



BOARD OF GOVERNORS – OPEN SESSION
Approved Minutes

Friday, October 15, 2020
1:00 p.m., videoconference

- Present:** K. Schlachter (Chair), R. Casson, C. Coburn, P. Dutt, J. Elliott, D. Gallimore, K. Gunn, D. Gonci, D. Johnson, H. Kletke, H. Labuhn, M. Mahon, J. Merkl, K. Philipp, K. Reid, M. Serebryansky, J. Sheriff, S. Stocker, T. Whitehead
- Regrets:** T. Legge, C. Weaselhead
- Other:** J. Gallais, K. Greenwood, M. Helstein, D. McMartin, S. Nieboer, E. Okine, 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.

C. Coburn and P. Dutt were introduced as new members to the Board and D. McMartin was introduced as Vice-President (Research).

1. CONSENT AGENDA

APPROVAL

- 1.1. Approval of the October 15, 2021 Open Agenda
- 1.2. Approval of the May 28, 2021 Open Minutes

MOTION: opn.2021.10.01

Whitehead/Coburn

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

Motion: Carried

2. BOARD CHAIR REMARKS

K. Schlachter reported on a busy fall so far, with much work being done on the government relations front.

3. PRESIDENT REMARKS

M. Mahon reported:

- The return to campus has been busy, with a significant number of people on campus. Our decision in the early days to announce mandatory vaccination on campus was an important signal to faculty, staff and students regarding the priority and importance of safety. As of today, we have 7689 users of our QR code who have full vaccination status, with 690 users in the process of moving towards full vaccination. As we've seen an increase in those vaccinated, we've seen a decrease in those rapid testing.

Since September 1, we have had 46 campus community members who have tested COVID positive, with 6 currently in isolation;

- Maclean’s recently announced their Canadian University ranking and the University of Lethbridge slipped to sixth place in the primarily undergraduate category;
- The UofL made important strides in terms of truth and reconciliation with campus operations being closed on September 30 to recognize the national day for Truth & Reconciliation and the various events that took place on campus that week;
- Recent staffing changes: Martha Mathurin-Moe, Executive Director Equity, Diversity & Inclusion; Richard Westlund, Executive Director Communications, Marketing & Government Relations; Anastasia Pavlova, Executive Director, Financial Services; Robin Bright, Interim Dean of Education; and Shelley Scott, Interim Dean of Fine Arts;
- Will be staying on as Chair of COPPOA (Council of Post-Secondary Presidents of Alberta) for one more year;
- Continue to have important achievements by our faculty with the recent announcement of Robert Sutherland and Mary Kavanagh being elected into the Royal Society; and
- Evelyn Hamilton Chair in Liberal Education was created out of a \$2million donation by Art and Mary Jane Crooks.

4. CHANCELLOR REPORT

On behalf of the Chancellor, M. Mahon noted our disappointment that Fall Convocation is once again being pivoted to a virtual format. Our grads will receive convocation-in-a-box the week of October 25, with celebratory videos and stories being shared over social media that entire week. We are hopeful we can be in-person and walk up the hill with our grads spring 2022.

5. ITEMS FOR ACTION

5.1. Investment Management Policy

MOTION: opn.2021.10.02

Gallimore/Johnson

That the Board of Governors approve the revised Investment Management Policy, effective immediately.

Motion: Carried

Upon recommendation of investment consultants LifeWorks, we will be proposing specific changes to two of our investment managers in Closed Session. In order to make those changes, smaller modifications need to be made to the Investment Management Policy. There were no questions.

5.2. Audit Committee Terms of Reference - Revisions

MOTION: opn.2021.10.03

Stocker/Casson

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

Motion: Carried

There were no questions or comments.

6. REPORTS

6.1. Provost & Vice-President (Academic)

E. Okine highlighted:

- The drop in Fall 2021 enrolment with more accurate numbers being known after the mandatory vaccination deadline of November 1;
- Renovations took place over the summer and beginning of the semester in the Library to create a 24-hour student study centre;
- We continue to use principles of strategic importance related to budget decisions and hiring of new instructors; and
- We maintain connections to the community through our faculty, through events like the PUBLIC Professor Series.

6.2. Advancement Reports

K. Greenwood highlighted:

- Virtual gathering on June 4 to honour the victims of the former Kamloops Residential School;
- June 10 Chancellor's Reception was a success in that 154 took part in the virtual event, which raised over \$9,200 for the Senate Award student scholarship;
- Faculty and staff Welcome Back Breakfast on August 23; and
- The Communications team has been extremely busy with relaunch activities on campus and we are using every medium we can to effectively communicate with our campus community.

6.3. Vice-President (Finance & Administration)

N. Walker highlighted the UofL Bookstore, who were recognized as the 2021 recipients of the University of Lethbridge Volunteer Award. Additionally, it was reported that we are in conversations with the City of Lethbridge regarding low-cost housing options as we are seeing a drop in Indigenous student enrolment, with housing options being the primary barrier.

6.4. Vice-President (Research)

D. McMartin highlighted:

- The UofL has received its first ever Banting Postdoctoral fellowship, with the candidate deferring his award for one year so that he can take up a fellowship at Harvard for the 21/22 academic year;
- Office of Research Services has been extremely busy the last few months as fall is grant season; and
- We continue with community outreach opportunities which have very little investment and high impact for the University.

6.5. Board Member Reports

On behalf of the University of Lethbridge Alumni Association (ULAA), J. Elliott reported that there have been changes of council members following the AGM in June and J. Elliott agreed to stay on as President for an additional year. The Let There Be Light Night has been postponed until Spring 2022. Look for an announcement in the coming days regarding the Alumni Achievement Award recipients.

P. Dutt reported that the University of Lethbridge Graduate Students' Association has exciting news in terms of truth and reconciliation, creating micro bursaries for Indigenous graduate students. Following a recent by-election, the GSA recently finished the transition to the current executive.

M. Serebryansky reported that the Students' Union has been busy the last few months preparing for the return to campus and responding to inquiries regarding the vaccination mandate; Fresh Fest was cancelled but most of the talent has been re-booked for Last Class Bash in April; by-elections continue and the SU almost has all seats filled; much demand for the foodbank and micro bursary programs; and the SU ran one Get out the Vote campaign for the federal election and is in the midst of another one for the civic election.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

8. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: opn.2021.10.04

Serebryansky/Stocker

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

Motion: Carried