



## THE UNIVERSITY OF LETHBRIDGE SENATE

### Approved Minutes

**Friday, October 1, 2021**  
**1:30 p.m., videoconference**

- Present:** C. Weaselhead (Chair), F. Baskerville, D. Boras, T. Boulet, D. Colwell, K. Colwell, C. Drenth, P. Dutt, C. Fleischman, A. Fox-BruisedHead, J. Frey, N. Gabbin, K. Gallucci, M. Gettman, C. Gillespie, K. Greenwood, T. Grindle, T. Ivie, H. Kletke, M. Letts, H. MacBeath, M. Mahon, A. Mardon, J. Miller, T. North, E. Okine, T. Oosterbroek, R. Parkkari, L. Peterson, T. Petriw, D. Piper, I. Pohl, M. Qazi, K. Rabbit-Young Pine, C. Rowntree, I. Russell, D. Saunders, M. Serebryansky, B. Spenceley, B. Tucker, C. Vos, N. Walker, M. Watson, R. Yalamova
- Regrets:** D. Best, M. Day, J. Dormaar, L. Ehler, E. Foster, T. Legge, D. Scott, M. Warkentin, R. Wood
- Others:** J. Gallais, D. McMartin, S. Nieboer
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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.*

A moment of silence was held in honour of the passing of two past members of Senate S. Malec and D. Frantz.

New members were introduced.

#### 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: sen.2021.10.01

K. Colwell/Watson

*That the agenda for the meeting of October 1, 2021 be approved.*

Motion: Carried

#### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: sen.2021.10.02

Pohl/Mardon

*That the minutes of the meeting of April 9, 2021 be approved.*

Motion: Carried

#### 4. ITEMS FOR ACTION

##### 4.1 Senate Appointments

*F. Baskerville and T. Boulet left the room for this item.*

MOTION: sen.2021.10.03

Tucker/Vos

*That Senate approve the appointment of F. Baskerville and T. Boulet as Representative members for an initial three-year term, effective immediately.*

Motion: Carried

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

#### 5. CHANCELLOR'S REMARKS

C. Weaselhead reported on:

- Earlier this spring, a group of indigenous university chancellor met for the first time and we discussed our roles as chancellor, and how it was an opportunity to advance some of our common interests around indigenization, decolonization, and reconciliation. We generally agreed that there needed to be more dialogue on what these terms meant. The chancellors began to share what was happening on their respective campuses and also plans that they had to move forward on these objectives. As Chancellor of the University of Lethbridge, I will be hosting the next meeting on December 2 and have invited Dr. Littlebear and Dr. Littlechild to participate;
- September 30 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation was an exciting day for many across Canada. There continues to be intergeneration impacts for the survivors of residential schools;
- Looking forward to participating in the virtual Board of Governors retreat October 14-15; and
- Continue to participate in activities related to the MasterCard Foundation.

#### 6. PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

M. Mahon reported on:

- Yesterday was an important day in Canada as we recognized National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Although the University was closed, we honoured the day through a number of activities throughout the week, including a ribbon tying memorial and smudging demonstration;
- Some recent staffing changes include Dena McMartin, Vice-President (Research), who will be formally introduced prior to her presentation later in the agenda; Martha Mathurin-Moe, Executive Director Equity, Diversity & Inclusion; Richard Westlund, Executive Director Communications, Marketing & Government Relations; and Robin Bright, interim Dean of Education. We will soon be announcing an interim appointment of the Dean of Fine Arts;

- Reopening of campus is occupying most of our time to ensure that we have a safe campus and remain open. The UofL was the first institution within the province to announce mandatory vaccination and many other institutions and government agencies are going down that road (although they will continue to offer rapid testing as an option for employees). Communication remains our biggest challenge as we try to ensure our community understands why decisions are being made.
- The difficult decision was just made last week to cancel the in-person Convocation ceremony originally scheduled for October 16. We will celebrate the achievements of our students in much the same way as we did for Spring & Fall 2020 and Spring 2021;
- Fall 2021 enrolment is down 2.5% from 2020;
- Looking forward to working with the new Deputy Minister of Advanced Education Lora Phillipow as we continue budget advocacy with government;
- Induction of two faculty members into the Royal Society – Mary Kavanagh and Robert Southerland;
- Continue to offer virtual events like the PUBLIC Professor Series; and
- Thanks to a \$2 million gift from Art and Mary Jane Crooks, we have established the Evelyn Hamilton Chair in Liberal Education.

## 7. PRESENTATION

Dr. Dena McMartin, Vice-President (Research) gave a presentation on “*Research Excellence and Impact: Leading the Herd*”.

## 8. BREAKOUT SESSION

Members broke out into small groups to discuss “*How can Senate help to communicate the impact of research excellence?*”

## 9. REPORTS

### 7.1 Board of Governors

There were no questions or comments.

### 7.2 General Faculties Council

There were no questions or comments.

### 7.3 Alumni Association

N. Gabbin highlighted the changes within University of Lethbridge Alumni Association council members over the past several months and gave thanks to J. Shriner for his services as Vice-President and ULAA representative on Senate. The celebratory Let There Be Light Night has been postponed until Spring 2022 and the Association looks to help where needed to celebrate our graduates for the upcoming virtual Convocation later this month.

### 7.4 Graduate Students’ Association

P. Dutt highlighted the change in GSA council membership, student engagement activities and current challenges, strategic plan revisions and ongoing financial support to students through awards and bursaries.

### 7.5 Students' Union

H. Kletke highlighted a few of the events and campaigns hosted by the Students Union during the first month of the semester. Due to the overwhelming response for financial assistance to the COVID-19 micro-bursary program, the applications had to be closed after only one week of being open. Although we're back on campus, students are still feeling the financial burden of the pandemic.

### 7.6 Executive Committee

There were no questions or comments.

### 7.7 Engagement Committee

There were no questions or comments.

### 7.8 Honorary Degree Committee

C. Vos highlighted that the honorary degree nomination form is included in the agenda package and the deadline for submissions is November 1. S. Nieboer is available to help with putting a package together or for any questions.

### 7.9 Volunteer Award Committee

C. Weaselhead reported that the Committee meets on November 24, 2021 and nominations are encouraged.

### 7.10 Other Member Reports/Inquiries

There were no additional reports.

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

### 10.1 Volunteer Award Committee Appointments

MOTION: sen.2021.10.04

Tucker/Colwell

*That Senate approve the appointment of Rossitsa Yalamova and Kayla Walker to the Volunteer Award Committee, effective immediately.*

Motion: Carried

B. Tucker noted that this finalizes the committee membership for the current year.

## 11. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

### 11.1 Senate Moments

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

- C. Vos spoke about the co-op student currently working at Lethbridge Chamber of Commerce and the value of work integrated learning;
- J. Gallais spoke about a recent conversation that took place on an internal women's faculty email list serve about possible honorary degree nominations and Jodie was able to report that many of the individuals mentioned had already received an honorary

degree from the University of Lethbridge; and

- D. Boras spoke about the Chancellor's Reception on June 10 in which five worthy individuals received honorary degrees virtually, the University of Lethbridge Volunteer Award was presented and approximately \$9,200 was raised for the Senate Scholarship Fund.

#### 11.2 Applications to Senate

C. Weaselhead noted that there are currently three vacancies on Senate and gave encouragement to members to think of those that would make a good fit.

#### 11.3 Senate Fund Update

C. Weaselhead reported that the Senate Scholarship fund was formally established in January 2007 by then Chancellor Shirley DeBow, to commemorate the 40th Anniversary of the University of Lethbridge. The goal at the time was to create one new student award by establishing an endowment, funded through gifts made by University Senators. This award, defined and inspired by our founding principle of liberal education, encourages academic excellence and rewards students who volunteer in their communities. This money is a direct investment in students and a phenomenal demonstration of the U of L Senate's commitment to supporting the next generation of leaders.

In recognition of the UofL's 50th Anniversary, the Senate recommitted to the Senate Fund with the goal of funding an additional scholarship in perpetuity. In 2017 Senators overtook the student-run Call Centre, in both spring and fall, picked up the phones and reconnected with many former Senators. The original goal was far surpassed and Senators raised over \$63,000. This will allow for eight students to receive a \$1,500 scholarship each year.

As previously noted in the Engagement Committee report, the annual Chancellor's Dinner held on June 2021 was pivoted to an online format. In lieu of purchasing tickets, guests were encouraged to donate to the Senate Scholarship Fund. Thirty-six donations were made totalling over \$9,200. The endowment totals over \$432,000 and thanks was given to all members of Senate past and present for their contributions.

### 12. OTHER BUSINESS

#### 12.1 Senator CKXU Radio Profile

I. Pohl spoke about an upcoming radio program being worked on at CKXU that looks to interview/profile Senators and other members of the University community. It is hoped that the program will run in November and anyone interested can let S. Nieboer know.

### 13. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting of Senate is Friday, December 3, 2021 at 1:30 p.m.

MOTION: sen.2021.10.05

Serebryansky/Spenceley

*That the Senate meeting be adjourned.*

Motion: Carried