

Meeting # 7

APPROVED

DALHOUSIE FACULTY ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE MEETING held on Thursday, 3 December 2009 at 9:00 a.m. in the DFA Conference Room, 6280 South Street

Present: T. Mitchell (President, in the chair), C. Dawson, D. Mensink, D. Tindall, S. Budge, G. MacNairn, N. McAllister-Irwin, C. Penney, R. Whyte and, by invitation, K. Grundy, F. Woodman, B. MacLennan and L. Purves

Regrets: J. Adams, S. Adl, T. Bishop, S. Holmes T. Jukes R. Kroeker and, P. Stevens

L. Purves acted as recording secretary.

7.1 Adoption of the Agenda

MOTION 7.1 “That the agenda be adopted as circulated.” (Whyte/Gadbois) **CARRIED**

7.2 Minutes of 29 October 2009 and Minutes of 5 November 2009

MOTION 7.2.1 “That the minutes of 29 October 2009 be approved as circulated.” (Mensink/Penney) **CARRIED**

MOTION 7.2.2 “That the minutes of 5 November 2009 be approved as circulated.” (Mensink/MacNairn) **CARRIED**

7.3 Matters Arising

7.3.1 Update on Recovery of Misappropriated Funds. T. Mitchell provided the Executive Committee with an update on this matter. She noted that the ex-employee’s current employment wages would be garnished beginning in January 2010 at the rate of \$469/month. She summarized the various options to recover a portion of the outstanding funds and reported that the insurance claim on the employee dishonesty rider of the DFA’s insurance policy was processed and payment will be forthcoming in the amount of \$4000. R. Whyte thanked T. Mitchell for her work in handling this matter.

7.3.2 Update on Grievance Case. T. Mitchell reported that there was nothing further to report on the case discussed at the last Executive meeting.

7.4 Pension Update

K. Grundy and F. Woodman provided an update on pension matters. The deficit in the pension plan (Pension Trust Fund not the Retirees Trust Fund) was highlighted. The next actuarial report is expected in June 2010. The ACOPS (Ad Hoc Committee on Pension Sustainability) was formed to address the deficit problem. They reported on the work of the lobbying sub-committee, the actuarial sub-committee and the benchmark committee. T. Mitchell thanked both Members for their work on behalf of the DFA. She noted that a primer on pensions was being prepared by K. Grundy for distribution to the membership and that F. Woodman was preparing a "Q & A" document for distribution as well. Both documents would assist in educating members about the pension plan and the issues surrounding the plan.

At this point, F. Woodman, K. Grundy, S. Gadbois and C. Penney left the meeting.

7.5 Financial Support for President's Trip to Lakehead University

D. Tindall, a DFA Trustee of the CAUT Defence Fund, reported that Lakehead University administration plans to go ahead with plans to force its employees into a four-day unpaid leave from December 21 to 24. This is the first university to do this. LUFA has grieved the matter and it is before an arbitrator. In the meantime, LUFA is holding events to protest this action in Thunder Bay on December 20 and 21 and has requested assistance from local unions to send representatives in a show of solidarity for LUFA. The Defence Fund covers expenses for flying pickets in cases of lock-out. The Executive was asked to consider funding expenses so that the DFA President may attend the rally in Thunder Bay.

MOTION 7.5 "That the DFA pay the usual expenses for a representative to attend the rally in Thunder Bay in support of Lakehead University Faculty Association." (Tindall/Whyte)
CARRIED

7.6 Nominations Committee for By-election of Treasurer

MOTION 7.6 "That P. Gratzner, J. Adams and T. Mitchell serve on the Nominating Committee for Treasurer." (Dawson/MacNairn) **CARRIED**

7.7 Nominations to the University Tenure & Promotions Panel

MOTION 7.7 “That the nominees to the University Tenure & Promotions Panel (G. Kynock, P. Yuet and G. Wanzel) be approved as circulated.” (Mitchell/McAllister-Irwin) **CARRIED**

7.8 Report on CAUT Librarian’s Conference October 23-25, 2009

G. MacNairn provided both a verbal and written report on the CAUT Librarian’s Conference October 23-25, 2009 that she attended. The theme of the conference was Negotiating for Parity: Closing the Librarian/Faculty Gap. She noted that not all academic librarians in Canada have academic status; and those that do trail behind faculty colleagues in salary, control over workload, academic freedom and opportunities for research and teaching.

7.9 Association Membership

R. Whyte requested that this matter be deferred.

7.10 Mastercard Application

T. Mitchell reported that the DFA had applied for a credit card for use by the DFA President and President-Elect for Association business expenses when necessary to a maximum amount of \$5000, with receipts required for such expenses.

MOTION 7.10 “That the application for the DFA Mastercard to be used by the President and President-Elect for DFA expenses with a limit of \$5000 be approved.” (Mensink/Whyte) **CARRIED**

7.11 Winter Schedules

Executive members were reminded to submit their winter schedules to the DFA office if they had not already done so.

7.12 Next Meeting of the Executive Committee

The next Executive Committee meeting will be held in January rather than on December 16.

7.13 Any Other Business

Item 7.13.1. Wine and Cheese Reception. T. Mitchell encouraged Executive Committee members to attend the Wine and Cheese reception for new faculty scheduled for December 7 at 4:00 p.m. in the DFA office.

Item 7.13.2. CAUT Defence Fund AGM Update - Dues. D. Tindall reported that CAUT Defence Fund dues have been \$5 per month, per Member since 1992. In that time the Strike Benefits have risen from \$37 to \$80 per day per Member (just raised from \$78 to \$80, at the October 2009 CAUT Defence Fund AGM).

There is now a provision in the Standing Rules of the Defence Fund which will cause the dues to be raised by \$0.25 per month whenever the daily benefit exceeds 16 times the monthly per capita dues. Since $16 \times \$5 = \80 , the monthly dues remain at \$5.00

The next time the Strike Benefit could be raised is at the next AGM in October 2010. Any increase at that time will trigger dues to increase to, at least, \$5.25 as of February 1, 2011.

The meeting adjourned on motion (MacNairn/Whyte) at 10:30 a.m.