



BOARD OF GOVERNORS – OPEN SESSION
Approved Minutes

Thursday, December 15, 2016
1:00 p.m., W646

- Present:** K. Schlachter (Chair), M Gale, M. Gray, J. Harker, C. Howey, E. Jing, H. Labuhn, H. MacDonald, M. Mahon, J. Merkl, J. Nugent, T. Pace-Crosschild, R. Scrimshaw, M. Smith, S. Stocker, B. Tait, J. Varzari, T. Waters
- Regrets:** R. Kobbert, R. Masson
- Other:** L. Corbiere, J. Gallais, A. Hakin, C. Horbachewski, E. Okine, S. Olson, S. Sproule, C. Takeyasu, M. Sawa, N. Walker, R. Westlund

Prior to the start of the Open Session, a presentation was given by Mike Perry, University Archivist on the 50th Anniversary 50 Voices Oral History Project.

J. Merkl was welcomed and introduced as the newly appointed non-academic staff representative.

1. CONSENT AGENDA

APPROVAL

- 1.1. Approval of the December 15, 2016 Open Agenda
- 1.2. Approval of the October 13, 2016 Open Minutes

MOTION: opn.2016.12.01

Varzari/Smith

*That the Board of Governors approve the December 15, 2016
Consent Agenda.*

Motion: Carried

2. BOARD CHAIR REMARKS

K. Schlachter reported that his remarks would be saved for the Closed Session.

3. PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

50th Anniversary pins were distributed and members were encouraged to wear them proudly.

M. Mahon reported on:

- \$1 Million BMO funding announcement on Monday for the Destination Project, which is our first public gift announcement to the project. At the announcement, BMO indicated that they would like to host an event here, in hopes of encouraging other organizations to support the project.
- Maclean's Ranking:
 - for the 5th consecutive year, UofL has landed in the top-three spots for Canada's best Primarily Undergraduate university

- ReSearch InfoSource
 - for the second consecutive year, the UofL has increased its ranking among the country's elite research universities, moving up one spot in each of the undergraduate (moved to 3rd) and overall (34th) categories
- Mid-October announcement on tuition freeze for 2017-18. Consultation request on tuition and funding reviews - deadline was November 30
- RBC Royal Bank Foundation \$750,000 gift to AGILITY and the Faculty of Management
- University of British Columbia, Simon Fraser University, Memorial University, Mount Royal University, the University of Calgary and the University of Lethbridge are the first universities to formally adopt the Okanagan Charter: An International Charter for Health Promoting Universities and Colleges. The charter calls on post-secondary institutions to make a commitment to health and well-being in all policies and practices.
- Inaugural Fall Break in November well-received. At a recent meeting of General Faculties Council, discussion occurred on looking at the impact that the break had on students, and identifying the benefits and challenges going forward.

4. CHANCELLOR'S REMARKS

J. Varzari reported:

- attending Let There Be Light Night before Fall Convocation, Convocation Thank-You Lunch, Friends of Health Sciences Dinner, and Global Night, which is an evening to welcome international students to Lethbridge;
- working with the Convocation Office to create a how-to video for students at Convocation. Plans for Spring 2017 Convocation have already begun;
- along with the campus Chaplin Erin Phillips, distributed food hampers to students;
- Mike Perry gave a presentation to Senate at the December 2 meeting. The Honorary Degree Committee has short-listed and on January 21, Senate will be choosing honorary degree recipients. It was noted that the University of Lethbridge Volunteer Award Committee is currently seeking nominations for the 2017 award;
- with the support from University Advancement, Senate is trying to raise \$37,500 during the 50th anniversary, which will allow for one more student to receive a scholarship from the Senate fund each year. Senate will be working with the students in the call centre in the new year to contact past Senate members.

5. ITEMS FOR ACTION

5.1. Conflict of Interest Policy

MOTION: opn.2016.12.02

Gray/Waters

That the Board of Governors approve the revised Conflict of Interest and/or Commitment Policy, effective immediately.

Motion: Carried

There were no questions or comments.

5.2. 2017-2018 Fees and Rates

MOTION: opn.2016.12.03

Labuhn/Tait

That the Board of Governors approve the proposed fees and rates for 2017-18, with the fees and rates for 2018-19 to 2019-20 approved in principle.

Motion: Carried

There was a question regarding the increase in the undergraduate international fee increase and N. Walker responded that this brings the fee up to market value within Alberta and it will be re-evaluated on a yearly basis.

6. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

6.1. Endowment Financial Statement Reporting Letter (Nov.23/16)

H. Labuhn noted that the letter expresses our concerns on the net debt model and how endowment funds are reported. He noted that the letter was very well written and thanks was given to N. Walker. There was a question on why the letter was not a joint submission with the Universities of Calgary and Edmonton. N. Walker responded that although we did work closely with the other two institutions, we did not feel it necessary to submit a collective letter.

6.2. Tuition Letter to Minister (Nov.28/16)

H. Labuhn noted that we have submitted a similar letter for the last 14 years, each of which has gone unanswered.

6.3. Student Audited Financial Statements

The Students' Union audit report is clear, which H. Labuhn noted is what we are looking for. The balance sheet is quite strong with lots of equity, and it's apparent that their revenue is impacted greatly by investments. By comparison, the Graduate Students' Association is much smaller, but also maintains a clear audit report. Operations have improved, largely by contributions from the UofL.

6.4. Students' Union Foodbank Pass the Hat Fundraiser

On behalf of the students, C. Howey gave thanks for the donations to the Students' Union Foodbank. The need is great this time of year. Thanks was also given to the University for issuing tax receipts.

7. REPORTS

7.1 Provost & Vice-President (Academic)

A. Hakin highlighted from his report:

- the dual admission program and reported that we continue to look for partner institutions;

- through the GFC Academic Quality Assurance Committee, each program we offer is reviewed every seven years. We continue to look at introducing new programming, particularly at the graduate level;
- we continually look to engage new high school students with the dual credit program; and
- high level of activity currently with the government in regards to labour relations, mental health funding and overall funding model of post-secondary institutions.

L. Brown gave an overview of where AGILITY sits, and noted that the second offering of the AGILITY program will be running with 32 students registered, up from 16 in the initial program offering.

7.2 Vice-President (Advancement)

C. Horbachewski highlighted from his report the upcoming community engagement opportunities including Founder's Weekend January 13-14, 2017, Donor Gala February 10, and Homecoming Weekend the long weekend in September. Lots of other events are still being planned at the departmental level.

7.3 Vice-President (Finance & Administration)

N. Walker highlighted from her report, Operation Red Nose and reported that, although the number of rides to date is down over past years, the amount of donations is higher. Also of note is the Bookstore's submission of a Christmas tree to the annual fundraiser for the Chinook Regional Hospital Foundation.

7.4 Vice-President (Research)

E. Okine highlighted from his report, the appointment of Steve Wiseman as a Tier II Canada Research Chair in Aquatic Toxicology and the success of the iGEM team at the recent competition in Boston.

7.5 Board Member Reports

In addition to attending various events on behalf of the Students' Union, C. Howey reported that he recently travelled to Ottawa to participate in talks on student advocacy, and Edmonton to meet with various political representatives. He added that he is currently working with the Registrar on soliciting feedback regarding the inaugural fall break in November.

On behalf of the Graduate Students' Association, E. Jing is working with two provincial lobby groups for student advocacy. She also noted that the GSA is looking for reviewers for graduate student submissions.

8. **OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

9. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: opn.2016.12.04

Howey/Pace Crosschild

That the Board of Governors Open Session meeting of December 15, 2016 be adjourned.