



THE UNIVERSITY OF LETHBRIDGE SENATE  
Approved Minutes

**Saturday, October 1, 2016**  
**9:00 AM in AH100, Anderson Hall**

- Present:** J. Varzari (Chair), G. Abela, R. Adkin, M. Ambeskovic, D. Best, F. Bradley, S. Brodrick, K. Brown, S. Chadsey, C. Ciona, L. Colburn-Swartz, L. Cooper, S. Davis, H. Doeve, A. Follinglo, M. Gabriel, M. Gale, B. Galts, K. Gunn, A. Hakin, L. Harasem, R. Hood, C. Howey, K. Johnson, E. Jurkowski, R. Kobbert, B. Lanz, M. Mahon, S. Malec, R. McKay, C. Northcott, W. Osborn, T. Page, T. Perlich, K. Petersen, S. Pinder, A. Predoi-Cross, A. Siaroff, C. Starzyk-Frey, S. Stocker, J. Tailfeathers, B. Tait, H. Tams, N. Walker, M. Whipple
- Regrets:** P. Bohnert, M. Clewes, C. Cooper, M. Dececco-Kolebaba, C. Goodreau, C. Horbachewski, G. Knitel, V. Papworth, M. Persinger, R. Pogorzelski, T. Schmidt, J. VandenHoek, K. Wasiak
- Others:** J. Gallais, C. Hosgood, S. Latif, E. Okine
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Prior to the start of the meeting, there was a presentation by Ashely Patzer-Steady, alumna and Rio 2016 Rugby Bronze Olympic medal winner, on her experience at the Olympic Games.

**1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOTION: sen.2016.10.01

Jurkowski/Brown

*That the agenda for the meeting of October 1, 2016 be approved.*

Motion: Carried

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MOTION: sen.2016.10.02

Starzyk-Frey/Petersen

*That the minutes of the meeting of April 8, 2016 be approved with editorial amendments.*

Motion: Carried

A few minor editorial changes were noted.

### 3. ITEMS FOR ACTION

#### 3.1 Senate Appointments

MOTION: sen.2016.10.03

Hood/Siaroff

*That Senate approve the appointment of Bernadette Lyons as a Representative member for a single three-year term, effective immediately.*

Motion: Carried

R. Hood indicated that she is a representative of the Government and its being reappointed as community representative as the government has not indicated a reappointment process as of yet.

#### 3.2 Executive Committee Vice-Chair

MOTION: sen.2016.10.04

Hood/Malec

*That Senate approve the appointment of Tammy Perlich as Vice-Chair of the Executive Committee for a two-year term, effective immediately.*

Motion: Carried (1 abstention)

R. Hood noted J. Baranec was the Vice-Chair and he has now submitted his resignation due to relocating to Belize, so a replacement is now needed.

### 4. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

#### 4.1 Senate Moments

K. Gunn indicated this is a new agenda item and is an opportunity for a few senators to share some Senate Moments.

- Karen Johnson – spoke about receiving the Destination Project overview booklet and being able to inform others about what is happening on campus so that the community feels connected to the UofL activities.
- Lori Hassem – spoke about hosting an Honorary Degree Recipient at Convocation and what an amazing opportunity it was to spend the day with some inspirational individuals. She encouraged others to come forth and volunteer in a capacity like that.
- Knud Petersen – spoke about the excitement in participating in parades around Southern Alberta and getting the Pronghorn brand out there along with the UofL brand.

It was indicated that there are numerous opportunities available to make connections. Senators were encouraged to approach K. Gunn if they wish to speak at the next meeting.

## 5. REPORTS

### 5.1 Chancellor

J. Varzari reported on her activities since the last Senate Meeting:

- Ottawa – End of April along with 40 Chancellor's from across Canada she attended an event invited by His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General of Canada. Was with Universities Canada and explored excellence in research, innovation arising from research, the role of universities in truth and reconciliation and the role of universities in Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. He spoke highly of the UofL as his mother-in-law has a connection to the Galt Hospital here in Lethbridge. Also toured parliament, attended question period and met with Lethbridge Member of Parliament Rachel Harder.
- Japan – In May, the Chancellor, her husband, the President and his wife, along with the Executive Director International, Paul Pan to meet with presidents of several universities. Some of the institutions visited were Meio and Hokkai Gakuen University. They met with students and faculty and it was a wonderful opportunity to see international studies in progress.
- Presided at the four Spring Convocation Ceremonies and conferred four honorary degrees as well as got to congratulate each graduate as they cross the stage.
- Hosted the Chancellor's Dinner in the Spring where the student award winners, faculty and staff award recipients, volunteer recipient, and honorary degree recipients were honoured. Thanks was given to all the senators that volunteered their time at convocation and the Chancellor's Dinner.
- Participated in the Sod Turning of Science and Academic Building (Destination Project). Attendance was great and it was an exciting day to put the shovel in the ground.
- Helped host the Senate Recognition Dinner in late June – and it was a great turnout.
- Attended both the John Gill and Calgary Alumni Golf Tournaments.
- Meio University from Japan came to the UofL, so she had lunch with their delegates here to continue on conversations that were had between the institutions in May.
- In September many events occurred to engage with the community:
  - Blessing of campus and served ice cream to students with M. Mahon and Chaplain Erin Phillips, recipient of Volunteer Award.
  - Served hamburgers to students and staff at Welcome Back BBQ
  - Attended a presentation on campus by alumni Deri Latimer, on the resilient mindset: success strategies for life, career and academics. It was engaging around some very relevant issues.
- Planning of Fall Convocation – the Chancellor serves on the GFC Convocation Committee and they are working on Fall Convocation. The Honorary Degree Recipient is Robert Brawn. There is also a Let There be Light alumni event that senators were also encouraged to attend.
- Attended SAAG Art Auction and Mayors Luncheon and they were great opportunities to connect with members of the community.
- Attended many Senate Committee meetings and there is great work being done by all committee members and chairs.

- Joining in 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations will be a great engagement opportunity for Senate members next year.
- Attended a mini Board of Governors retreat last week and also attended the Pronghorns Scholarship breakfast to hear Clara Hughes speak. She is an amazing speaker and her book is available in bookstore
- Thanks to all senators for volunteering at the parade, new student orientation and other events throughout the summer and early Fall.

A fellow senator commented that Clara Hughes was indeed an inspirational speaker who spoke to mental health issues and her personal struggles.

## 5.2 President & Vice-Chancellor

M. Mahon reported on:

- Recognize recent passing of Marmie Hess, Honorary Degree recipient and former member of Senate. She was 100 years old and was a significant contributor to the Province of Alberta on multiple fronts. It was a great celebration of her life.
- UofL Enrolment:
  - As of September 20, 2016, total enrolment for the Fall semester is 8,628 students, which is record enrolment for the University of Lethbridge. This represents an increase from the previous Fall of 2.1%.
  - Overall, the U of L's Lethbridge campus enrolment increased by 3.1%, Calgary campus enrolment remained stable.
  - Undergraduate student enrolment increased, The First Nations, Métis, and Inuit (FNMI) student population increased by 9.1%, and last year it was up about 20% so we are committed to our FNMI students.
  - Graduate student enrolment is up 2.7%, and just under 1% modest increase in international student population.
  - The number of new transfer students again declined, but that is the transition as we are more focused on four-year students.
- Open House is today and Provost is there providing a welcoming remarks.
- New Student Orientation – held on the Monday of the long weekend and we had the largest attendance ever. We also had many faculty and staff in attendance and demonstrate commitment of our employees.
- Government appointments to Senate – met with Minister and Deputy Minister and we are encouraging them to move forward not just with Senate but also with the Board appointments as all institutions are working on this.
- Update on Parking was provided – have a challenge due to loss of spaces with construction of Destination project ongoing. There has been some communication challenges and not much uptake in parking area by stadium at this point. There is a changing nature of our campus as right now the UofL has the largest amount of parking spaces per student for any University in Canada. We do have many students that come from away though so finding the balance is ongoing. The students are keen to get a Upass bus pass as part of the tuition, it was tried here before and failed and we will continue to look at other options. The cost for parking development is significant and we are not funded for parking, and would rather utilize the funds towards our students and programs.

- Mental Health Funding announcement on campus on September 15 by Minister Marlin Schmidt. Government continues to support and have expanded mental health funding.
- Drs. Louise Barrett, Bruce McNaughton and Joe Rasmussen have been elected to the Fellowship of the Royal Society of Canada and Dr. Artur Luczak has been elected to the Society's College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists. This is very significant for an institution our size to double our membership in one year!
- Leroy Little Bear, Former Honorary Degree Recipient and Professor Emeriti will be inducted into the Alberta Order of Excellence in October.
- We welcomed our first refugee student from Syria on campus through the World University Service of Canada (WUSC). We have just joined this program this year. There has been lots of fundraising done by students to help bring this individual to campus.
- He attended the Association of Commonwealth Universities Conference in Ghana and presented on our Liberal Education model.
- Canadian Intersport (CIS) – He continues to Chair the Board and exciting to announce a rebrand within the next month to trying to get more support to athletes across the country.
- The Coalition of Municipalities Against Racism and Discrimination (CMARD) is hosting Inclusion Conference 2016 – Building Inclusive Neighbourhoods in a Changing World on October 2 – 4 in Lethbridge the UofL is co-hosting and the President will be bringing greetings as we work to making the City of Lethbridge as welcoming a community as possible.

A question arose on the number of FNMI students and it was clarified that there are 480 students. A challenge by a Senator was given to try get to 1000 FNMI students in any given semester. Comment arose on needing to ensure the proper student supports are in place to enable success and yes it is a stretch goal and we would be proud to have 1000 FNMI students on campus. Our First Nations Transition Program maxed out for the first time ever this year so we are working on increasing this group of students. Funding at the federal government level was also discussed.

Some additional athletes/coaches with UofL or Lethbridge connections were recognized as participating in the Olympics: Zack McAllister, current Pronghorns swimmer participating in the Paralympics; also Ashley Patzer-Steacy (who spoke earlier); Kayla Moleschi (also Bronze in Rugby 7); Heather Steacy (top 25 in hammer throw); Rachel Nicol, swimmer who trained in Lethbridge and is the daughter of our University Librarian; a Pronghorn swimmer of ours in competing in the deaf Olympics; Larry Steinke, UofL Track Coach and Rio Olympics Throws coach who also trained Elizabeth Gleadel who is competing in the Olympics and trains in Lethbridge.

### 5.3 Board of Governors

Apologies were given for not having a written support to submit, but there will be one for next time. The Board did meet in the summer and had a mini retreat in September.

### 5.4 General Faculties Council

There were no questions regarding the report.

#### 5.5 Alumni Association

There were no questions regarding the report. Everyone was invited to the Let There be Light event.

#### 5.6 Graduate Students' Association

They just finished by-elections. This summer they updated all bylaws and policies and had new student orientation with SGS and it was a great success. Highlighted the Meeting of the Minds Conference – everyone was encouraged to spread the word. This is where the three minute thesis occurs and it is a very engaging and enjoyable event. They also have some speakers at this event who are former graduates.

#### 5.7 Students' Union

C. Howey had meetings with Minister of Labour Christina Gray and local MLA, Lethbridge East, Maria Fitzpatrick. He also offered to share the student perspectives on the parking concerns if they wanted to ask later.

#### 5.8 Executive Committee

There were no questions regarding the report.

#### 5.9 Engagement Committee

There were no questions regarding the report.

#### 5.10 Honorary Degrees Committee

B. Galts highlighted that the deadline is November 1 for HDR nominations. Awarding Honorary Degrees is a critical function for Senate. Next year we will also be requiring an individual to take over as Chair since Bruce's term will conclude on Senate.

M. Mahon emphasized that for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary it is a significant year so we want to ensure a strong pool of individuals to recognize.

#### 5.11 Outreach Committee

There were no questions regarding the report.

#### 5.12 Volunteer Award Committee

J. Varzari reported that the next meeting is November 15<sup>th</sup> at noon, and the deadline for nominations is January 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### 5.13 Other

There were no additional reports.

### 6. **50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY PRESENTATION**

C. Hosgood, Dean, Faculty of Health Science and Co-Chair of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee, gave an overview of events planned for 2017, the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the University of Lethbridge. Following the presentation, K. Johnson and K. Gunn led a discussion on what events Senate would like to become involved with and focus on. The 50 voices project will be introduced with one individual being introduced each week. It is Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> next year along with the 50<sup>th</sup> for Nikka Yuko Japanese gardens and SACPA so there will be some collaboration. There is also the potential for another Japanese Royal Visit as well. It was mentioned that a Senator has invited archivist Mike

Perry to do a 50 years in 50 Minutes for \$50 event and she will report on it at the next meeting.

MOTION: sen.2016.10.05

Malec/Brodrick

*That Senate Support the Proposal Presented Below.*

Motion: Carried

Proposal:

Led by the Chancellor of the University of Lethbridge, the 50th Anniversary Ambassadors will be the hosts of the 50th Anniversary of the University of Lethbridge.

The Senate is a body comprised of community volunteers and university representatives with membership from all of the University's constituencies – alumni, community, students, faculty, staff as well as regional representation and from FNMI communities. Given its mandate and membership, the Senate serves as a bridge between the University and the communities it serves. It is therefore well structured and poised to become the 50th Anniversary Ambassadors.

The 50th Anniversary Ambassador program will enable the Senate to promote and connect with the communities the University serves.

Promote: Advance the reputation of the University of Lethbridge through advocacy and celebration.

Connect: Enhance the University's local, provincial, national and international connections by building external relationships using Senate contacts and by building relationships within our University communities.

Examples of specific activities of the 50th Anniversary Ambassadors Program include:

- Host and volunteer roles at most 50th Anniversary events
- Campus Tour guides
- Parade Representatives
- Encouragement of honorary degree nominations
- Expansion of the 50th Anniversary Chancellor's Dinner

## **7. OTHER BUSINESS**

### **7.1 Fall Convocation Volunteers Sign-Up**

J. Varzari reminded everyone that Convocation is on October 15<sup>th</sup> and for those who have not signed up to volunteer yet forms are available or they can contact S. Olson.

## 7.2 Honorary Degree Nomination Form

J. Varzari reminded everyone again, that the nomination deadline is November 1 and the committee is keeping the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in mind.

## 8. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: sen.2016.10.06

Perlich/Bradley

*That the Senate meeting of October 1, 2016 be adjourned.*

Motion: Carried