

MINUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LETHBRIDGE BOARD OF GOVERNORS
OPEN SESSION HELD THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2006 AT 1:30 P.M.
IN THE BOARD ROOM (W646)

Present: Terry Royer (Chair), Bill Cade, Guy McNab, Robert Turner, Doug Stokes,
Karen Bartsch, Linda Anderson, Myles Bourke, Gordon Jong, Claudia Malacrida,
Dean Setoguchi, Kevin Keith, John Gill, Preston Williams, Tom Robinson,
Sharon Holtman, Aaron Engen, Rita Zaugg (Secretary)

Regrets: Shirley DeBow, Grant Pisko, Tyler Tanner, Kelly Kennedy

Others: Nancy Walker, Vice-President (Finance & Administration)
Seamus O'Shea, Vice-President (Academic) & Provost
Chris Horbachewski, Vice-President (Advancement)
Karen Clearwater, Associate VP (Financial Planning)
Andrew Hakin, Associate VP (Academic)
Jon Lane, GSA Nominee

1. CONSENT AGENDA

1.1 Approval of the May 18, 2006 Open Session Agenda

1.2 Approval of the March 23, 2006 Open Session Minutes

MOTION: opn.2006.05.01

Stokes/Malacrida

That the consent agenda for the May 18, 2006 meeting of the Board of Governors Open Session be approved.

Motion: Carried

2. RECOGNITION OF RETIRING BOARD MEMBERS

Kelly Kennedy, Tyler Tanner, Preston Williams

Preston Williams, GSA representative to the Board of Governors was recognized for his service to the Board and presented with a certificate.

Tyler Tanner, and Kelly Kennedy will be recognized at a later date as they were not able to be in attendance at the meeting.

3. RECOGNITION OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Dustin Fuller, Christopher Ng, Jonathan Lane

Terry Royer introduced Jon Lane as the new Graduate Student nominee to the Board of Governors. Jon was presented with a Board of Governors pin and briefcase as is the tradition.

4. PRESENTATION

4.1 Debra Basil, Professor of Management the Hokkai-Gakuen University Exchange Professor Experience

Seamus O'Shea introduced Debra Basil, Professor of Management. Debra is one of the founding members of the Marketing group at the University of Lethbridge. The Hokkai-Gakuen University Exchange is the longest standing such exchange in Canada. This began at the initiative of the Chair of Hokkai Gakuen University. The two universities exchange faculty members every year and student groups alternate. This is a very productive and enriching experience for all of those involved.

Debra Basil gave a PowerPoint presentation about her exchange visit to Hokkai-Gakuen University in Sapporo, Japan from September to December 2005. Debra Basil remarked that the faculty exchange has been a wonderful experience for her, but it has also been an experience for her students since it has informed her teaching. The exchange experience provides cultural learning opportunities for the faculty member that is then shared in the classroom, regardless of the discipline. Debra Basil added that she has been teaching individualism and collectivism. Seeing the Asian perspective first hand has been valuable to her teaching since it gave her insight into the cultural differences that she could not otherwise gain.

5. BOARD CHAIR REMARKS

5.1 Visit to Sapporo, Japan for Hokkai-Gakuen University & Hokkai School of Commerce opening ceremonies

Terry Royer presented slides from the recent trip to Japan for the Hokkai-Gakuen University and Hokkai School of Commerce opening ceremonies. Bill Cade, Rita Zaugg, and Terry Royer all attended. The new building is due to open on September 15, 2006 and an invitation has been received to attend the ceremonies along with Hokkai-Gakuen partners from China and Korea. Terry Royer noted that these trips are partially funded by the Province of Alberta, and the expenses during the visit are covered by Hokkai-Gakuen.

5.2 NAUBCS Conference

The annual National Association of University Board Chairs and Secretaries Conference (NAUBCS) recently took place in Edmonton. The University of Lethbridge co-hosted the event with the other Alberta universities. The theme was "Building Better Boards", which was an examination of better governance practices.

6. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

6.1 AHFMR Dinner

The Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research recently held an awards dinner in Calgary. Bryan Kolb, Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience received an award at the dinner, and spoke of the University of Lethbridge and its research capacity.

6.2 Convocation

Bill Cade mentioned that Spring Convocation is soon approaching. Further details are in the Chancellor's written report.

6.3 Premier's Dinner

The Calgary and Edmonton Premier's Dinners recently took place. Chris Horbachewski, Dennis Fitzpatrick, Jim Horsman, and Bill Cade attended. Bill Cade noted that it was a very moving experience, being the current Premier's last event of this kind.

6.4 Dr. Seamus O'Shea, Vice-President (Academic)

Dr. O'Shea has indicated he will not seek another term as Vice-President (Academic). The appointment committee has been struck, which includes four Board members. Séamus O'Shea was thanked for his contributions as an administrator and a chemist. It was noted that he will be working on chemistry during his administrative leave.

6.5 Telus World of Science

The Telus World of Science event has been postponed until the Fall. Bill Cade commented that Bob Turner was key in organizing this event.

6.6 KSPS Public Television

KSPS Public Television, the PBS television station of the inland northwest United States, was recently on campus looking at attributes of the University of Lethbridge and the city of Lethbridge that they may want to profile. Bob Turner is the president of the KSPS/Friends of Seven, the only Canadian to serve in this capacity in U.S. public broadcasting. Bill Cade thanked Bob Turner for his role in making this beneficial contact.

6.7 Public Health Collaboration Announcement

An announcement was made in Edmonton last week of the first-in-Canada post-secondary collaboration aimed at public health initiatives. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed by the university presidents at a video-linked news conference in all three cities with Premier Ralph Klein, Health Minister Iris Evans and the Advanced Education Minister Denis Herard participating.

7. ITEMS FOR ACTION

7.1 Dean of Graduate Studies & Associate Vice-President (Research)

MOTION: opn.2006.05.02

Cade/McNab

That the Board of Governors create the position of Dean of Graduate Studies and Associate Vice-President (Research) and authorize the President to conduct a search to fill the position for fall 2006.

Motion: Carried

Opposed: Preston Williams

Bill Cade noted that this is a Board appointment with funding coming from Access grants for graduate programs. There are different points of view of how this position should be filled but the combined model has been selected. It is anticipated that at some point there will be a need for a dedicated Dean of Graduate Studies; however, it is felt that the current graduate program is not large enough to warrant a full-time dean and this model provides much needed assistance in the Research office. The greatest growth in graduate programs is expected in areas that are linked to research, which further supports this model. As well, Graduate Studies and Research Services need to be closely linked to strengthen areas that are not highly recognized at the provincial and federal levels. The plan is to install an interim person for the year ahead and then conduct a national search.

Seamus O'Shea added that there is a need for support from graduate students in order to be successful in research. The primary responsibility of the Dean of Graduate Studies and Associate Vice-President (Research) will be to run the graduate program and attract new students and find funding for those students. Seamus O'Shea assured the Board that work will continue with the University of Alberta and University of Calgary to secure provincial funding for graduate programs.

Jon Lane added that the Graduate Students' Association is deeply concerned that the position is too diverse and there will not be enough time to deal with graduate student issues. He noted that there has been exponential growth in graduate programs and he would like some assurance that the graduate students will not be the secondary part of the responsibilities.

8. VICE-PRESIDENT (ACADEMIC) REPORT

8.1 Public Health Announcement

Seamus O'Shea reiterated the importance of the public health initiative announcement. Getting an endorsement for the public health initiative is important for future funding.

8.2 Canada Centre for Sustainable Energy

Plans have been announced for a Canada Centre for Sustainable Energy, a joint project of the three Alberta residential universities. The Province wants to invest in education and research related to energy and the universities are pleased to be involved.

8.3 Dean of Health Sciences

The Dean of Health Sciences search is underway and a short list has been developed. It is hoped to have the search completed by the end of June.

8.4 Faculty Recruitment

Seamus O'Shea reported that faculty recruitment was very successful and he is very pleased with the quality of faculty that has been hired.

8.5 Vice-Presidents Retreat

The Vice-Presidents (Academic) & Provosts of the three Alberta universities will be meeting to plan initiatives for the next year. The man who is running the MACLEAN'S magazine university survey will also be in attendance. Alberta universities may decline to participate in the survey this year since MACLEAN'S does not take into consideration the concerns that specifically impact Alberta; i.e. grade inflation in Ontario. Seamus O'Shea explained that on major international tests, Alberta grade 12 students significantly outperform Ontario students, yet Ontario school grades are reported higher than Alberta school grades.

Bill Cade added that a number of universities are pulling out of the MACLEAN'S survey of graduates that have been out of university for three to five years. Bill Cade explained that the experience of those who graduated five years ago is quite different from those graduating now and not especially relevant.

9. VICE-PRESIDENT (FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION) REPORT

9.1 Long Service Awards

The Long Service and Retirement Recognition awards recently took place. This is a very well attended, enjoyable event. Board member Linda Anderson was recognized for 15 years of service. Guy McNab attended on behalf of the Board.

9.2 Turcotte Hall

The Turcotte Hall portable classrooms are being demolished to make way for the addition and are being sold as scrap materials for recycling.

10. VICE-PRESIDENT (ADVANCEMENT) REPORT

10.1 Alumni Journal

The Canadian Council for the Advancement of Education (CCAE) has awarded the U of L's alumni magazine, JOURNAL, with the Bronze Award in the 2006 PRIX D'EXCELLENCE awards program in the Best Magazine – Under \$100,000 Category. The JOURNAL is published twice a year by the Office of University Advancement. The most recent edition of the JOURNAL was provided to the Board.

10.2 Recognition Events

Chris Horbachewski reported that there were recently two recognition events. A luncheon was held in honour of Dr. Howard Forsyth to recognize his funding a scholarship in support of students from the Peigan and Blood nations. Also, a luncheon was held in recognition of a \$150,000 gift from Scotia Bank for the new Health Transitions Program in the School of Health Sciences. This program is directed to Blood and Peigan nation students.

11. CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

The Chancellor's written report was received for information.

Bill Cade clarified that the Judo Club is relocating outside of the University, but Dr. Senda will continue to teach Judo on campus.

It was noted that the upcoming Convocation will be the 100th convocation at the University, and the last one in the current gym. This convocation will include the graduation of the first cohort of students in the Niitsitapi Teacher Education Program. The Minister of Advanced Education will attend the Thursday afternoon ceremony. Board members were encouraged to attend.

12. STUDENTS' UNION REPORT

There was no report from the Students' Union.

13. GRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION REPORT

Jon Lane reiterated that he was excited to have the opportunity to work with the Board of Governors.

14. ALUMNI REPORT

John Gill reminded the Board members that the Alumni Honour Society Wine and Cheese is to be held on May 31 at 7:00 p.m. in Andy's place. Ron Chambers, Art Ferrari, Igor Shaskin, Wayne Street, and Wayne Petersen will all be honoured as the 2006 inductees.

The Alumni Association Annual General meeting will be held on June 14 at 7:00 p.m. in Andy's Place. This event is open to all alumni.

The Birdies for Bursaries golf tournament takes place on June 9. Businesses with a connection to the University have been targeted as prize donors and the response has been overwhelming. There is, however, a need for more golfers. The members of the Board were encouraged to recruit golfers for this event which supports the students at the University of Lethbridge.

15. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: opn.2006.05.05

Stokes/Anderson

That the Open session of the May 18, 2006 meeting of the Board of Governors be adjourned.

Motion: Carried

may18 2006opn.min