MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LETHBRIDGE BOARD OF GOVERNORS HELD THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2008 AT 1:30 P.M. IN CANADIAN CENTRE FOR BEHAVIOURAL NEUROSCIENCE ROOM EP1201

Present: Robert Turner (Chair), Bill Cade, Leah Fowler, Kelly Kennedy, Jeremy Girard,

Nafisa Jadavji, Jeremiah Merkl, Grant Pisko, Guy McNab, Karen Bartsch,

Dean Setoguchi, Gordon Jong, Susan Lea, Doug McArthur, Rita Law (Secretary)

Regrets: Myles Bourke, Kevin Nugent, Richard Davidson, Claudia Malacrida,

Sheila McHugh and Kim Kultgen

Others: Nancy Walker, Vice-President (Finance & Administration)

Andrew Hakin, Vice-President (Academic) Dennis Fitzpatrick, Vice-President (Research)

Chris Horbachewski, Vice-President (Advancement) Richard Westlund, Director of Government Relations

Bob Cooney, Director, Communications

Gloria Roth, Recording Secretary

A tour of CCBN was conducted prior to the beginning of the meeting.

1. <u>CONSENT AGENDA</u>

- 1.1 Approval of the March 19, 2008 Open Session Agenda
- 1.2 Approval of the February 14, 2008 Open Session Minutes

MOTION: opn.2008.03.01

McNab/McArthur That the Consent Agenda for the March 19, 2008

Open Session be approved.

Motion: Carried

2. BOARD CHAIR REMARKS

2.1 CCBN

Bob Turner commented on what a great opportunity it was today to tour the Canadian Centre for Behavioural Neuroscience. The tour guides were Bryan Kolb, Robin Gibb and Simon Stanswick. Bill Cade added that the CCBN has one of the premier groups for teaching and scholarship. Bryan Kolb and Ian Whishaw deserve a great deal of credit for encouraging a research atmosphere at the U of L. Ian Whishaw will receive an honorary degree at this year's spring convocation and Bryan Kolb will receive an honorary degree from UBC. Both IanWhishaw and Bryan Kolb will receive an honorary degree from Thompson Rivers University this year. Bill Cade remarked that U of L scholars are widely recognized for contributions to their field.

2.2 **Students' Union Elections**

Bob Turner reported that Adam Vossepoel has been elected President of the Students' Union. An invitation was extended to Adam Vossepoel to attend today's Board meeting as a guest and he sent his regrets. Jeremy Girard was congratulated on being acclaimed to retain his seat on the Board.

2.3 Minister of Advanced Education and Technology

Chair Turner remarked that he is particularly pleased that Doug Horner will remain as Minister of Advanced Education and Technology adding that Mr. Horner has been a terrific Minister to work with. Bob Turner credited Mr. Horner with being the primary architect of the mandate statement initiative. President Cade added that he also is pleased that Doug Horner continues on as Minister.

2.4 Markin Hall

Markin Hall is currently under construction with a 2010 target for completion.

2.5 Hokkai-Gakuen

Bill Cade, Bob Turner, Rita Law and their spouses will leave on April 1 for Hokkai-Gakuen University in Sapporo, Japan for an opportunity to meet with Dr. Morimoto, Chair of Hokkai-Gakuen. Bob Turner commented that he is looking forward to the trip. Bill Cade added that it is a long-standing tradition for the Board Chairs of the two institutions to meet but Dr. Morimoto cannot travel so he invited the U of L contingent to meet him in Japan.

2.6 Retiring Board Members

The mandate of two governors will come to an end shortly and this is their last Board meeting. Nafisa Jadavji and Kelly Kennedy will continue to hold office until the end of April. Chair Turner thanked Nafisa for her perspective and contributions to the Board. Bob Turner remarked that Kelly Kennedy has done a great job, and he speaks well on behalf of the University. Bob Turner extended the Board's thanks for what they have both done for the University and presented them with certificates of appreciation.

2.7 National Association of Board Chairs and Secretaries (NAUBCS)

Bob Turner reported that the NAUBCS conference will be held in Fredericton April 23 to 27, 2008. Bob Turner and Rita Law will be attending and will report to the Board on what is learned there.

3. PRESIDENTS REPORT

3.1 Faculty of Management Dinner

On Friday, March 14, 2008, the Faculty of Management and its Advisory Board recognized Chacellor Emeritus Dr. Van Christou (LLD '84) and the late Helen Christou at the 21st Annual Scholarship Fundraising Dinner. The very successful evening included a presentation that highlighted Dr. Christou's leadership and persistence that resulted in the establishment of the University of Lethbridge.

3.2 International Dinner

Bill Cade reported that the International Dinner will be held this evening. The International Dinner is an annual event that celebrates the internationalization of the campus. There are students from well over 50 countries taking classes, which is about 8% of the student population.

3.3 <u>Dan Laplante</u>

Bill Cade highlighted the *Globe and Mail* Article included in the agenda package about Dan Laplante. The article was suggested to the *Globe and Mail* by one of the group of 25 Alumni to donate \$25,000 to the Markin Hall campaign.

3.4 Southern Alberta High School Basketball Tournament

Bill Cade commented that, as mentioned in Nancy Walker report, the Southern Alberta 4A High School Basketball Tournament was hosted at the 1st Choice Savings Centre for Sport and Wellness for the 2nd year in a row. The Centre is a wonderful building that has become a magnet for a great deal of activity.

3.5 Killam Foundation Fellowship

Bill Cade reported that Dr. Stewart Rood has been chosen as one of ten Killam Research Fellows for 2008. The Killam Research Fellowships, with a value of \$70,000, enable Canada's best scientists and scholars to devote two years to full-time research. The presentation was made by Peter Moran, former President of NSERC. This is the University of Lethbridge's second Killam Fellowship; Dr. Bryan Kolb was awarded a Killam Fellowship in 1998. Andrew Hakin, Vice-President (Academic) commented that Dr. Rood is an excellent researcher and this award is also a feather in the U of L's cap. Chair Turner added that a number of Board Members would have met Stewart Rood at the Cypress Hills Board Retreat, where he gave a presentation.

3.6 Council of Western Canadian University Presidents (COWCUP)

Bill Cade attended the COWCUP meeting in Victoria. During the round table session it became obvious that now is the time to be in university education in Alberta. Linda Petch gave a presentation on board governance and clearly the U of L Board is leading the way in governance practice.

4. <u>ITEMS FOR ACTION</u>

4.1 Budget 2008-2009 to 2011-2012

MOTION: opn.2008.03.02

Cade/McNab That the Board of Governors approve the budget for

2008-09 and approve in principle the budgets for

2009-10, 2010-2011 and 2011-2012.

Motion: Carried

Nancy Walker gave a Power Point presentation that is filed with these minutes. She pointed out that the this is the general operating budget which is one part of the University's consolidated budget. A balanced budget must be presented to the government. The University Budget Committee, whose task it is to prepare the budget, consists of students, staff and faculty and they all work together to make informed decisions. Small deficits shown in the third and fourth years are due to the uncertainty of government funding that far in the future. Any reductions in the future would usually be in personnel and asking for reductions based on speculation would cause unnecessary stress on people. Approximately 80% of the budget is salaries. The U of L only has confirmation of 6% grant increase to 2009-10, but after that a conservative 3% has been assumed for 2010-2011 and 2011-2012. Access funding is based on meeting enrollment targets. The pressure points on this year's budget are space needs, student attraction and retention, workload, and faculty and staff attraction and retention. Nancy Walker mentioned that she felt that the estimates are realistic and attainable. Slides showing comparison with other universities were shown.

Karen Clearwater gave a PowerPoint presentation which was included with the agenda materials. Karen Clearwater highlighted the budget priorities.

Andy Hakin reported that student retention is particularly weak for 1st year students directly entering university from high school. Engagement in the first six weeks is critical to retention. Some students transfer to other institutions or they leave post-secondary all together within that time frame. The University is lagging behind in 1st year retention. The Students' Union has been trying to build community through establishing community spaces, Quality Intiatives Program (QIP), events like Frosh Week and Rookie Camp.

Karen Clearwater noted that \$50,000 is targeted for recruitment expansion in Edmonton and Vancouver. Andy Hakin added that recruiting undergraduate students is very competitive and even more so for graduate students.

Mandatory retirement removal caused some difficulty due to uncertainty as to who would actually be retiring each year. The retirement list was previously used to assist with budgeting. The University of Lethbridge has superb academics and we do well to keep a balance of cost pressure vs. academic excellence. The U of L has post-retirement contracts now for a number of faculty who have retired.

Chair Turner reminded the Board that 78% of the budget is committed to salaries, which leaves relatively little room for discretionary spending. Comparing the previous year's actual revenue and expenditures to budget amounts shows that the budget process is well done. Nancy Walker expressed confidence that due to the three-year faculty agreement there is some certainty for salary costs. However, there is some uncertainty due to upcoming negotiations with AUPE. Nancy stated that she is comfortable with the numbers in the budget. Kelly Kennedy thanked Karen Clearwater for her support relative to the QIP program. Karen said students have done an excellent job in coming up with innovative initiatives and it has been a good experience working with them. Bob Turner remarked that the budget is a very complicated and extensive process and credited Nancy Walker, Karen Clearwater, and their staff for taking a difficult problem and presenting it in a clear, understandable way. Nancy Walker also thanked Karen Clearwater and her staff for their hard work.

4.2 Business Plan 2008-2012

MOTION: opn.2008.03.03

Cade/Fowler That the Board of Governors approve the University

of Lethbridge 2008-2012 Business Plan.

Motion: Carried

Nancy Walker indicated that Advanced Education and Technology requires that the Business Plan be submitted in March of each year.

5. VICE-PRESIDENT (ACADEMIC) REPORT

5.1 **Program Approvals**

Andrew Hakin reported that two program approvals have been received: BA (Urban & Regional Planning and Design) and a Theatre Studies Major within the BFA (Dramatic Arts) program. Funding for the BA will be sought through the enrolment performance envelope. It has been a timing matter that funds have not been allocated from government but Andy Hakin expressed confidence that it will be forthcoming.

5.2 **Board of Governors Teaching Chair Competition**

A competition for a second Board of Governor Teaching Chair is underway. The new candidate will be announced before the school year ends. Shelley Wismath is a current Board of Governors Teaching Chair.

5.3 <u>University Scholars Competition</u>

Andrew Hakin reported that applications are being accepted for University Scholars in Management, the Humanities, the Natural Sciences and Health Sciences.

5.4 Search Committees

The Search committees for Librarian and Dean of Fine Arts have concluded their interviews. Recommendations will be made shortly.

5.5 Prentice Institute

The Prentice Institute will be running an advertisement shortly for two chairs, one endowed and one CRC Tier 1. The hope is to have the positions filled for spring 2009.

An Academic Steering Committee, part of the Prentice Institute governance structure, has met and identified potential areas of study within the Prentice Institute. Trevor Harrison is working to develop a small conference to kick off the Prentice Institutes activities for this summer. The Prentice Board Retreat is being planned for April 28 on campus, which will provide an opportunity for Prentice Institute Board members to get to know the University.

Andrew Hakin reported that the renovations to level 11 of the library to house the Prentice Institute will begin in May.

6. VICE-PRESIDENT (FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION) REPORT

The report was included in the agenda package.

6.1 Lethbridge Regional Police Service

Nancy Walker commented on a letter received from Lethbridge Regional Police Service (LRPS) in regard to a recent aboriginal youth camp held at the U of L. A letter from LRPS stated that "University administration should be satisfied knowing that their staff members take such pride in the work they do, which is why the University of Lethbridge is such a remarkable facility within the city."

7. <u>VICE-PRESIDENT (ADVANCEMENT) REPORT</u>

7.1 Alumni and Friends Receptions

Chris Horbachewski reported that an Alumni and Friends Reception held February 28 in Medicine Hat at the historic clay district Medalta Studios was very successful. Grant Pisko had encouraged the university to put on the event in the Medicine Hat area. Grant Pisko, Jim Horsman and others spoke at the event.

On April 22 a similar event will be held in Fort McMurray for graduates, friends, supporters and partners. Advancement will be inviting parents of the 411 currently enrolled students in the area.

7.2 Support Our Students

Earlier today the 2008 Support Our Students (SOS) campaign was launched. The annual faculty and staff campaign raises funds that go to scholarships and bursaries for students. The 2008 Co-Chairs are Dr. Dayna Daniels and Randy Joseph. This year's goal is 275 faculty and staff participants raising \$175,000.

8. CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

The Chancellor's Report was received as information.

9. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

9.1 Run or Walk for U of L Student Scholarship

Kelly Kennedy reported that April 11 will be the Run or Walk for Student Scholarships. The goal is to raise \$10,000 to put towards the endowment created in memory of John Gill and to have the Alberta Government match the amount from the Access to the Future Fund.

9.2 John Gill Memorial Golf Tournament

Doug McArthur stated that the John Gill Memorial Golf Tournament will be June 6, 2008 at the Picture Butte Golf and Winter Club. The event is hosted by the U of L Alumni Association and information is available on their website: http://www.uleth.ca/alumni/eventsAndAwards.html

9.3 Alumni & Friends Scotch Tasting

Doug McArthur reported that the evening of April 24 is the Alumni and Friends Scotch Tasting at Ric's Grill at 7 pm. A portion of the admission proceeds will be donated to the U of L Alumni Bursary Fund.

Grant Pisko thanked Chris Horbachewski and Doug McArthur for organizing and participating in Alumni events, particularly the recent one in Medicine Hat. He

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remarked that it is a great opportunity for the University to position itself in the community and he anticipates increased participation at future events.

9.4 Students from Belize

Leah Fowler reported that twelve students from Belize were at the U of L to give their final Master of Education presentations. The students visited schools and various sites in the area during the week they have been here. This is a long-term program that involves an opportunity for U of L students to have international placements and allows Belize Faculty to come here to complete their Masters degrees.

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: opn.2008.03.04

That the March 19, 2008 open session meeting of The University of Lethbridge Board of Governors be adjourned.

Motion: Carried

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