in December.
- **Question:** What about international field experiences and increasing those? **Answer:** We are pursuing the possibility of doing an international field school in Cuba. We have met with the Dean and the Acting VPAR on this and are discussing a potential for implementing this next summer. Dr Fowler already has a field school in Grande Pre. We are still working on this recommendation. One of the barriers is funding. There has been some funding made available for this initiative.
- The President advised that given the other international field opportunities, we should give some consideration on these funding issues. Senators were asked to think about this holistically and about how we support students in this type of experience.

- The Dean of Arts advised that the reviewers were highly impressed with the quality and breadth of the offerings in anthropology. One of the reviewers came from a large institution and they stated that these were much better than those at their institutions. They commended the University with being able to support this breadth of offerings.

The following responses were supported by the Senate:

- **Recommendation 1** – APC concurs with the response of the Dean and encourages the program to work with the Communications Officer in the Faculty of Arts, specifically to articulate the opportunities and benefits of the major and honours degree in Anthropology.
- **Recommendation 2** – APC concurs with the responses of the Program and the Dean, and encourages the program to work with the Dean's Office in facilitating the integration of the 2+2 students within the University beginning in September 2017 in keeping with the University's strategic priorities on internationalization and interculturalization, including planning for any additional resources that might be required.
- **Recommendation 3** - APC commends the Program for their positive response to the recommendation for the development of indigenous curriculum and looks forward to the outcome of the proposed retreat.
- **Recommendation 4** - This item is budgetary and outside of the purview of APC and the Senate.
- **Recommendation 5** - APC concurs with the reviewers' recommendation and the responses of the Program and the Dean. No action necessary.
- **Recommendation 6** - APC concurs with the responses of the Program and the Dean and looks forward to the outcome of curriculum discussions during the planned retreat.
- **Recommendation 7** - APC concurs with the responses of the Program and the Dean and looks forward to the outcome of discussions on the Honours program during the planned retreat.
- **Recommendation 8** - APC concurs with the recommendation and the responses of the Program and the Dean. No action necessary.
- **Recommendation 9** - APC concurs with the recommendation, the responses of the Program and the Dean, and looks forward to the outcome of the planned retreat.
- **Recommendation 10** - APC concurs with the recommendation and the responses of the Program and the Dean in regard to continued participation in LEAP or its successor and in the Co-op program.
- **Recommendation 11** - APC concurs with the recommendation, the responses of the Program and the Dean, and looks forward to the outcome of discussions on student representation and participation at the planned retreat.
- **Recommendation 12** - APC concurs with the recommendation, the responses of the Program and the Dean, and looks forward to the outcome of the collaborative curriculum mapping planned at the retreat.
- **Recommendation 13** - This item is budgetary and outside of the purview of APC and the Senate. This item is referred back to the

Program and Dean for further consideration during the budgetary process.

- **Recommendation 14** – APC concurs with the recommendation and the responses of the Program and the Dean and looks forward to the outcome of the discussion of the relationship with part-time faculty planned at the retreat.
- **Recommendation 15** - APC concurs with the responses of the Program and the Dean.
- **Recommendation 16** - APC concurs with the responses of the Program and the Dean, and looks forward to the outcome of the discussion on future strategic hiring at the planned retreat.
- **Recommendation 17** - APC concurs with the responses of the Program and the Dean in regard to scholarship on learning and teaching as part of the research component of faculty workload.
- **Recommendation 18** - APC concurs with the responses of the Program and the Dean subject to this being a budgetary item and outside of the purview of APC and the Senate.

Moved by Enns and seconded, **“that the Anthropology Program submit an action plan to Academic Planning Committee in December, 2016 based on the responses above.” Motion carried.**

and

Moved by Enns and seconded, **“that in September, 2017, the Anthropology Program submit a one-year report to the Academic Planning Committee on the progress made on the Action Plan according to Section 5 of the Senate Policy on the Review of Programs at Saint Mary’s University.” Motion carried.**

.0105 Centre for Leadership Excellence – APC Memo – *Appendix P1*, 2015 annual report -*Appendix P2*, self-study document - *P3*, and submission of revisions to constitution with email communication – *P4 & P5*. (Dr Chantel Hervieux).

Key discussion points:

- **Question:** Section 5.1 in the report is quite comprehensive. The Governance Group are rethinking the focus of this Centre.
Response: The Governance Group is looking at the terms of reference. We are doing a conference involving 1/2 academics and 1/2 practitioners. This is going very well. We are looking at revising the centre to be of better service to the university. Presently we are much more centered on Business but we are looking to expand that scope. Once we get approval for the changes submitted today, we will initiative immediately to expand the scope of membership.

Moved by Enns and seconded, **“that the Academic Senate approves the 2015 Annual Report of the Centre for Leadership Excellence (CLE) in fulfillment of the requirement set out in the Senate Policy 8-1009 Governing the Establishment, Reporting and Review of Research Institutes and Centres at Saint Mary’s University, section 3.2, Reporting Procedures.” Motion carried.**

Moved by Enns and seconded, “**that the Academic Senate approves the Self-Study Report of the Centre for Leadership Excellence (CLE), in fulfillment of the requirement set out in section 3.3 b) in the Senate Bylaws Governing the Establishment, Reporting and Review of Research Institutes and Centres at Saint Mary’s University and authorizes the center to continue, with a review at the end of the next three-year period.**” Motion carried.

Moved by Enns and seconded, “**that the Academic Senate approves the proposed revisions to the Constitution of the Centre for Leadership Excellence (CLE).**” Motion carried.

16009

REPORT OF JOINT COMMITTEES

.01

Honorary Degrees Committee

a) 2015-2016 Annual Report to Senate circulated as *Appendix Q*

There being no objection, the annual report of the Honorary Degrees Committee was accepted into the record.

b) Recommendation for Honorary Degrees, Senate Executive Memo - *Appendix R1* and Recommendation - *Appendix R2* will be circulated to members at the meeting.

Key discussion points:

- One of the recommendation came to Senate last academic year and was deferred with the request that the Honorary Degrees Committee consider the implications. There is precedent for this procedure.
- The President presented the rationale for each recommendation.
- Appreciation was expressed to the committee for better articulating the criteria involved in the selection of candidates.
- Senate asked the Honorary Degrees Committee to consider whether nominations are possible for individuals from organizations of which Saint Mary’s is a member. The Committee is still exploring this issue.
- **Question:** When nominees are members of boards or businesses; does Saint Mary’s consider the background of those groups and/or corporations they have worked for in the past to ensure the ethical issues are thoroughly addressed. **Answer:** Yes. The committee looks very closely at these relationships and linkage. The committee is very sensitive to reputational risk.
- Members were advised that, in the past, Senate feedback has been taken into consideration when approving (or not) recommendations.
- The President also advised that the Committee was considering a policy on rescinding an Honorary Degree.

An omnibus motion was moved by Summerby-Murray and seconded, “**that the Academic Senate approves the recommendations as presented above for forwarding to the Board of Governors for awarding.**” Motion carried.

16010

NEW BUSINESS FROM

- Floor (involving notice of motion)
Revisions to the Constitution of the Sobey School of Business Faculty Council circulated as *Appendix S1 and S2*.

- The original was approved in 1977 and was out of date. A lot of time has been invested in rewriting the Constitution.
- **Question:** What was the process undertaken during the review?
Answer: It was a highly iterative process. Every program council reviewed this.

Moved by Bradshaw and seconded, **“that Senate approved the revised Constitution of the Sobey School of Business Faculty Council.” Motion carried.**

16011

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Summerby-Murray advised members of the following:

- Thanks for those involved in the Welcome Week initiative. The focus was on safety, respect and diversity. SMUSA has played a critical role in the huge success of this week.
- Our residences are at 100 percent capacity and enrolment and registration have us ‘ahead of budget’ based on preliminary numbers
- The welcome event for our aboriginal students was highly successful. Saint Mary’s University hosted an opening smudge, followed by singing, chanting and drumming, to welcome and honour its indigenous students. The welcome event held by the Environment program was very successful as well
- The Football program also had a successful start. The Huskies had a 32-27 come-from-behind victory on Friday night over the Mount Allison Mounties.
- We are in good shape in terms of the Budget. The preliminary numbers on registration show that registrations in undergraduate and graduate programs are up over last year by .05% overall. Undergraduate enrolment is up 2.5% and specifically the Nova Scotia enrolment is up 1.6%. This indicates that Saint Mary’s is enhancing their market share in this region. Over 60% of our students are from this region. We are showing a 4.2% increase in international students but the numbers of students from China are down. These have been offset by recruitment from other countries. Graduate enrolment is up 1.2%. This pattern has continued as we go into the first year of the increased tuition which is encouraging.
- This week, I met with all of the Presidents of universities across the province. We are all in the same position in terms of enrolment.
- Members were advised that Saint Mary’s has 300 students registered in our programs at BNUZ. Fifteen faculty members will be going there to teach this year.
- Work is continuing on the Institutional Strategic Plan. Leaders for the four areas are as follows: Discovery and Innovation – Dr Enns, Internationalization and Interculturalization – Dr Gauthier, Financial Sustainability – Ms Gabe Morrison, Value and Values – Dr Summerby-Murray. These initiative are still at a high level and will feed into Strategic Plan of 2018.
- On Monday, Mr Tom Brophy, will join Saint Mary’s as Senior Director of Student Services. The responsibilities and reporting for this position have been revised. The position will now report to the Vice-President, Academic and Research. The responsibility for the academic student support structure rests within this position. The ancillary services that used to reside in this position will be reassigned and will report elsewhere.

- Saint Mary's is well through search for a Vice-President, Academic and Research. The President advised that he wished to deeply thank and applaud Dr Enns for stepping up to fill this position in the interim.
- The university is in the final stages finding a Vice-President of Advancement to take over the role of fund raising.
- There is an issue in media this week regarding the sale of the Canadian Martyrs Church Property. The property is a 1.2 acre site. There is a proposed sale to an out-of-town developer. They have applied for a permit to build a twin tower residential development on the property. The proposal calls for one 30 story and another 24 story tower that would be used for student housing. Halifax planning staff has rejected this proposal because it is outside the planning guidelines. The developer is now appealing that decision to the NSUARB and there will be a hearing sometime around the middle to late October time-frame. To give a comparison, the Loyola Residence is 22 stories. Saint Mary's has applied for intervener status on this appeal process. We are looking to uphold the decision of HRM to deny the proposed development. SMU made an offer on the property but we have not formally been advised that our offer is rejected.
- Dr. Maryanne Fisher, of our Psychology Department, has been honoured with a 2016 Association of Atlantic Universities Distinguished Teaching Award. Awarded annually by the AAU, the award recognizes excellence in teaching and educational leadership.

16012

QUESTION PERIOD

Key Discussion Points:

- **Question:** What would we do with that property if the university bid was successful? Is there a way to increase our offer? Perhaps the offer could be increased if we recruited partners to participate? **Answer:** The Property and Finance Committees of the Board of Governors are looking at those questions. The purchase cost only makes sense if it aligns with the campus master plan. We did plan for a 4 or 5 story building consistent with the other buildings on campus. The academic mission should be central to any initiative we undertake in this regard. We cannot damage our academic programs by purchasing this property at all costs. We will continue to explore all of our options in this regard. The proposal states that the towers will be used for student/university housing. Our argument is that only a University can provide university housing.
- **Question:** When the master plan was being put together, it included restrictions in terms of height. Is it not true that even if the university wanted to, it could not put at 30 story building on that piece of property? **Answer:** The site is zoned U1 or U2. We could put at 30 story building on the portion of that land that is zoned U2. There are constraints on the U1 piece.
- Members were advised that, because of height restrictions, during the construction of the Sobey Building, the air conditioning could not be installed on the roof and had to be installed inside the building.
- Members were advised that could also be a cemetery on those grounds. If there was, as soon as it was discovered during the construction process, regulations would require it to be moved. **Response:** We are not aware of any type of burial in this space. Members were advised that there are many unmarked pauper burial sites in and around the Halifax area. Concerns were raised about encountering pyritic shale during any construction project, and the potential associated negative environmental impact.

- Members were advised that SMUSA was a partner this year during the MacLean's University Ranking survey. In one category, we are second highest in the country, second only to a Toronto University. This information has been pushed out to our international recruiters and reflects very positively on the University.

16013

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:13 P.M.

Barb Bell,
Secretary to the Office of Senate