

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

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Regrets: Fabienne Colas

Invited: Martine Durier-Copp, Acting, Vice-President (Academic and Research), Linda Hutchison, Associate Vice-President University Relations, Isabelle Nault, Associate Vice-President Operations, James Barnby, Associate Vice-President Government Relations, Leanne Dowe, Interim Chief Financial Officer, Ashley Lorette, Director of Human Resources

1. **Call to Order Establishment of Quorum**

Meeting called to order at approximately 4:05pm by Chair, Louise Anne Comeau with the establishment of quorum.

4. **Declaration of any Conflict of Interest**

Charmaine Nelson and Jennifer Green will be recused for the NSGEU update.

5. **Acceptance of the Agenda**

The agenda was accepted as presented.

Motion: To approve the February 11, 2021 Board agenda as presented.

Moved by Dave van de Wetering. [BOG 349/21-5]

6. **Adoption of the Meeting Minutes & Business Arising from the Minutes (November 26, 2020, January 6, 2021, and January 15, 2021)**

No changes being requested, the minutes of the November 26, 2020, January 6, 2021 and January 15, 2021 are hereby adopted as a true record. Noted was the minutes of January 6th and January 15th were email votes.

There was no business arising from the minutes of November 26, 2020, January 6, 2021, or January 15, 2021.

7. **Key Correspondence**

For information purposes the Board was provided with a copy of a letter of thanks from Interim President, Sarah McKinnon to the outgoing Premier McNeil and a letter of congratulations to Premier-Elect Iain Rankin.

8. **Getting to Know the NSCAD Community**

Dr. Charmaine A. Nelson, Professor of Art History and Tier I Canada Research Chair

The Chair, Louise Anne Comeau, welcomed Dr. Charmaine A. Nelson, Professor of Art History and Tier I Canada Research Chair to present to the NSCAD Board of Governors. Dr. Nelson is NSCAD's first CRC Tier 1, the highest award that a university can receive from the tri-agency initiative of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), the Natural Science and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR).

Dr. Nelson, formerly a full professor of Art History at McGill University who researches and teaches subjects related to postcolonial and black feminist scholarship, transatlantic slavery studies and black diaspora studies, brings to NSCAD a passion and scholarly record of addressing histories of social justice to build futures of resilience and resurgence. Dr. Nelson will use the funded, seven-year (renewable) position to work with NSCAD to develop the Institute for the Study of Canadian Slavery. NSCAD is the first and only institution in Canada to focus on Transatlantic Slavery.

Dr. Nelson's presentation focused on an introduction to Canadian slavery. On September 29, 1785, the first runaway slave advertisement appeared in the Montreal Gazette, this demonstrated the local white settlers' knowledgeable use of print technology to perpetuate the colonial racial order

through which their ownership of black bodies was justified and secured. Across the Americas, the printer became key allies of slave owners. Transatlantic Slavery was unlike any other form of slavery that has existed. Transatlantic Slavery was based upon the idea that biological human differences could be organized and evaluated within a hierarchy.

While the indigenous populations of the Americas were sometimes enslaved, black Africans were the only populations who were always deemed fit for perpetual bondage. Slave owners controlled every aspect of the lives of enslaved peoples, dictating where and how they lived, where they went, what they wore, when they woke up and slept, what and how much they ate, the duration and type of labour, and even their reactions and attitudes to their labour.

African cultural and spiritual practices and languages were often prohibited or policed, African names stripped, and social rituals like scarification banned within one generation. Slave owners even sought to control the intimate and sexual lives of the enslaved, often separating families as punishment or forcing males and females to create new enslaved offspring, though systematic coupling referred to as “breeding”.

Slavery was practiced by the British and the French in the provinces of Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia (including Cape Breton), PEI and Newfoundland, from at least the early seventeenth century. Little is known about Transatlantic Slavery, what replaces it is celebratory narratives of the Underground Railroad and the liberation of enslaved African Americans by good white Canadian abolitionists.

Dr. Nelson stated that her lecture is an attempt to disrupt this narrative by remembering the centuries-long presence of people of African descent in the regions which became Canada. More specifically, to offer an overview of the different aspects of slavery and to ask us to consider, not merely what slavery was, but the lives and experiences of the enslaved and the unimaginable harm that slavery caused.

Dr. Nelson went on to speak about the key types of slave advertisements, sale and auction ads used for the exchange of the enslaved and fugitive slave ads used to hunt and recapture enslaved people who resisted their bondage by running away.

Enslaved people resisted in a myriad of ways, however, one of the most common form of resistance was running away and trying to escape slavery altogether by removing oneself from one's owner. However, because the enslaved were so valuable, they were constantly hunted by their owners, who benefited from the enslaved person's bondage through the theft of their labour. The notices that owners published in newspapers to recapture the fleeing people were called runaway or fugitive slave ads.

Although published by the slave owning classes for dubious reasons, because slave owners were so determined to recapture their fleeing property, today such ads have become key historical sources, which can assist us in understanding the nature of slavery and the lives and experiences of the enslaved.

Based upon her own archival research, Dr. Nelson has located approximately fifteen fugitive slave advertisements for Nova Scotia.

A critical part of Dr. Nelson's work will be public engagement and building relationships beyond the traditional scope of academia, with the mission to teach people about the specific nature of Canadian Slavery as well as its far-reaching and complex cultural and artistic histories and related implications.

The institute will allow average Canadians of all backgrounds to better understand the centuries-long presence of people of African descent in Canada, as well as Canada's role within the broader transatlantic world as dependent upon the enslavement of 12 million expropriated Africans for the labour to produce an earl

With these items removed, the remaining items of the Consent Agenda were declared adopted. These include the Statutory Remittance Certificate and Officer's Certificate - Facilities, Senate Report SUNSCAD Report and Alumni Report.

10. Consideration of Items Removed from Consent Agenda – F&PR, G&HR, ADV and A&RO

10.1 Financial & Physical Resources Committee

- *Alan MacPherson*
 - Results & Recommendation on RFP – NSCAD Investment Firm

Alan MacPherson, Chair of F&PR, stated that its December 15th meeting the committee received the results of the RFP for Investment Advisory Services for NSCAD University. Eleven proposals were received from proponents. The successful bidder was Leith Wheeler Investment Counsel Ltd.

Motion: To approve the recommendation of the Financial & Physical Resources Committee to approve Leith Wheeler Investment Counsel Ltd. as the successful proponent of the RFP for the advisory services. The appointment as fund managers will be for a term of up to five years commencing April 1, 2021.

Moved by A. MacPherson, seconded. Carried [*BOG 349/21-6*]

10.2 Governance & Human Resources Committee

- *Joanne Hames*
 - Sam DeCoste and Jayme Spinks – Appointment Regular Part-Time Faculty

The Chair, Joanne Hames advised that at its January 14, 2021 meeting, the committee approved the following appointments, Sam DeCoste, and Jayme Spinks.

Motion: To approve the recommendation of the Governance & Human Resources Committee in accordance with Article 37.05 (D) of the Collective Agreement between the Board of Governors and the Faculty Union, to grant a Regular Part-Time Faculty Appointment to Sam DeCoste effective May 1, 2021.

Moved by J. Hames, seconded. Carried [*BOG 349/21-7*]

Motion: To approve the recommendation of the Governance & Human Resources Committee in accordance with Article 37.05 (D) of the Collective Agreement between the Board of Governors and the Faculty Union, to grant a Regular Part-Time Faculty Appointment to Jayme Spinks effective May 1, 2021.

Moved by J. Hames, seconded. Carried [*BOG 349/21-8*]

10.3

With the loss of ideal on-campus studio conditions, the studio expands to encompass the wider world.

Learning Management System – What are Brightspace and Kaltura?

- Brightspace is a learning management system for creating, hosting, and editing online courses and learning resources.
- Kaltura is used to record audio, screen capturing, webcam videos, and store them in Brightspace for student access. Kaltura has a live classroom component also used from within Brightspace.

Dr. Durier-Copp went on to discuss how we as an institution can continue to learn and grow.

- Building on our experience
- Gaining knowledge and increasing capacity
- Student focus groups
- Student evaluations
- Instructor workshops (peer to peer) + r(s)9.5 (j)5.2 (72 T3-)Tj-en ceer)-8.78rtrn93-utr (1.7 (p)-8.78r3 (g)2.5tc

projection for School Store revenue is down an additional \$50k but offset with cost savings (below) of \$32k.

In addition to the government grants, our operating grant was increased by 1% over the prior year. We also received a CRC grant of \$50k and a provincial deferred maintenance grant of \$469k. In addition, the province recently announced a \$1.2M Covid relief grant for NSCAD.

Rental Income - Reduction over prior year is reflective of the 25% reduction in commercial rent required to participate in the CECRA federal grant program. The total amount forgiven because of this is \$23,788. CECRA grant of \$88,891 covers 50% of the participating tenant commercial rent for those months.

Donations have significantly higher than last year as the community has responded to student emergency bursary campaign.

Academic Compensation has increased over prior year due to anticipated collective agreement increases, addition of the new Dean's salary in academic research & the CRC Research chair salary.

Academic Operating increased over prior due to the additional costs of providing online courses.

Facilities Operations - Maintenance & repairs and utilities have decreased over prior year due in most part to savings from empty buildings.

Compensation - Costs for Q2 are \$80K higher than Q2 prior year, while operating expenses are down \$130k. Compensation increased over prior year due to the addition of the Occupational Health & Safety department, a new position in university relations and restructuring.

Service Departments - Compensation in service departments is down \$126k from last year due to a reorganization in current year, as well as staff furloughs and staff on ST leave.

14. President's Report

Interim President McKinnon provided a written President's Report with appendices to the Board for the period covering November 26, 2020 to February 11, 2021. It identified the work being done at all three levels of government, Federal, Provincial and Regional.

Highlights of the report:

- ***Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Working Group*** - As stated in the *Academic Plan: Opportunity and Belonging*, NSCAD is committed to developing an EDI Action Plan and to ensuring the active, avid, and equitable participation of all members of the community in consultation. NSCAD has established an EDI Working Group with an external consultant to lead process of plan development and university consultation. A round of workshops in February will be focused on gap analysis and barrier identification. A second round of workshops will build on the first round and move us to priority setting for the action plan.

- ***African Heritage Month*** - NSCAD participated in an official opening of African Heritage Month for the Institution on February 1. The opening included a libation ceremony by Executive Director of African Nova Scotian Affairs, Wayn Hamilton, and NSCAD's Counsellor Robert Leek. This event also brought greetings from NSCAD's Interim President, Dr Sarah McKinnon, NSCAD's Counsellor, R2.3 (e5()-3o)-5.Pony b g4-3 (i.6 (.6 (f A))

rich engaging experiences for NSCAD students, ably supported by production specialists and digital media interns.

The winter term began Jan 4th, with two weeks of specialised training and wellness workshops to enable our students to build resilience and balanced mind-body health as they began this third term of online learning during Covid. Classes officially began January 18th, with 210 courses and seminars offered. Winter saw a higher than average intake of new students, as well as an increase in part-time students. Enrollment data for Winter 2021 show 732 UG and 68 G students, with 2350 course registrations, 8560 billable credits.

Training and resources to support students and faculty during the term have

The Senior Leadership Team left the meeting for this in camera session, Martine Durier-Copp, Linda Hutchison, Isabelle Nault, James Barmby, Leanne Dowe, and Ashley Lorette.

Out of Camera Motion

Motion: By motion of Sean Kelly, the February 11, 2021, meeting of the Board of Governors moved out of camera at approximately 6:34pm. [BOG 349/21-12]

Post February 11, 2021 Board Meeting - At the February 11, 2021 the Board considered the recommendation from the Governance & Human Resources Committee to convert the position of Interim Chief Financial Officer to a permanent position of Chief Financial Officer and appointing Leanne Dowe to this position.

Following consideration of the information and due to timing, it was agreed to conduct the actual vote via email. On February 12, 2021, the following motion via email vote was conducted.

Motion: