

# BOARD OF GOVERNORS – OPEN SESSION Approved Minutes

Thursday, March 15. 2012 1:30 p.m. in W646

**Present:** B. Turner (Chair), J. Berezan, B. Brown (via phone), A. Escher, P. Forrest,

G. Jong, E. Karbashewski, B. Kunz, K. Lewis, M. Mahon, H. MacDonald,

D. McArthur, Z. Moline (via phone), K. Nugent, M. Smith, J. Varzari, P. Walz,

T. Waters, K. Willms

**Regrets:** E. Good Striker, G. Jong, S. McClellan

Other: J. Black (recording secretary), L. Corbiere, B. Boudreau, A. Hakin, C. Horbachewski,

S. Sproule, N. Walker, D. Weeks, R. Westlund

Prior to the Board of Governors Open Session commencing Dr. Andrew Hakin, Provost and Vice-President (Academic) introduced Dr. Bryan Kolb, Board of Governors Research Chair in Psychology and Neuroscience who presented on his area of research.

# 1. CONSENT AGENDA

# **APPROVAL**

- 1.1. Approval of the March 15, 2012 Open Agenda
- 1.2. Approval of the February 16, 2012 Open Minutes

#### **INFORMATION**

- 1.3. Provost & Vice-President (Academic)
- 1.4. Vice-President (Advancement)
- 1.5. Vice-President (Finance & Administration)
- 1.6. Vice-President (Research)
- 1.7. Sustainability Report

MOTION: opn.2012.03.01

Varzari/MacDonald

That the Board of Governors approve the March 15, 2012 Consent Agenda, with a request to add to the Agenda item 6.2 – Report from the Auditor General.

Motion: Carried

### 2. BOARD CHAIR REMARKS

B. Turner thanked Heidi MacDonald and Paul Walz for their service to the Board of Governors as this was their last meeting. As an update on membership Jennifer Copeland has been chosen by GFC to replace Heidi MacDonald and we are awaiting the Ministerial Appointment. B. Kunz and J. Berezan have been extended a 2<sup>nd</sup> term so a thank you was given to them for their continued work with us.

Congratulations were given to the student members A. Escher goes from our board representative to the Student's Union President and Z. Moline goes from the SU President to the Board representative so we are happy to have them with us for another year. Sonya von Heyking, our Internal Auditor was received for receiving a 2012 Merit Award from the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Alberta (ICAA).

A reminder was given about the Board of Governors Speaker Series on April 12<sup>-</sup> Allan Markin will be addressing the community. He was honoured last night by the UofA. The Board Retreat will be on May 15-17, and it is in Fernie BC. In order to make it successful everyone needs to make a commitment for that period of time. In regards to the report from the Auditor General, which we will discuss later it is a good

story for us at the UofL. The UofL has a strong control system.

### 3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- The UofL had the first Deputy Minister dinner in Ottawa last week. Stew Rood, Joe Rasmussen, and Rick Mrazek were there to present.
- M. Mahon presented to the staff of Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) on the UofL. He also met with the Chair of First Nations Caucus, and the Chair of Brain Canada.
- M. Mahon attended the women's hockey team game in Calgary. It was his first ever and even though they lost they shone on the ice.
- A Mayors/Reeves event attended by the Minister, MLA Bridget Pastoor and Mayor Rajko Dodic was held at the President's house. It was a great turnout and a wonderful way to reach out to other towns in Southern Alberta.
- M. Mahon just returned from Mexico City where he traveled with seven other university presidents to meet with 12 university presidents in charge of indigenous institutions. A consortium of indigenous educations will be developed from this trip.
- Universidad Panamericana has been a partner with us since 1995. Over 100 students from here have gone there and over 130 have come here. M. Mahon renewed an agreement and in moving forward we will not just focus on undergraduates but will expand to look at graduate education and research too. This is the top ranked institution and is a very important partner for us.
- M. Mahon met with Doug Horner in relation to funding for the science building due to evolution on how capital projects will be funded in the future.
- M. Mahon met with the Deputy Minister of AET to talk about Alberta Innovates to talk about how they can support the aspirations of the UofL.
- Cal Dallas aboriginal affairs- met about our initiative also spoke on internationalization –
- M. Mahon and the Board Chair met with the premier to emphasize the importance of our institution as part of the comprehensive institutions.

- M. Mahon will be heading to Beijing and Hong Kong for some recruitment and alumni events.
- C. Horbachewski was recognized for his work in helping with the first family day event on campus. There were over 2,500 people, and we were toasted for this in the Lethbridge Herald. This was a great opportunity to engage with community.
- The review by the budget task force has been completed and will be reported to Finance prior to it coming to the Board.
- He has been working on the President's discussion paper and it will be brought forward to the Board retreat.

#### 4. CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

S. McClellan sent regrets.

# 5. ITEMS FOR ACTION

5.1. 2012-13 Operating Budget

MOTION: opn.2012.03.02

Berezan/McArthur

That the Board of Governors approve the 2012-13 budget and approve in principle the 2013-15 budgets.

Motion: Carried

N. Walker introduced D. Spoulos who provided a budget presentation. The cuts that the university experienced were thoroughly explained.

The presented budget went through the Finance Committee and through recommendation from the President. We are bringing in a balanced budget and the assumptions seem correct. M. Mahon spoke on the importance of fund development as well. N. Walker indicated there was great effort made not to lay off permanent staff, but some cuts were made to temporary positions. There is a significant effort to maintain services in these lean financial times.

A question occurred on aligning the budget with strategic priorities, as this is not new but is more of an emphasis now. In regards to assumptions, there was concern with staff cost levels and this concern is right across the country. There was discussion on how to manage contractual obligations in a situation with such a high percentage of our expenses in salaries and benefits.

5.2. 2012-13 Comprehensive Institutional Plan

MOTION: opn.2012.03.03

Berezan/Varzari

That the Board of Governors approve the 2012-13 to 2014-15 Comprehensive Institutional Plan.

Motion: Carried

- J. Berezan indicated that the Finance Committee approved the financial side. This is a very well done plan, comprehensive, well written and easy to understand. N. Walker indicated this is an institutional mandate to provide this plan, and there are strict guidelines on this report.
- 5.3. Establishment of Student Fees Policy

MOTION: opn.2012.03.04

Berezan/McArthur

That the Board of Governors approve the Policy – Establishment of Student Fees, effective immediately.

Motion: Carried

Z. Moline and A. Escher: 2 opposed

- J. Berezan indicated the draft was brought forth last time, and we feel that the letter from the government with best practices has been covered in our policy. Our institution has always worked with the students, and we have not implemented high fees like Calgary and Edmonton. N. Walker has been working with AET around best practices and they confirmed our policy is in compliance.
- Z. Moline indicated this does not address the issues that the students brought forward to the Minister. He is not happy with this and will be voting against this.
- 5.4. Amended Investment Management Policy and Investment Governance

MOTION: opn.2012.03.05

Berezan/McArthur

That the Board of Governors approve the amended Investment Management Policy and corresponding amendments to the Investment Governance document. Motion: Carried

J. Berezan indicated that this has taken a lot of time, but it is a strong policy. This comes from work of the subcommittee, and feedback from Professor S. Alam with our Faculty of Management.

### 6. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- 6.1. GSA Audited Financial Statements
  - P. Walz presented the GSA Audited Financial Statements and indicated they were pleased with the Audit. There has been growth in the last two years, and they have looked ahead to the next 5 years within their plan.
- 6.2. Report from Auditor General

J. Berezan indicated that we just received the report and it is quite an accomplishment to have no new recommendations. The work that the team has done is commendable, and the Board also congratulated the administration on this achievement.

# 7. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

A. Escher indicated that the 5 days for the homeless was currently occurring on campus. They are raising money for Woods Homes. It is an annual event and multiple universities participate in this.

P. Walz reported on the GSA's Multidisciplinary conference. Over 120 graduate and undergraduate students attended with over 140 public individuals. A group of grade 11's attended from Winston Churchill High School in Lethbridge, the Minister of AET came and our neuroscience professor Dr. Kolb attended and gave a presentation. This conference was very successful and a thank you was given to the UofL for all their support.

K. Lewis reported that the scotch tasting event to be held at Miro's has sold out. They are currently running a cupcake sales event for parents to purchase these for their first-year students in residence. A reminder about the John Gill golf tournament in June was given. The Alumni Association is also hosting the first ring ceremony the day before Spring Convocation. The board was also informed and congratulations were given to one of our Board members, M. Smith, who will be honoured with an induction into the Alumni Honour Society.

### 8. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: opn.2012.03.06

Walz/McArthur

That the Board of Governors open session meeting of March 15, 2012 be adjourned.

Motion: Carried