

**MINUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LETHBRIDGE BOARD OF GOVERNORS**  
**OPEN SESSION HELD WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 2004**  
**AT 1:30 P.M. IN THE BOARD ROOM (W646)**

Present: Terry Royer (Chair), Linda Anderson, Bill Cade, Grant Pisko, Derek Peddle, Shirley DeBow, Robert Turner, Kevin Keith, Dawna Coslovi, Jill Kotkas, Guy McNab, Myles Bourke, Aaron Engen, Doug Stokes, Dan Laplante, Jason Rumer, Rita Zaugg (Secretary)

Regrets: Paul Daniels, Dustin Hines, Gordon Rosko

Others: Séamus O'Shea, Vice-President (Academic) and Provost  
Nancy Walker, Vice-President (Finance & Administration)  
Karen Clearwater, Associate Vice-President (Financial Planning)

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**1. CONSENT AGENDA**

**1.1 Approval of the March 24, 2004 Open Session Agenda**

**1.2 Approval of the February 26, 2004 Open Session Minutes**

MOTION: opn.2004.03.01

Stokes/Rumer

That the Consent Agenda for the March 24, 2004  
Open Session be approved.

Motion: Carried

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**2. BOARD CHAIR REMARKS**

**2.1 Campus Alberta Quality Control Council**

Assistant Deputy Minister, Mr. Phil Gougeon is currently seeking nominations for individuals to sit on the Campus Alberta Quality Control Council. Terry Royer asked the Board to consider nomination of individuals who would bring strong representation on this very important council.

**3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**3.1 Marc Slingerland**

University of Lethbridge student Marc Slingerland has been selected as the Canadian Co-op Student of the Year. Marc was the runner up three years ago when Russell Goodman of the University of Lethbridge won the award. Bill Cade noted that this is an outstanding example of the quality of our student body.

**3.2 Students' Union Elections**

The Students' Union election results are in. Loralee Edwards is the new president. Jason Rumer was congratulated on his election as the Students' Union Vice-President Academic.

**3.3 Management Dinner**

Bill Cade commented on the Management dinner that was held last Friday. The speakers were excellent, and the event was a success.

**3.4 Visual Identity Guidelines**

The Visual Identity Guidelines were distributed for information.

**3.5 Federal Budget**

The Federal budget was announced yesterday. Included was a number of positive features for universities, including aid to students and an increase in granting council money.

**3.6 NSERC**

Bill Cade announced that the NSERC results had arrived, and was excited to say that the University did extremely well. Randy Weselake doubled his grant this year, which is virtually unheard of.

**3.7 Celebrating Excellence Dinner**

The first ever Celebrating Excellence dinner took place last night, hosted by Ancillary Services. This event was meant to recognize and celebrate success of faculty who have recently published books. Each faculty member was presented with an award for their achievement.

**3.8 Alberta Learning Post-secondary Learning Act**

The *Post-secondary Learning Act has been proclaimed*. The Alberta Learning Overview of Legislative Changes related to the Act will be emailed to the Board members shortly.

**3.9 MACLEAN'S Magazine**

The new MACLEAN'S magazine university issue is out. The focus of this issue is primarily the description of the Universities and what they have to offer, rather than ratings.

**3.10 Canadian Foundation for Innovation**

CFI (Canadian Foundation for Innovation) competition results were announced yesterday. The University of Lethbridge received almost one million dollars and anticipate a Provincial match, which will bring the University close to the amount needed for the expansion of the Canadian Centre for Behavioural Neuroscience building.

**3.11 Canadian Institutes of Health Research Awards**

University of Lethbridge researchers Bryan Kolb (Psychology and Neuroscience, Canadian centre for Behavioural Neuroscience) and Judith Kulig (School of Health Sciences) have received \$398,777 in funding from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research.

**3.12 Alberta Learning Performance Envelope**

The University of Lethbridge will receive \$486,683 from the Alberta Learning Performance envelope. The University of Lethbridge will also receive a research award at the top level, recognizing outstanding performance in research in the areas of achievement and improvement, community and industry support, and research enterprise relative to our peer institutions across the country. It was noted that performance envelope and research envelope funding is one-time money and does not flow through to the operating budget.

**4. ITEMS FOR ACTION**

**4.1 Budget 2004-05 to 2006-07**

MOTION: opn.2004.03.02

Cade/Stokes

That the Board of Governors approve the University of Lethbridge budget for 2004-05 and approve in principle the proposed budgets for 2005-06 and 2006-07.

Motion: Carried

**4.2 Indirect Research Costs**

MOTION: opn.2004.03.03

Cade/Keith

That the Board of Governors approve the 2004-05 allocation of the Federal Government Indirect Research Costs grant.

Motion: Carried

**4.3 Business Plan 2004-2008**

MOTION: opn.2004.03.04

Cade/Coslovi

That the Board of Governors approve the University of Lethbridge Business Plan 2004-2008.

Motion: Carried

Nancy Walker gave a presentation on the budget, the text of which is filed with these minutes.

She acknowledged the work of Karen Clearwater, as chair of the budget committee, and the rest of the budget committee in the preparation of the budget. She noted that the budget for the 2004-05 year is balanced but not in 2005-06 and 2006-07. Adjustments will be made prior to submission to the Minister for the latter two budget years.

It was explained that the operating grant has been confirmed at 4% rather than the 2% shown in the budget report, which is approximately \$900,000 which has yet to be allocated. This will likely be used as one-time funds in the current year and then rolled into the budget next year. The allocation will come to the Board for approval following consultation with the budget committee.

The increase in revenue is due to both tuition and enrolment increases.

It is anticipated that the Board's portion of the pension premium repayment is \$650,000.

It was pointed out that the Library acquisitions budget has been increased as a budget stabilization measure.

Indirect costs for research are calculated at 42 cents for every dollar received for research.

A proposal for a utility contract will come to the May Board meeting. It will address forward contracts and hedging.

It was explained that the cost per student is higher at the U of L campuses in Calgary and Edmonton, but it was felt that those two campuses are an important part of the U of L.

Kevin Keith reported that the Finance Committee reviewed the budget and had a lengthy discussion on salaries and asked for a comparison with other universities, although it is realized that the University of Lethbridge's unique nature makes an accurate comparison difficult. The salaries are 80% of the expenses and it was felt this is what is necessary in order to pay people fairly and at market value. A comparative study is being done on senior administrator salaries and a compensation study is now in progress for APO's.

Approximately 80-85% of employees are in a bargaining unit.

The Open session was suspended at this time to go into the Closed Session to participate in a phone call with the Minister regarding the Provincial budget. Following the phone call the Board returned to the Open Session discussion:

It was pointed out that the increase from Access funds will not go into the operating budget until enrolment targets are achieved.

While other post-secondary institutions have presented deficit budgets in the past, it was felt that the fiscally responsible position was for the U of L to present a balanced budget, if at all possible.

Terry Royer thanked Nancy Walker, Karen Clearwater, and their team for a job well done in the preparation and presentation of the budget materials.

**4.4 Priority Capital Projects and Renewal/Preservation Projects**

MOTION: opn.2004.03.05

Cade/Stokes

That the Board of Governors approve the priority capital projects template as provided in the agenda materials.

Motion: Carried

Nancy Walker commented that the priority capital projects are also included in the Business Plan. She pointed out that the Regional Health and Wellness Centre is included and has moved up in the priority list from last year. The University did not get capital project funding last year. It is hoped that Alberta Learning will see the need for lights on funding if the capital projects are approved. Alberta Learning has never not given lights on funding in the past, but it does need to be asked for separately.

Nancy Walker explained that although there is \$62 million in deferred maintenance at the U of L, the buildings are safe. The service buildings are an issue due to the nature and age of the structures. Physical Plant monitors air quality and Occupational Health and Safety officer monitor and address any concerns. It was suggested that a more frequent report be made to the Board on health and safety issues in order to identify any risks, status of risks and how the issues are being addressed.

**5. VICE-PRESIDENT (ACADEMIC) REPORT**

Seamus O'Shea announced that March 25 is Teaching Development Day. There will be an information display set up in the atrium, as well as a seminar by Robert Belton, Dean of Arts, Okanagan University College. All are welcome to attend.

Native Awareness Day is scheduled for April 1<sup>st</sup>. The final stages of developing a program, in conjunction with the Native American Students Association, is currently underway.

Shirley DeBow congratulated Séamus O'Shea on the Crowsnest Pass Outreach Initiative. She noted that the Crowsnest Pass is interested in having introductory courses taught there.

Oryssia Lennie, Deputy Minister of Western Economic Development (WED), was recently on campus. The University of Lethbridge interest in water research and the need for additional space on campus to support that, in the interest of western economic development,

was explained to her. WED Minister, Dr. Rey Pagtakhan, visited at a later date and received the information about the need for additional space extremely positively. Sustainability, development, geographical information systems, and commercialization are top priorities for WED, and generally a good match with the University of Lethbridge initiatives.

**6. VICE-PRESIDENT (FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION) REPORT**

A news conference announcing and recognizing the \$5.3 million City of Lethbridge commitment to the Regional Health and Wellness Centre was held earlier in the day. Nancy Walker mentioned that the committee has been meeting regularly and the project is moving forward as it should.

**7. CHANCELLOR'S REPORT**

Shirley DeBow indicated she was pleased to be invited to the Prime Minister's press conference in Picture Butte on Monday. At that time she heard the federal government would be giving money to assist with the BSE problem. She was also able to speak with Anne McLellan, Deputy Prim Minister, and took the opportunity to mention how pleased the University was with the visit of the Minister and Deputy Minister of Western Economic Development.

**8. STUDENTS' UNION REPORT**

Jason Rumer notified the Board that Paul Daniels was unable to attend the Board meeting as he was in Ottawa for a Canadian Alliance of Student Associations conference.

**9. GRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION REPORT**

There was no report from the Graduate Students Association.

**10. ALUMNI REPORT**

Jill Kotkas invited all Board members to participate in the Alumni golf tournament on June 12 as well as a Scotch tasting at the Galt Museum on April 22.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: opn.2004.03.06

McNab/Engen

That the Open Session of the March 24, 2004 meeting of the Board of Governors be adjourned.

Motion: Carried