



THE UNIVERSITY OF LETHBRIDGE SENATE  
Approved Minutes

Friday, October 2, 2020  
1:30 p.m., videoconference

**Present:** C. Weaselhead (Chair), Y. Belanger, D. Best, D. Boras, K. Colwell, B. Cummins, A. Darda, S. Davis, M. Day, J. Diaz, J. Dormaar, C. Drenth, J. Elliott, A. Follinglo, A. Fox-BruisedHead, K. Gallucci, C. Gillespie, C. Goodreau, L. Harasem, M. Ing, T. Ivie, R. Lee-Thai, T. Legge, C. Loewen, H. MacBeath, M. Mahon, A. Mardon, J. Miller, J. Milner, T. North, E. Okine, T. Oosterbroek, T. Page, L. Peterson, T. Petriw, E. Pullan, M. Qazi, K. Rabbit-Young Pine, C. Rowntree, I. Russell, D. Saunders, J. Shriner, B. Spenceley, S. Spenceley, B. Tucker, J. VandenHoek, C. Vos, N. Walker, M. Warkentin, M. Watson

**Regrets:** H. Doeve, L. Ehler, L. Elias, E. Foster, I. Pohl

**Others:** J. Gallais, S. Olson

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**1. WELCOME**

*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.*

New members were introduced.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOTION: sen.2020.10.01

Vos/Harasem

*That the agenda for the meeting of October 2, 2020 be approved.*

Motion: Carried

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MOTION: sen.2020.10.02

Follinglo/Pullan

*That the minutes of the meeting of February 7, 2020 be approved.*

Motion: Carried

#### **4. ITEMS FOR ACTION**

##### 7.1 Senate Appointments

*B. Tucker left the room for this item.*

MOTION: sen.2020.10.03

Spenceley/Loewen

*That Senate approve the appointment of Bradley Tucker as a Representative member for an initial three-year term, effective immediately.*

Motion: Carried

S. Davis gave a short biography and that the recommendation was unanimously approved by Senate Executive Committee.

#### **5. CHANCELLOR'S REMARKS**

C. Weaselhead reported on:

- As you know, Spring convocation was not able to be held in its traditional form; however, we were able to help celebrate with our grads in unique ways. In addition to the convocation-in-a-box mail-out initiative and various zoom events held within the faculties, many of our students gold medallists were presented their medals in-person. I, along with President Mahon, dressed in full convocation regalia, presented indigenous student Chloe Crosschild the School of Graduate Studies Medal of Merit – Master of Nursing;
- Recently recorded conferral for Fall Convocation celebration video, which will be pushed out on what would have been Convocation day, Saturday, October 17;
- Acted as Emcee for the Iikaiskini Gathering Space funding announcement yesterday; and
- Work continues with the Mastercard Foundation.

#### **6. PRESIDENT'S REMARKS**

M. Mahon reported on:

- Fall 2020 total enrolment is currently 8,933 students; this is slightly above the prior Fall enrolment of 8,929 students. These numbers are positive given the restrictions for international students (some institutions are down up to 40%);
- There are currently 21 budget taskforces looking at all aspects of the institution at potential ways that we could reduce our overall operating budget by 10% in the next two years;
- COVID has also impacted our students on a food security front and we are looking at creating an additional bursary program;
- Equity, Diversity and Inclusion – work continues to create programs supporting this initiative. Search consultants have been hired to help hire an EDI director position, as these are highly sought after positions across the country;
- Organizational changes over the last number of months as we continue our Vice-President (Research) and Vice-President (Advancement) searches;
- Students, faculty and senior administration are taking part in consultation by government on the Alberta 2030 post-secondary system review;

- With the support from the Government of Canada's Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program, and an investment from TD Bank Financial Group, the University of Lethbridge will move the Iikaiskini Gathering Place to the University Centre for the Arts atrium. Planning will take place over the next few months, with construction to begin after; and
- For the first time, New Student Orientation and Open House were held virtually this fall and thanks to all those who contributed to the success of these events.

## 7. REPORTS

### 7.1 Board of Governors

T. Legge noted that her appointment to the Board was effective July 1 and she looks forward to her first meeting later this month.

### 7.2 General Faculties Council

B. Cummins assured members of Senate just how aware and deeply concerned faculty is with online teaching/learning and how it is affecting all of us.

### 7.3 Alumni Association

J. Elliot highlighted the ULAA Alumni Achievement Awards and to look for the announcement of recipients to be made after Convocation later this month.

### 7.4 Graduate Students' Association

A. Darda noted that a core priority for the GSA this year is to increase engagement of graduate students.

*Jeff Milner left the meeting*

### 7.5 Students' Union

J. Diaz reported that the SU has opened some of its services, including the ZOO and the adjoining ballrooms which are being used as study spaces. A significant increase in usage has been seen at the SU Foodbank and a student has been hired to help in that area. E. Pullan and M. Ing are working on a project that connects first year students with various landmarks and highlights within our city. Anyone interested in collaborating can connect with J. Diaz.

### 7.6 Executive Committee

There were no questions or comments.

### 7.7 Engagement Committee

C. Goodreau thanked the Executive Committee for including breakout sessions during the meeting as this allows members the opportunity to connect with one another in this virtual environment.

### 7.8 Honorary Degree Committee

J. VandenHoek highlighted that, because we do not know when we'll be able to have an in-person Convocation ceremony again, we anticipate bringing forward a motion which will allow the awarding of honorary degrees outside of a traditional Convocation ceremony. Many details are yet unknown, and will depend on what restrictions are in

place in Spring 2021. We will keep Senate apprised of details as they are ironed out.

7.9 Volunteer Award Committee

C. Weaselhead reported that the Committee meets on November 24, 2020.

7.10 Other Member Reports/Inquiries

There were no additional reports.

**8. COVID-19 UPDATE & PRESENTATION**

M. Mahon provided an update on the pandemic impacts on the University of Lethbridge, followed by a presentation by M. Helstein (phase 1) and TJ Hansen (phase 2 relaunch).

**9. BREAKOUT SESSION**

**10. ITEMS FOR ACTION (cont'd)**

10.1 Volunteer Award Committee Appointments

MOTION: sen.2020.10.04

Davis/Lee-Thai

*That Senate approve the appointment of Tracy Oosterbroek and Catherine Drenth to the Volunteer Award Committee, effective immediately.*

Motion: Carried

S. Davis noted that this completes the committee membership for the current year.

**11. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

11.1 Senate Moments

C. Goodreau opened the floor to Senators who would like to share their experiences in the various ways or activities they participate in at the UofL:

- M. Day gave thanks to Senate and the University of Lethbridge for the support given to the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Golden Maple reception on September 11.

11.2 Honorary Degree Nominations

J. VandenHoek gave encouragement to members to consider making or supporting an Honorary Degree nomination.

11.3 Senate Application

Currently there are two vacancies for representative members on Senate. Encouragement was given to members to think of those that would make a good fit with Senate.

**12. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

The next meeting of Senate is Friday, December 4, 2020 at 1:30 p.m.

MOTION: sen.2020.10.05

Miller/Qazi

*That the Senate meeting be adjourned.*

Motion: Carried