



BOARD OF GOVERNORS – OPEN SESSION
Approved Minutes

Thursday, April 23, 2020
1:30 p.m., videoconference

- Present:** K. Schlachter (Chair), Y. Belanger, R. Casson, J. Elliott, J. Forrest, D. Gallimore, A. Gammack, K. Gunn, A. Hlady, D. Johnson, H. Labuhn, M. Mahon (joined later), J. Merkl, J. Miles, K. Philipp, K. Reid, J. Sheriff, S. Stocker, C. Weaselhead, T. Whitehead, L. Zink
- Other:** J. Diaz, J. Gallais, D. Kaminiski, E. Okine, S. Olson, E. Pullan, C. Takeyasu, N. Walker, R. Westlund, M. Whipple

Oki, and welcome to the University of Lethbridge. Our University's Blackfoot name is Iniskim, meaning Sacred Buffalo Stone. The University is located in traditional Blackfoot Confederacy territory. We honour the Blackfoot people and their traditional ways of knowing in caring for this land, as well as all Aboriginal peoples who have helped shape and continue to strengthen our University community.

1. CONSENT AGENDA

APPROVAL

- 1.1. Approval of the April 23, 2020 Open Agenda
- 1.2. Approval of the March 26, 2020 Open Minutes

MOTION: opn.2020.04.01

Gallimore/Forrest

That the Board of Governors approve the April 23, 2020 Consent Agenda with amendment.

Motion: Carried

The President remarks will be given at the end of the meeting.

2. BOARD CHAIR REMARKS

K. Schlachter reported that he has been busy, but will reserve specific comments for the Closed Session.

3. PRESIDENT REMARKS

This Item was discussed right before the end of the meeting.

M. Mahon reported:

- As of April 9 the Emergency Operations Committee have wound down their work. The Committee Co-Chairs continue to provide briefings to President's Executive as we work into the business continuity phase. Thanks was given to all those who served on this committee;

- Plans on how we will celebrate our 2020 Spring graduates has been officially announced. Students will receive ‘Convocation in a Box’ prior to a virtual ceremony/conferral of their degrees later in June. Positive feedback has been received from students;
- Since March 30 there has been restricted access to campus – there are now about 160 people on campus daily, where normally we would have upwards of 7,000. We have started to receive some pressure from faculty about easing up on restrictions, which we have committed to review on a bi-weekly basis. We are flexible to those researchers and students who are required to be on campus to ensure that their research continues;
- Thanks to M. Whipple and his team for their work on the student emergency bursary initiative;
- Work continues with the Mastercard Foundation, who has committee to COVID-19 support and recovery. Funds will flow through the University, as a gift, not a partnership, and will help with things like remote access, summer employment, and food security on the reserve; and
- The Vice-President (Advancement) search process has been initiated and will continue their work through the summer and fall.

4. CHANCELLOR REPORT

There were no questions or comments on the submitted report.

5. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

5.1.2020-21 Board Meeting Schedule

S. Stocker noted that we are still waiting to confirm the timing of the Advancement Committee meetings, and an updated schedule will be sent to the Board once complete. There were no questions.

6. REPORTS

6.1. Provost & Vice-President (Academic)

E. Okine commended all faculty and staff at the University for their resilience and stepping forward to work together during this very difficult time in our history. He noted his excitement to contribute in this new role and help shepherd the UofL as we move forward. E. Okine highlighted that Fall enrolment continues to be a number that we watch closely, especially as we begin to realize the effects of COVID-19.

6.2. Advancement

M. Whipple and R. Westlund reported:

- On the events that took place in February and early March prior to the shutdown of campus and cancellation of all events due to COVID-19.
- Plans were for a large-scale event on April 7 for Green Shirt Day, in support for the Logan Boulet Effect and organ donor awareness, but it became a social media campaign instead; and
- A number of individuals from across campus have formed a team to plan out a way that will still allow our students and community to celebrate the achievement of Convocation. Every graduating student will receive a branded Convocation in a box at their home, prior to the release of a convocation video near the end of June. In the summer a survey will be distributed to those students, which outlines the process for which they can still cross the stage at a Convocation ceremony within the next three

years. This is an important moment for our students and the messaging has been well received.

M. Mahon joined the meeting.

6.3. Vice-President (Finance & Administration)

Yearend is going well and N. Walker gave thanks to her team for all their work on meeting deadlines so far. In addition to the significant amount of time that budget deliberations continue to take, the team also continues to meet with the external auditors on a weekly basis.

6.4. Vice-President (Research)

Although research on campus has been negatively impacted because of the pandemic, E. Okine reported that we just received news that we will receive \$2 million in funding. Additionally, a number of our faculty are able to help in the fight against COVID, including research on cannabis extracts and 3D printing of masks and facial shields.

6.5. Board Member Reports

A. Gammack reported that the Students' Union is trying to figure out how best they can operate and support the student population amidst COVID. A request has come from Advanced Education to meet with the incoming Students' Union Executive team, which is a positive sign. A. Gammack gave thanks to the Board for their support of students and noted that it has been an honour to work with the Board this last year.

L. Zink reported that the Graduate Students' Association (GSA) elections have concluded and she looks forward to working with the incoming council. Further, the GSA is also looking at ways to not only support graduate students during the pandemic, but also how to enable them to continue their research.

On behalf of the University of Lethbridge Alumni Association (ULAA), J. Elliott noted that the Alumni Achievement Award applications are now open.

T. Whitehead noted that T. Legge was welcomed as a new member when the Advancement Committee met last week.

7. **OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: opn.2020.04.02

Elliott/Gammack

That the Board of Governors Open Session meeting of April 23, 2020 be adjourned.

Motion: Carried