



BOARD OF GOVERNORS – OPEN SESSION

Approved Minutes

Thursday, April 15, 2021

1:00 p.m., videoconference

- Present:** K. Schlachter (Chair), Y. Belanger, R. Casson, J. Diaz, J. Elliott, D. Gallimore, D. Gonci, K. Gunn, D. Johnson, H. Labuhn, T. Legge, M. Mahon, J. Merkl, K. Philipp, E. Pullan, K. Reid, J. Sheriff, S. Stocker, C. Weaselhead, T. Whitehead, L. Zink
- Other:** J. Gallais, M. Helstein, H. Kletke, J. Miller, S. Nieboer, E. Okine, C. Steinke, T. Stewart, C. Takeyasu, N. Walker, R. Westlund, M. Whipple, R. Wood, K. Berg

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.

J. Diaz, E. Pullan and L. Zink were thanked for their service to the Board. T. Legge was officially introduced.

A graduate student research presentation was given prior to the start of the Open Session.

1. CONSENT AGENDA

APPROVAL

- 1.1. Approval of the April 15, 2021 Open Agenda
- 1.2. Approval of the February 11, 2021 Open Minutes

MOTION: opn.2021.04.01

Belanger/Whitehead

That the Board of Governors approve the April 15, 2021 Consent Agenda.

Motion: Carried

2. BOARD CHAIR REMARKS

K. Schlachter reported that much of his time has been spent on the government relations front.

3. PRESIDENT REMARKS

M. Mahon reported:

- Despite growing COVID case numbers within the city and even a couple on campus, planning continues for Fall 2021. There are two work groups exploring how to safely be in-person and on campus as much as possible later this fall;
- Equity, diversity and inclusion are a priority at the UofL and messaging went out recently to ensure that both our on campus and off campus community is aware of this commitment;

- Recently announced that K. Greenwood, incoming Vice-President (Development and Alumni Relations) will begin on May 14;
- Working with Students' Union on the Swipe out Hunger campaign;
- Recently announced that N. Buis-Deering will be the Executive Director (Strategic Enrolment Management) & Registrar, which is the amalgamation of two positions due to the challenges related to budget;
- YWCA Women of Distinction awards were presented to two from the UofL community: Associate Vice-President Carrie Takeyasu (Leadership & Management), along with Rachel Nicol (Young Women of Promise);
- Lyndsay Montana, Manager, Alumni Relations recently received the CCAE Rising Star Award (Canadian Council for Advancement of Education);
- McCain donation of \$280,000 towards support for graduate students working in the area of agriculture;
- Pattison digital sign on University Drive was recently install for revenue generating, at no cost to the UofL;
- Recently announced Varzari gift which is up to \$20,000 gift in matching contributions to Student Wellness Ambassador Program (Call centre already raised almost \$9,000). Another way we're supporting student mental health;
- Green shirt day on April 7 and thanks to members for wearing their during Board committees last week;
- Virtual Blue and Gold April 9 which was a very nice event. Thanks to those who organize the virtual events; and
- Upcoming the senior leaders will be attending cultural awareness training sessions and the UofL Awards Night on May 27 which aims to recognize those award recipients that would normally be recognized during Spring Convocation.

4. **CHANCELLOR REPORT**

C. Weaselhead highlighted: convocation; chancellor's reception on June 10th where 5 honorary degrees will be awarded; appointment of new members; and recognition of outgoing members.

5. **ITEMS FOR ACTION**

5.1. Advancement Committee Terms of Reference (Revised)

MOTION: opn.2021.04.02

Stocker/Merkl

That the Board of Governors approve the revised Advancement Committee Terms of Reference, effective immediately.

Motion: Carried

It was noted this is an update given the new appointment and naming of Vice -President (Development & Alumni Relations). Also added clarity around committee responsibilities and the Vice-President (Research) was added as a non-voting member. There were no questions.

5.2. Establishment of Student Fees Policy (revised)

MOTION: opn.2021.04.03

Gallimore/Johnson

That the Board of Governors approve the revised Establishment of Student Fees Policy, effective immediately.

Motion: Carried

There was a question on the consultation process with student associations and how the student representatives will be appointed. N. Walker responded that the guidelines/regulations do not stipulate and we are leaving it up to both the GSA and SU to determine their process.

6. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

6.1. Office of the Auditor General Post-Secondary Institutions Report

Thanks was given to N. Walker, C. Takeyasu and their team for receiving all green lights for the second year in a row. It was noted that the UofL is not listed on page 33 (page 13 of the report) under summary of recommendations and the Finance Committee asked administration to provide this feedback to the Office of the Auditor General. There were no questions.

6.2. 2021-2022 Board Meeting Schedule

There were no questions or comments.

7. REPORTS

7.1. Provost & Vice-President (Academic)

E. Okine highlighted that the forecast for fall enrolment is down 2.8% over last year and we're employing various tactics to reach out to all students and potential students. Good news was received in that the provincial grant for student mental health will be maintained at the current funding level for the next three years.

7.2. Advancement

R. Westlund highlighted that various stakeholders across campus are working hard towards enhancing the experience for students with a virtual convocation ceremony later this spring.

7.3. Vice-President (Finance & Administration)

N. Walker noted that senior administration is spending much time on the budget consultation, which seems to be going well.

7.4. Vice-President (Research)

R. Wood highlighted:

- UofL was awarded its first Banting fellowship, which is the most competitive competition across the country. The name of the recipient is still embargoed but we look forward to sharing with the Board once the information is public;

- Lots of additional good news stories for faculty receiving funding through various sources;
- The UofL was one of 12 institutions across the country to receive and equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) NSERC grant worth \$400,000, which will be foundational to supporting the success of EDI on campus; and
- The report contains a link to the Images of Research competition through the GSA’s Meeting of the Minds Conference last month.

7.5. Board Member Reports

J. Elliot reported that the University of Lethbridge Alumni Association AGM is coming up on June 22, as well as nominations will open soon for the Alumni Achievement Awards. On behalf of the University of Lethbridge Graduate Students’ Association, L. Zink reported that the voting period is well underway for the GSA elections and a new council will be elected by April 23.

J. Diaz reported that the Students’ Union have been busy with a number of successful initiatives, including Stress Relief Week, Swipe Out Hunger, as well as advocacy work within the province. The annual Last Class Bash was cancelled in hopes that an in-person Fresh Fest can be celebrated in person this fall.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

9. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: opn.2021.04.05

Whitehead/Elliott

That the Board of Governors Open Session meeting of April 15, 2021 be adjourned.

Motion: Carried