



THE UNIVERSITY OF LETHBRIDGE SENATE

Approved Minutes

Friday, December 4, 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, H. Doeve, J. Dormaar, C. Drenth, L. Ehler, J. Elliott, A. Follinglo, A. Fox-BruisedHead, K. Gallucci, C. Gillespie, C. Goodreau, L. Harasem, M. Ing, R. Lee-Thai, T. Legge, H. MacBeath, M. Mahon, A. Mardon, J. Miller, J. Milner, T. North, E. Okine, T. Oosterbroek, T. Page, L. Peterson, T. Petriw, I. Pohl, E. Pullan, M. Qazi, K. Rabbit-Young Pine, C. Rowntree, I. Russell, D. Saunders, J. Shriner, B. Tucker, J. VandenHoek, C. Vos, N. Walker, M. Warkentin, M. Watson

Regrets: L. Elias, E. Foster, T. Ivie, C. Loewen, B. Spenceley, S. Spenceley

Others: J. Gallais, S. Olson

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.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: sen.2020.12.01

Petriw/Shriner

That the agenda for the meeting of December 4, 2020 be approved.

Motion: Carried

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: sen.2020.12.02

Mardon/Shriner

That the minutes of the meeting of October 2, 2020 be approved.

Motion: Carried

4. CHANCELLOR'S REMARKS

C. Weaselhead reported on:

- Similar to the spring, we celebrated Convocation virtually this Fall on October 17 and conferred the degrees of 211 students;
- We were very pleased to celebrate with some of our 2020 award recipients at a virtual ceremony on November 25. Congratulations again to 2020 Volunteer Award

Recipient Mary Dyck; and

- Brought greetings and congratulations on behalf of Senate and the Board of Governors at the Long Service and Retiree Recognition virtual celebration on December 3.

5. PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

M. Mahon reported on:

- Recently achieved our highest ever Mclean's University ranking;
- Undertaken the challenging work at looking how to move the University forward in a new fiscal framework. There are 21 taskforces looking at all aspects of the university. A consultation committee has also been struck and will look at the taskforce recommendations before they go on to Budget Advisory Committee and President's Executive;
- Communicated messaging on the budget situation through a virtual town hall on October 26;
- A number of initiatives have been undertaken in a effort to aid students, faculty and staff with mental health – after an extended break, classes will resume on January 9 instead of the 6; employees are encouraged not to have meetings the week before and after the Christmas break; and additional stress-reducing initiatives will be looked at in the new year;
- Recent appointment of Mike Frank as Director, Indigenous Education & Communications. Mike is an alum and has worked in indigenous governance across Canada;
- Two members of the University of Lethbridge community, T. Whitehead and K. Peterson were recognized last month by the Southern Alberta Chapter of Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP);
- Celebrated the achievements of 84 Academic all Canadians, student athletes who have maintained a grade point average of 80% or higher;
- Accepted position of Chair of COPPOA (Council of post-secondary presidents of Alberta), which includes all 26 post-secondary institutions in the province;
- Recent appointment to the Board of D. Gonci and reappointment of K. Gunn and T. Whitehead;
- Celebrated virtually at recent Awards event on November 25 and Long Service ceremony yesterday; and
- We look forward to a virtual holiday celebration on December 15.

6. PRESENTATION

M. Mahon provided a presentation on *Alberta 2030*, the post-secondary system review taken on by the government.

7. BREAKOUT SESSION

8. ITEMS FOR ACTION

8.1 Honorary Degree Special Case

MOTION: sen.2020.12.03

VandenHoek/Cummins

That Senate approve the allowance of the awarding of honorary degrees during the COVID-19 pandemic outside of a traditional Convocation ceremony.

Motion: Carried

J. VandenHoek noted that the Convocation office will endeavour the task to ensure that each recipient is honoured in an appropriate way.

8.2 Appointment of Scrutineer

MOTION: sen.2020.12.04

VandenHoek/Lee-Thai

That Senate approve the appointment of S. Olson and S. Davis to the position of scrutineer.

Motion: Carried

There were no questions.

9. *IN CAMERA*

10. ITEMS FOR ACTION (cont'd)

10.1. Approval of Honorary Degree Recipients

MOTION: sen.2020.12.05

Shriner/Goodreau

That Senate approve the awarding of Honorary Degrees as per the result of the December 4, 2020 confidential vote.

Motion: Carried

C.Weaselhead noted that the names of the recipients must remain confidential until an official announcement by the University. He will work to contact each recipient in the coming weeks.

11. REPORTS

11.1. Board of Governors

There were no questions.

11.2. General Faculties Council

B. Cummins highlighted the many questions raised by GFC regarding the faculty restructuring task force. There were no questions.

11.3. Alumni Association

J. Elliot highlighted the recipients selected for the alumni achievement awards, which were announced earlier this fall. There were no questions.

11.4. Graduate Students' Association

There were no questions.

11.5. Students' Union

J. Diaz spoke about food insecurity with students on campus, which was only made more apparent this past year. Encouragement was given for members to participate in the annual Pass the Hat Fundraiser, in support of the Students' Union Foodbank. Each year the three governance bodies, Board of Governors, Senate, and General Faculties Council participate in a friendly competition to see which group raises the most funds. J. Diaz gave his thanks to Senators for their support.

11.6. Executive Committee

There were no questions or comments.

11.7. Engagement Committee

Although the committee does not meet again until the new year, C. Goodreau reported that there are many ways for Senators to remain engaged with the University. Encouragement was given to look in the UWeekly newsletter for upcoming events.

11.8. Honorary Degree Committee

J. VandenHoek encouraged members to think of individuals that could be nominated in 2021 for an honorary degree.

11.9. Volunteer Award Committee

C. Weaselhead reported that the call for Volunteer Award nominations has begun and gave encouragement to members to think of a deserving individual and make a nomination. If you have any questions or need assistance with the nomination package, connect with S. Olson.

11.10. Other Member Reports/Inquiries

There were no additional reports.

12. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

12.1 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:

- J. Miller spoke about attending a Living Room presentation put on by the School of Liberal Education. He also spoke about the 10,000 Coffees platform and gave encouragement to fellow Senators to participate in a session to share experiences and offer advice to students.

13. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

14. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting of Senate is Friday, February 5, 2021 at 1:30 p.m.

MOTION: sen.2020.12.06

Peterson/Tucker

That the Senate meeting be adjourned.

Motion: Carried