

# BOARD OF GOVERNORS – OPEN SESSION Approved Minutes

Thursday, February 16. 2012 1:30 p.m. in W646

**Present:** 

B. Turner (Chair), J. Berezan, B. Brown (via phone), A. Escher,

G. Jong, E. Karbashewski, K. Lewis, M. Mahon, H. MacDonald, D. McArthur,

S. McClellan (via phone), Z. Moline, K. Nugent (via phone), M. Smith,

J. Varzari (via phone), T. Waters

**Regrets:** 

L. Corbiere, E. Good Striker, A. Hakin, P. Forrest, B. Kunz, C. Horbachewski, P. Walz,

K. Willms, S. Sproule, B. Boudreau

Other:

J. Black (recording secretary), N. Walker, D. Weeks, R. Westlund

Prior to the agenda James Eagan, Leader of Ernst & Young LLP's Global Immigration practice, was introduced as the Board of Governors Speaker Series guest for the evening.

#### 1. CONSENT AGENDA

1.1. Approval of the February 16, 2012 Open Agenda

1.2. Approval of the December 15, 2011 Open Minutes

MOTION: opn.2012.02.01

Waters/Moline

That the Board of Governors approve the February 16, 2012 Consent Agenda.

Motion: Carried

#### 2. BOARD CHAIR REMARKS

- B. Turner indicated our Provost and P. Forrest are currently in Edmonton representing the U of L at the Campus Alberta Strategic Direction Committee meeting.
- Premier A. Redford was recently hosted at Lethbridge College. It was a good event, and B. Turner attended as well as some other board members and senior administrators.
- On January 28<sup>th</sup> the Edmonton campus hosted their annual get together at the U of A Faculty Club. President Mahon, Maureen Mahon and Dean B. Ellis attended this event as well.

- On January 31<sup>st</sup> the Edmonton Alumni Association held their event at Transcend Coffee. This business has been developed by two U of L alumni, and there are now three outlets for this business in Edmonton. The turnout was great, and they had to extend it to two evenings to accommodate the guests.
- On Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup> the U of L held their donor recognition evening. Advancement did a great job on this event.
- B. Turner attended the throne speech last week, and unfortunately had to miss the committee meetings.

#### 3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- M. Mahon had verbal confirmation of a 2% budget increase for each of the next three years. There will be some new funding for the CAIP chair. Also will be hearing about IMP funding for infrastructure renewal. This is much better than the 0% funding expected, but escalation costs do exceed this amount.
- The President's Task Force on Budget has been working hard this last month and have completed extensive discussions on this across campus. There is a committed to have this completed at the end of this month.
- Whitepaper leading into Strategic Planning Process a white paper will be crafted that will reflect on our achievements and at the retreat the board can feed into this paper.
- In a few weeks the U of L will have the first Deputy Minister dinner in Ottawa. This has been arranged with the support of James Ralston our Deputy Minister Champion. Dr. Rood will speak on water, as the central focus is around water and the environment.
- M, Mahon will also meet in Montreal with the President of Brain Canada. They are
  planning on infusing money into neuroscience research, so we want to be involved
  with this.
- The PhD program in Education has officially been approved. There is no new funding to support this, so it will be modest to start but has tremendous potential for growth.
- Spring enrolment is tracking well at this point. No big increases, but we are staying the same as the last couple of years.
- The U of L co-hosted an event on cultural diversity with the City of Lethbridge. The issue of diversity and inclusion is important for the university as well.
- In regards to funding announcements: The Metis Nation of Alberta and Rupertsland have given \$500,000 towards Metis student scholarships, and we are working to match these fund so we can get this endowment up to \$1 million to support Metis students on campus. Scotiabank also announced \$150,000 to help fund a FNMI Mentor Program.
- M. Mahon spoke at the high school in Pincher Creek on Friday. There are lots of enthusiastic students thinking of the U of L, and it was great to connect with future students. This visit was supported by Senate and G. Parker who is an alumnus of ours and a practicing physician in Pincher Creek.

A question arose on monitoring discussion on social media. It was indicated Advancement monitors this regularly. For example, with the recent fire twitter was used to get information to concerned people on campus.

Another question arose on capital funding. There is no new funding, only lights on associated with projects just being completed. We will continue to push on the capital side.

#### 4. CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

- On January 28<sup>th</sup> S. McClellan attended Canadian Prairie Baseball Academy awards night and presented the scholarship on behalf of the University of Lethbridge. Glenn Secretan indicated the great appreciation they have for the support from the U of L. It was a bit somber, due to the tragic deaths of the recent students there.
- On January 31<sup>st</sup> she also attended the Edmonton Alumni Association held their event at Transcend Coffee. The work they do in countries to improve the lives of those who grow the coffee we enjoy is to be applauded. The Minister did attend one event at the coffee and he stayed for the entire night.
- Also attended the Donor Gala as well and was able to connect with many individuals that evening. The Atrium looked great, the food was awesome, and the entertainment was amazing. It was great to showcase our arts area through the entertainment selection. Congratulations to the organizers.
- She attended the event in P. Creek with M. Mahon and it was great. The main message was how important it is to choose going on with their education no matter what forum they choose.
- The recent Senate Meeting selected the honorary degree recipients for the year. There was some discussion about the volunteer award and following that was a committee meeting to discuss how they can enhance the importance of the award going forth.

#### 5. ITEMS FOR ACTION

5.1. Vice Provost & Associate Vice-President (Academic)

MOTION: opn.2012.02.02

Nugent/Karbashewski

That the Board of Governors approve the change in title and duties and responsibilities for the current Associate Vice-President (Academic) to Vice Provost & Associate Vice-President (Academic).

Motion: Carried

M. Mahon indicated this is not a new position, and the title is just matching with the duties and responsibilities that this position now has. The complexity of the University of Lethbridge has evolved and the Provost's office has changed as well. The movement to vice-provosts is common practice among comprehensive universities. Currently B.

Boudreau holds this position, and this reflects that this Associate Vice-President has more significant responsibility within their duties.

5.2. Delegation of Authority, Senior Executive Policy - Revised

MOTION: opn.2012.02.03

Nugent/Jong

That the Board of Governors approve the revised Policy – Delegation of Authority, Senior Executives, effective immediately with amendment to indicate research instead of academic matters under the Vice-President (Research).

Motion: Carried

N. Walker indicated this is an update of an existing policy. There are title changes, and now guidance in terms of email notification. An amendment was noted under the Vice-President (Research) to reflect research instead of academic matters.

5.3. Consent Agendas

MOTION: opn.2012.02.04

Nugent/Karbashewski

That the Board of Governors approve to the increased use of consent agendas to become effective at the March 2012 Board of Governors Open and Closed Session meetings.

Motion: Carried

B. Turner indicated that this is a way to ensure more time is available for value added generative thinking items. It is not intended to put things beyond question, but it is just packaged differently. Questions are still welcomed before they pass the consent agenda, and if anyone wishes to have something as a more thorough discussion it will then be moved to the regular agenda. A board he is only currently uses this format and there is more robust discussion. M. Mahon indicated that with this transition the president's report will be expanded so if there was an item that a vice-president would like to add it would follow after his comments. Thanks to J. Black for developing this proposal. A comment was provided that increased information will help them as members to become more knowledgeable. M. Mahon indicated there are lots of documents out there on the value of generative discussion.

#### 6. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

## 6.1. New Faculty Appointments

The new faculty appointments were presented for information. No questions arose.

#### 6.2 Sustainability

M. Mahon indicated that from questions at the last board meeting, the report now indicates the philosophy regarding costs vs benefits in sustainability based decisions. It was indicated though that each decision is still evaluated individually as there is no hard decision point.

Z. Moline reported that the scoping report from the students will come to the board once it is complete.

## 6.3 Students' Union Audited Financial Statements

Z. Moline indicated that within the *PSLA 97(1)* the SU is required to present their audited financial statements. Overall, they are in good financial standing. Discussion occurred about the concerns and benefits to holding cash.

## 7. VICE-PRESIDENT (ACADEMIC)

A. Hakin sent his regrets, as he is attending the Campus Alberta meeting. His report was a post-agenda attachment.

## 8. VICE-PRESIDENT (FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION)

N. Walker had nothing to add to her report.

## 9. VICE-PRESIDENT (RESEARCH)

D. Weeks highlighted a few upcoming conferences. We are sponsoring with the Canadian Space Agency the SPIRE meeting in Banff that is bringing scientists from all around the world. Steve MacLean, who is the president of Canadian Space Administration, will be attending this conference. In May, we are also hosting the Water in a World of 7 Billion conference in Calgary.

## 10. VICE-PRESIDENT (ADVANCEMENT)

C. Horbachewski sent his regrets, and there were no questions of the enclosed report.

## 11. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

There were no Board Member reports given.

#### 12. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: opn.2012.02.05

Lewis/Moline

That the Board of Governors open session meeting of February 16, 2012 be adjourned.

Motion: Carried